College of Science, Engineering and Health

PVC Staff Forum
7 and 9 April 2010

Prof Peter Coloe
Pro Vice-Chancellor
The Changing Environment

The tertiary education environment is changing due to:

• Skills Victoria - TAFE contestability
• Bradley Report – Review of HE
• Cutler Report – Focus on innovation
• Federal Government’s response to the above
• RMIT University’s response
• Global financial crisis
College Executive Retreat 9 and 10 March

Outcomes:

• Clarity on the implications of government agenda and its impact on the University and College

• Discussion of University themes from current strategic plan and how they reflect a distinctiveness of RMIT
  – Urban
  – Global
  – Industry Engaged
  – University of Technology

• Benchmark against UNSW

• Identification of big opportunities for the College
  – Health
  – Infrastructure
  – Energy
College Executive Retreat 9 and 10 March

Outcomes:

• 3 key brands
  – RMIT Health
  – RMIT Engineering
  – RMIT Science

• Working party established for each
Strategic Plan Development

Background:

• RMIT’s current strategic plan, RMIT 2010: Designing the Future, is drawing to an end.

• Work has commenced on the development of a new strategic plan to 2015.

Actions to date:

• September 2009, 87 RMIT staff (VCE, Associate PVCs, Heads of School and Directors) attended a leadership retreat to consider achievement against the current strategic plan.

• October 2009, outcomes were used to inform content for Council’s retreat, scenarios considered, implications identified and opportunities and challenges considered.

• November 2009, formulating responses to the challenges and opportunities facing RMIT over the period to 2020.

• February 2010, a Strategic Plan Forum engaged 100 participants across the University to discuss RMIT’s areas of distinctiveness (urban, industry engaged and global university of technology) and think about potential responses out to 2020.
Strategic Plan Development

Next steps:

• Engagement across the RMIT community via staff events, website and external engagement is being implemented.

• Position papers developed will consider the urban, the international and the industry engaged university. Identify potential implications from these themes for learning and teaching, research and resources.

• These papers will map out possible actions to inform the next steps of strategy development.

• Outcomes from the next Strategic Plan Forum will be used to develop strategic plan themes and priorities for proposal to Council in May.

• Development of subsidiary plans Academic, Research and Innovation and Business Plan is also underway. Subsidiary plans will be confirmed after the Strategic Plan has been approved by Council.
Strategic Plan Development

Stay informed:

• The website contains background data, outcomes of discussions to date and details of opportunities for engagement as they are scheduled.

• As part of your contribution to our future, everyone is urged to visit this site regularly and take the opportunity to participate in shaping the RMIT of the 21st century.

• Location of this website is (login required)

  http://www.rmit.edu.au/staff/strategicplandevelopment
2009 College Performance

The College performed well in:

• Budget
  – College operating result was favourable to budget
  – College has continued its strategic investment in staff renewal/refresh, program restructuring and strategies to improve student engagement

• Profile
  – Sound performance against all load targets across HE and TAFE except INTOFF which was approx. 26 EFTSL under-delivered
  – Stronger than expected INTON
  – Total HE 102% of budget
  – Total TAFE 124% of budget
2009 College Performance

• Student satisfaction
  – Improved SEH College HE course experience survey CES results between 2008 and 2009, 4.5% in Sem1 and 2.4% in Sem2 respectively
  – Improved SEH College TAFE course experience survey CES results between 2008 and 2009, 0.2% in Sem1 and 3.7% in Sem2 respectively

• Research performance
  – Overall increase of 7.5% in research income
  – Increase in funding for ACG between 2008 and 2009 from $7.1m to $7.7m
  – More than $6.4 million in funding received for 15 projects under the Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery and Linkage schemes, and two National Health and Medical Research Council grants
2009 Achievements

• Assoc Prof John Reece, School of Health Sciences, was the joint winner of the Vice-Chancellor's 2009 Distinguished Teaching Award. Mr Marko Dumovic, School of Engineering (TAFE) was awarded TAFE Teacher of the Year

• Three RMIT staff received ALTC Citations for outstanding contributions to student learning

