

Wuhan University of Science and Technology (WUST) / Deakin
University (Deakin)

Joint Management Committee Minutes

Wuhan, People's Republic of China

8th May 2018

WUST Attendees

Prof LIU Jing, Vice President

Prof GENG Roger Dianlei, Director of Office of International Relations

Prof SHUANG Wenting, Dean International School

Prof ZENG Liangcai, Dean of School of Machinery and Automation

Assoc Prof XIAO Christine Qiaoling, Party Secretary of International School

Prof WU Shiqian, School of Machinery and Automation

Prof JIANG Zhigang, Vice Dean of International School

Associate Prof WANG Tony Nianxian, School of Machinery and Automation

Deakin Attendees

Professor Karen Hapgood, Head of School of Engineering

Professor Bas Baskaran, Associate Dean (International and Partnerships)

Professor Wei Shen, Associate Pro Vice Chancellor (International Relations)

Associate Professor Bernard Rolfe, Associate Head of School (Research)

Associate Professor Paul Collins, Associate Professor in Engineering Design and Product Development

Dr Yanan Wang, Partnership Coordinator, School of Engineering

Ms Neema Thomas-Cucinotta, Manager (International and Partnerships)

Minutes

Change in membership of the Joint Management Committee

Vice President Liu welcomed old friends and new from Deakin to WUST for the 2018 Joint Management Committee. Deakin thanked the Vice President and looks forward to working with WUST colleagues new and old for productive collaboration.

WUST and Deakin recognised the great contribution to the partnership of Professor Geng and welcomed Professor Shuang as the new Dean of the International School. Deakin and WUST

agreed that there have been great benefits to the students and that both universities have learnt a lot and research collaboration has been established.

Student enrolments update for students enrolled in joint program

WUST reported that the partnership has developed greatly over the last 5 years. 44 students were enrolled in the first cohort and 41 have now graduated. In total 280 students have been enrolled with a total of 21 going to Deakin.

WUST also highlighted additional achievements of students in the joint international program

- 1 student who won national machinery design competition
- Multiple students have applied for national patents and published papers
- 2 students won national English prize
- 7 students have got into top universities for masters in China

WUST also noted the increased enrolments in the program to come to a stable 74 students in 2017. WUST highlighted that the quality of students has increased as well which is a great achievement. This was recognised in a full pass by the MOE.

WUST indicated that awareness about Deakin has been raised in the student cohort with 15 students eager to come to Deakin for the Study Tour in August with Prof Shuang.

Delivery of Deakin units at WUST

Deakin highlighted difficulties students experience from lack of confidence in their English and changing from passive to active learning in the Deakin PODBL style. WUST agreed that English needs to be kept up and that it is hard for students to move to student orientation learning.

WUST explained that many of the teachers in this program are new teachers and so there is an opportunity to teach in new ways. Deakin highlighted the importance of the joint program to incorporate the Deakin teaching style as well the importance of all students graduating from the program to be bilingual not just for transferring to Australia to study but also to ensure that the graduate outcomes for all students in the program are strong and students can become global graduates.

In response to action items from the 2017 JMC, WUST provided an updated about facilities for teaching in the joint program. It was confirmed that the School of Machinery and Automation has been given extra funding from the International School and will be purchasing new equipment and upgrading teaching rooms to assist in delivery of Deakin style teaching.

In response to action items from the 2017 JMC, Deakin confirmed that student evaluations are being implemented for this semester for Deakin taught units which will help both Deakin and WUST better understand what the students think about Deakin teaching.

Ministry of Education audit and review

WUST highlighted the achievements in the partnership that have been made to date and would like to keep conversation open about continuing the joint program.

Deakin explained that changes in MOE rules requiring 4+0 and granting the Deakin degree without coming to Deakin creates difficulties that cannot be overcome due to Australian Engineering regulation. Contact hours in the Deakin course compared to the WUST course also provides difficulties in ensuring that the joint program can meet MOE regulations as it relates to the 4 x 1/3 rule. WUST confirmed that a cohort for the joint program would not be recruited for 2018 but would like to keep conversation open with Deakin about reconsidering their position on the joint program.

In response to action items from the 2017 JMC, WUST again raised the request to move to 2+2 arrangement for students going to Deakin. Deakin explained that any consideration of a 2+2 would need to see additional courses added to the WUST curriculum during semester 1-4 plus additional support for English improvement in the cohort.

Ongoing collaboration

Vice President Liu highlighted the strength of collaboration to date and would like to see further collaboration at the postgraduate level in masters and PhD. Vice President Liu discussed the collaboration between her and Prof Mike Tan. Deakin and WUST discussed the recent workshop in underwater robotics with Dr Matthew Joorden from Deakin and Prof Wu which has great possibilities for future research collaboration.

WUST highlighted their strength in areas of materials that has already led to research collaborations through Deakin's Institution of Frontier Materials and Deakin's School of Engineering, including connections Vice President Liu and Prof Mike TAN. WUST suggested that recent conversations robotics are another area for expansion in research collaboration.

WUST also explained that another strength of their University is the quality of their students. The joint program cut off score for 2017 was 30 points higher than the provincial score. Deakin invited WUST to send students to Deakin under two different programs.

Firstly the existing Study Abroad agreement allows WUST students to come to Deakin at 40% discount of fees than students coming in the 2.5+2. WUST students will not get the Deakin degree but they will get the international experience and join 3rd year of the Deakin program. Secondly Deakin offered to open discussions on WUST students coming to Deakin on a visiting research scholar program for their 8th semester project with a tuition waiver.

Deakin and WUST discussed the possibility of collaboration at masters level and determined suggested that further conversations should occur about a possible 1+1+1 model.

Professor Shen from Deakin suggested that WUST consider additional areas of collaboration outside of Engineering in other areas such as Business or Education with Deakin and he would be happy to facilitate this. Vice President Liu suggested that WUST has increasing strength in Medicine and IT that could be future areas for collaboration.