Summary of key activities

A. The University Calendar for 2016 has been published with all meeting dates and venues for 2016 for all University committees. The Calendar is available at http://www.divinity.edu.au/documents/university-calendar-2016/

B. A new suite of policies governing student enrolments has been finalised by the Academic Board, covering Admissions, Enrolment, and Course Progress.

1. Regulations and Determinations


1.1 The Determinations to Regulation 3 were amended to accredit St Athanasius Coptic Orthodox Theological College be to deliver the Diploma in Theology online and to deliver the Advanced Diploma in Theology and Ministry in face-to-face and online modes.

1.2 Council approved Fund Record 4: General Reserve Fund in accordance with Regulation 44: Funds Governance. This replaces the existing General Reserve Fund Policy which is now repealed.

2. Policies and Procedures

Policies and Procedures may be located on the University website at http://www.divinity.edu.au/university-of-divinity/governance/policies-and-procedures/

2.1 The Admissions Policy was revised by the Academic Board. The revisions detail the admissions process more precisely and includes both coursework and research students. They include the power of a College to refuse to recommend an applicant for admission, and rules for the admission of persons under 18 years of age.

2.2 A new Enrolment Policy was approved by the Academic Board. This provides comprehensive directions regarding re-enrolment, leave of absence, overloading, and
underloading, and includes both coursework and research students. This policy replaces three existing policies which are now repealed: Leave of Absence Policy; HDR Leave of Absence and Lapse of Candidature Policy; and Student Overloading Guidelines.

2.3 The Course Progress Policy was revised by the Academic Board. This revision establishes separate processes for supporting students at risk, for discontinuation of candidature where unsatisfactory progress has occurred, and includes both coursework and research students.

2.4 The Schedule to the Prizes Policy was amended by the Academic Board to provide for the inclusion on academic transcripts of: an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA); an International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS); and the Rod Doyle Prize (CTC).

3. Appointments
3.1 Academic Staff

Matthew Anstey (Trinity College Theological School), PhD MCS BTh accredited to teach at all levels in Old Testament.

Matthew Baldwin (Catholic Theological College), LST BST BTheol accredited to teach at all levels in Systematic Theology.

John Behr (St Athanasius Coptic Orthodox Theological College), DPhil MTh MPhil BA accredited to teach at all levels in Systematic Theology and Church History.

Jose Garcia (Sentir Graduate College of Spiritual Formation), PhD Licentiate in Hispanic Theology, Licentiate in Spiritual Theology BTh accredited to teach at all levels in Spirituality/Spiritual Direction.

Heshmat Keroloss (St Athanasius Coptic Orthodox Theological College), PhD MTh MA BA accredited to teach at all levels in Systematic Theology, Church History and Spirituality.

Susan Kmetko (Stirling Theological College), PhD candidate, MDiv, BSc, DipEd accredited to teach New Testament Greek A and B at undergraduate and postgraduate Foundational levels (Susan was formerly accredited to teach under supervision).

Geoff Leslie (Whitley College), DMin BTheol BAHons DipEd accredited to teach at all levels in Missiology.

Narida McGifford (Catherine Booth College), MIntCommDev BTheol AdvDipMin BEd accredited to teach the unit DM2/3118B Mission in an Ethnically and Culturally Diverse Australia.

Paul Sharkey (Catholic Theological College), PhD, MEd, MTh, GradDipEd BTheol accredited to teach: Systematic Theology at undergraduate and postgraduate Foundational levels; Religious Education at all levels; and CT9011C Enhancing Catholic Identity at postgraduate level.

David Willis (Catholic Theological College), DTheol LST BA accredited to teach Moral Theology at all levels; DS2/3/9601 C Aquinas to Eckhart: The Dominican Intellectual and
Spiritual Tradition of the 13th and 14th Centuries; and DS2/3/9602C Encounters with the Dominican Intellectual and Spiritual Tradition: 20th and early 21st Centuries.

3.2 Honorary Appointments

Academic Board appointed Dr Scott Charlesworth as an Honorary Research Associate for a term of three years concluding 31 December 2017.

4. Other matters

4.1 A new Application for External Study Form was approved by the Academic Board. This form is for the use of students seeking approval to enrol in units at other higher education providers and to include such units for credit in their University of Divinity degree. The form is available at: http://www.divinity.edu.au/documents/application-for-external-study/

4.2 The Academic Board and the Council considered the first draft of the Strategic Plan 2016-2025. The final draft of the plan will be presented to the Council in October 2015.

4.3 Management of the University of Divinity e-Library Hub project has been awarded to the Mannix Library and implementation of the project will shortly commence.

4.4 The 2016 University Calendar has been published on the University website.