

## What happened @ Academic Board

12 FEBRUARY 2025

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### 1. WELCOMES AND CONGRATULATIONS

- The Cairnmillar institute welcomes:
  - A/Prof Paul Jenkinson was welcomed to the Academic Board
  - A/Prof Paul Jenkinson was congratulated on his new position as Associate Dean (Research)
  - Prof Richard Moulding was congratulated on his new position as HDR Coordinator

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### 2. KEY DECISIONS/ACTIONS BY THE ACADEMIC BOARD

- Course Standards Committee unanimously approved changes to:
  - Master of Psychology (Clinical)
    - CLN502 changes to the Unit Learning Outcomes and the rearrangement of the hurdle assessment
    - PCN201 Psychopathology and Mental Health to be co-taught with PSY406 Psychopathology in Semester 1 2025.
  - Graduate Certificate of Trauma Informed Care
    - This new course was unanimously approved
- Student Counselling Services
  - Academic Board have received feedback in relation to the student support from New View Psychology
  - The Institute are currently in discussion with a local mental health provider to assist in providing support to students
  - This additional mental health service will provide additional support in conjunction with the existing provider

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### 3. STAFF REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

- There were no updates, however it was noted that staff are busy with the start of the new semester
- Increased student numbers this year present opportunities for the Institute and staff are looking forward to the challenge
- Prof Byrne is very busy working to expand teaching and learning resources to ensure that Course and Unit Coordinators are well supported
- New staff are being employed and some existing staff have increased their fractions

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### 4. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

- Thank you to Student Representatives
  - Prof Simon Crowe thanked Deborah Adelin and Arnaud Domange for their wonderful

contribution to Academic Board

- Academic Board and Council value the student voice and the Institute are very appreciative of their input
- This is their final Academic Board meeting as they have finished their one-year term
- Student elections will commence towards the end of February 2025 and current representatives are welcome to reapply
- Bachelor student concerns
  - Academic Board received comments in relation to Bachelor students at the Institute being concerned that three of the 24 units will be offered online in 2025
  - Prof Linda Byrne asked Student Representatives to encourage students to continue to give this kind of feedback because it is much appreciated
  - Student Representatives were asked to encourage Bachelor students to engage with the online learning to understand any differences in the format of the class experience
  - Students were reminded that student satisfaction for online units at the Institute is very high. They were also reminded that classes are developed to ensure a high level of interaction and that teaching staff are very skilled and experienced in online delivery
  - Prof Linda Byrne and Dr Chris Kilby will arrange one-on-one sessions and drop-in sessions with Bachelor students as required

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## 5. POLICY UPDATES

- Academic Freedom Policy
  - This policy was brought to Academic Board in draft format for additional further discussion
  - This policy will now be circulated to academic staff for their input, prior to the final version being submitted to Academic Board for approval at a later date
- Fitness to practice
  - There was discussion about the need to introduce a new Fitness to Practice policy for students in the professional courses

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## 6. REPORT FROM THE DEAN

- Student enrolment
  - The Institute has had a large increase in the number of students applying and enrolling in courses
  - This increase is attributed to changes in the market as well as changes to the enrolment process at the Institute
  - This year, at the time of Academic Board, 540 new students have enrolled in courses commencing in 2025. This represents a 100% increase in student numbers and does not include returning students
  - IT have been working extremely hard recently and were thanked for all their hard work



during a demanding time. They have kept everything running very smoothly and their continuous help with students and staff is much appreciated

- Student Services and academic teams have also been working extremely hard. They have been doing an amazing job and were congratulated for all their hard work
- Dr Fiona Patterson was thanked for her continuing support she provides to students. Because of the increase in students seeking support, both Dr Fiona Patterson and Zahra Ditta will now work at the Institute five days a week
- The Graduate Certificate of Trauma Informed Care now has 13 students who are supported by external funding. It was recognised that this program may be in high demand
- The Institute now has an Aboriginal Scholar working at the institute within the Trauma Connect program as well as advising on the upcoming APAC accreditation
- Contract cheating
  - Communications will be sent to students across the Institute reminding them of the seriousness of contract cheating

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## **7. SHORT COURSES – VET**

- VET
  - There has been growth within the VET courses
  - There are now three students from the Papua New Guinea program
  - The Institute is committed to the education of the people of Papua New Guinea

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## **8. REPORT FROM STUDENT SERVICES**

- The primary focus for Student Services is enrolment and orientation
- Student Services and academics are currently working very collaboratively
- The systems process is being closely monitored and this will give Student Services the opportunity to reflect and improve moving forward
- The initial feedback from students has been very positive

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## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

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## **10. MEETINGS IN 2025**

- Wednesday 16 April
- Wednesday 4 June
- Wednesday 13 August
- Wednesday 8 October
- Wednesday 26 November