• Prof Aleksandar Subic, School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, won the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Research Excellence

• SAGE Didactic unveiled a new automation training centre on Bundoora East campus

• The Boeing Company chose RMIT University as a University of Choice, adding RMIT to an elite list of 22 universities in the world that receive grants through the Boeing Cybergrant system

• Automotive researchers, led by Professor Aleksandar Subic, received $441,000 for their Global Green Car Learning Clusters project
2010 College Performance

Identified areas for improvement are:

• Continue to improve student learning experience results against relevant targets
• Continue to improve quantity of courses with WIL component and quality of the student WIL experience
• Continue to develop SEH research strengths and focus in order to capitalise on funding based on ERA
• Continue to improve student mobility and international accreditation of programs
• Continue the focus on work-planning and performance management through work with School Managers, Heads of School and Discipline Heads
• Improvement to School work plan process by embedding outcomes from 2009 Program Annual Review
2010 College Targets

• Budget
  – Will deliver $151.4m back to the University. This is 12% greater than the actual result delivered in 2009
  – The College has set aside $800k to be used strategically to support key high profile learning and teaching activities and to support research growth, aid Schools in undertaking staff refresh/renewals and enable strategic purchases of equipment, as well as a further $600k for specific teaching and learning projects to be undertaken by the Schools

• Profile
  – Small increase in HE profile between 2009 and 2010
  – Small increase in TAFE profile, mainly in Associate Degrees
  – Expected to meet or exceed total targets for CSP and AFP
  – Still concerns about softening of the INTON market, particularly India and Malaysia
2010 College Targets

2010 initiatives

- Excellent Student Experience
- High Impact, Influential Research
- Industry Engagement
In 2007, 80% of RMIT staff responded to the Staff Survey responses were:

- 89% had good working relationships with co-workers
- 84% liked the work they did
- 81% understood goals and objectives, and what was required in the job
- 15% believed there was good communication across RMIT
- 19% thought change was handled well
- 27% agreed that it was clear who had responsibility for what at RMIT
Staff Survey 2010

This year’s campaign is the I AM RMIT Staff Survey 2010

- Importance of staff feedback is to help shape change at RMIT
- The survey will be conducted online from Monday 3 May to Friday 14 May
- All feedback is anonymous and confidential
- All responses will be submitted to Voice Project (an external survey provider) for analysis
- Further information is available at: www.rmit.edu.au/staffsurvey
Budget model

• College
  – The College is undertaking a review of how it sets its internal allocations, this at present is an expenditure based model. Working party established consisting of representatives from the Schools and College.

• University
  – University has changed its reporting methodology to get greater clarity of its finances. This will allow for the possibility of a net contribution model instead of a gross contribution model.
Infrastructure Plan update

• Bundoora
  – Lecture theatre – underway, completion November 2010
  – New artificial surface playing field – underway, completion May 2010
  – Student services building project redevelopment – complete
  – Escalators – complete
Infrastructure Plan update

• City Campus - University Projects
  – Swanston A’Beckett – funding approved
  – Design Hub – construction underway
  – Centre for Advanced Manufacturing – construction underway
    $7 million contributed by the State Government

• City Campus - College Projects
  – SECE Bldg 10, Level 9 upgrade complete
  – Refurbishing School of Applied Sciences laboratories in
    Building 14 level 7 completed, level 6 due for completion
    August 2010
  – Dental upgrade, due completion May 2010
  – Teaching space upgrade Bldg 56, due completion June 2010
Changes to College Staffing

• Director Planning and Resources - Paul Brown
• Director Industry Engagement, Marketing and International – Elaine Saunders
• Assoc PVC Learning and Teaching – James Scott (until June 2010)
• Project Manager, Planning – Jillian Morley (until June 2010)
• Governance Coordinator SEH-Secretariat – Christina Heggie
• Senior Project Officer (TAFE) - Elena Ayre
• EA to PVC SEH – Michelle Merrett
Questions

This presentation and a summary of the question and answer session will be available on the SEH Intranet at:
http://www.rmit.edu.au/seh/pvcforums