Summary of key activities

A. The 2015 University Calendar including dates of all committee meetings for 2015 has been published at http://www.divinity.edu.au/university-of-divinity/calendars/

B. Collegiate Agreements have been signed with the Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania in relation to Pilgrim Theological College and with Trinity College in relation to Trinity College Theological School, to constitute them as Colleges of the University of Divinity from 1 January 2015.

C. Academic Board approved Trinity College Theological School to teach seven awards of the University.

D. Council has endorsed a statement of appreciation for the Dalton McCaughey Library, acknowledging the invaluable support of the Society of Jesus and the Uniting Church in Australia through their partnership in constituting the library.

1. Regulations and Determinations


1.1 The following amended Regulation was approved by Council on 27 August 2014.

a) Regulation 1: General Provisions – amended to change custody of the seal and signatories to testamurs, and to remove references to the University of Melbourne and simplify language in relation to academic dress.

1.2 The following Determinations to Regulations were amended by Academic Board on 15 August 2014.
a) Determination 3.8.7 to Regulation 3: Colleges. Academic Board approved additional awards including several offered in conjunction with Sentir Graduate College of Spiritual Formation.

b) Trinity College Theological School: Academic Board approved a new Determination 3.8.12 to Regulation 3: Colleges to provide for Trinity to offer seven awards of the University.

2. Policies and Procedures


2.1 Council has approved the following policies which are now available on the University website:

a) Doctor of Divinity Nomination Procedures

b) Acting Vice-Chancellor Policy

Council approved the following policies in relation to staff employed in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor:

c) Occupational Health and Safety (OVC) Policy and Procedures

d) Overtime Policy

e) General Staff Positions Classification Policy

f) Managing Change Policy

g) Recognition of Service with Other Institutions Policy

2.2 Academic Board has approved revised learning outcomes for the Diploma in Theology, Advanced Diploma in Philosophy, and Advanced Diploma in Theology and Ministry.

3. Appointments

3.1 Academic Staff

a) Janina Hiebel (UFT) has been approved to teach at all levels in Old Testament.

b) Adam McIntosh (UFT) has been approved to teach at all levels in Missiology.

c) Heather Tan (Stirling) has been approved to teach the units Pastoral Care at End-of-Life Introduction and Advanced.

d) Troy Pittaway (CBC) has been approved to teach the Bachelor-level unit DM2/3116B Human Rights and Faith: An Introduction.

3.2 Other Appointments

a) The Council appointed Robert Morsillo as Chair of the Risk Management and Audit Committee for a term of three years commencing 1 January 2015 and concluding 31 December 2017.
b) The Council appointed Joel Plotnek as a member of the Risk Management and Audit Committee for a further term of three years commencing 1 January 2015 and concluding 31 December 2017.


d) The Council appointed Nick Fels as a member of the Finance and Investment Committee for a further term of three years commencing 1 January 2015 and concluding 31 December 2017.

e) The Council appointed Katrina Lambert as a member of the Governance and Nominations Committee for a term commencing 28 August 2014 and concluding 31 December 2016.

4. Other Business

4.1 Council endorsed the report and recommendations of the self-review of the Human Research Ethics Committee, noted comments from Academic Board, and has commissioned an implementation plan.

4.2 Council adopted new Terms of Reference for the Occupational Health and Safety (OVC) Committee.

4.3 The University’s 2013 HERDC report for research publications and income submitted to the Department of Education showed unweighted publications output at an all-time high of 100.16.

4.4 In August the Vice-Chancellor and Director of Administration visited the Head of College or representative of every College of the University to discuss risk management and strategic planning.