The University of Western Australia

SCHOOL OF PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee held in the Ten Seldam Seminar Room 1.6, First Floor, M Block, The Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre on Thursday, 28 May 2009 from 8.00am to approximately 9.00am.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Winthrop Professor Paul Waring, Dr Ashleigh Murch, Winthrop Professor Jennet Harvey, Clinical Associate Professor Dominic Mallon, Mr Brett Tizard, Professor Patricia Price, Dr Jill Finlayson

APOLOGIES

Winthrop Professor Frank Christiansen, Clinical Assoc Professor Keryn Christiansen, Clinical Professor Greg Sterrett.

DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

1 MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 April 2009 were confirmed to be a true and accurate record.

2 UPDATE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

2.1 PaLM Strategic Planning Retreat - after July 16th

The date for the Strategic Planning Retreat has been moved until late August following the announcement by the VC of the implementation date for the Future Framework.

2.2 New adjunct and clinical appointments

A list of newly approved adjunct and clinical appointments and promotions was attached to the agenda. Additional appointments will continue to made and Committee Members are encouraged to suggest new candidates where appropriate.

2.3 Committee membership

Winthrop Professor Paul Waring has been appointed Head of the Genetics Discipline and will replace Dr Ashleigh Murch as the Genetics representative on the School Executive. The Committee thanked Dr Murch for his contributions to the School.

Dr Sandra Carr is currently Acting Director of the Faculty Ed Centre following Winthrop Professor Jeff Hamdorf’s transfer to the School of Surgery. Dr Carr will be representing the Ed Centre until the appointment of a new Director.

2.4 B Med Sci Scholarship – Dawkins Foundation

The AL & M Dawkins Foundation generously donated $120,000 to establish the Dawkins BMedSci Scholarship in honour of Professor Rolf ten Seldam at a signing ceremony last night. It is planned to award the first ‘Dawkins Bachelor of Medical Science Scholarship in honour of Professor Rolf ten Seldam’ in 2010. This is possible due to additional donations received by E/Prof Max Walters and Mrs Adrianne Walters and E/Prof John Papadimitriou and Dr Ralph ten Seldam, son of Professor ten Seldam.

3 UPDATE FROM SCHOOL MANAGER
3.1 Management Committee

Subcommittees of the Management Committee have met to discuss the redevelopment of the School’s website and refurbishment of the Molecular biology laboratories in M Block, QEIIIMC. The website “go live” date is confirmed as 16 July 2009. Additional content will need to be collected from all research areas.

3.2 QEII Site Renovation Plans

Michael Jenkin and Brett Tizard have met with Facilities Management to begin the refurbishment process for the proposed Molecular Biology laboratories based in the first floor of M Block. These refurbishments form part of an overall plan for the facilities based at QEIIIMC. The meeting approved the division of M Block activities into Molecular Biology Research on the First Floor, Administration and Tissue-based Research on the Ground Floor with the Basement level forming the Teaching Precinct. Plans for the design of the new Molecular Biology facilities will be presented at a future meeting of the Executive Committee.

4 UPDATE FROM TEACHING COMMITTEE

4.1 Medicine

Although confirmation will be announced by the VC in August 2009, it is anticipated that enrolments in the MBBS will cease in 2012 with the intake of students in the MD course commencing in 2014.

4.2 Science

Proposals for majors under Future Frameworks need to be presented to Faculty Board in November 2009 for submission to the Board of Undergraduate Studies early in 2010. FLAPS is looking to establish a series of broad majors that would not be discipline based. It is yet to be determined if Pathology-related majors would be managed via FMDHS or FLAPS. The new course must meet the needs of both future research and medical student populations.

4.3 Master of Laboratory Medicine

There has been significant progress of the development of the new course. The University has approved to use of 10 Commonwealth supported places for domestic students enrolling in the new “professional learning” MLM. A series of PaLM/PathWest scholarships could be used to cover the HECS fees for PathWest employees and there is support for this from both PathWest and the Faculty. The Health Department has approved the payment of a higher qualification allowance for graduates of the new MLM.

The Teaching Committee has recommended limiting the current course to the 2010 intake with the 2011 cohort starting the new degree. Dr Paul Sheehan has agreed to lead the Biochemistry Discipline module and Mr Bob Sprancis agreed to lead the Anatomical Pathology module.

5 UPDATE FROM RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

5.1 Research Database

A draft version of the Research Database was distributed to members. This document provides an overview of the research activities of the School and PathWest.

A number of the recently appointed Adjunct/Clinical staff have multiple affiliations. The Committee was informed that activity shared between Schools within UWA resulted in the sharing of funds. Activity shared between Universities could be claimed 100% by each institution.

| ACTION                  | All Adjunct/Clinical staff need to include the University of Western Australia as part of their affiliation on the publication in order to be eligible for research productivity funding. |
5.2 Research Strategic Planning Retreat June 19th

Invitations to the Research Retreat have been distributed and 25 positive responses have been received so far.

5.3 Biostatistics support - UWA Centre for Genetic Epidemiology.

A copy of the services offered by the UWA Centre for Genetic Epidemiology and their costings was circulated as part of the agenda. This service is available to all members of the School.

| ACTION | Mr Brett Tizard to investigate possible ways to subsidise or otherwise support researchers and students in the use of this facility. This could be a budget item for 2010. |

5.4 PaLM/PathWest Seminar Series

The School is hosting a Seminar Series at Royal Perth Hospital on Fridays at 4pm.

6 UPDATE FROM DISCIPLINE REPRESENTATIVES

Nil report given due to time constraints.

7 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 25 June.