

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

### TEACHERS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (TCC)

Notes of a meeting of the **Teachers Consultative Committee** held at 3:00pm on Thursday 21 July 2016 in the Helen Parr Meeting Room, The Chancellery.

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#### **PRESENT:**

University – Seamus Fagan, and Mark Kelly  
NTEU – Ben Carter, Liza Pezzano and Lance Dale (by phone)

#### **APOLOGIES:**

University – Sharon Champness  
NTEU - Paul Chojenta and Sue Hodgson

Chair – Mark Kelly

Note-taker – Ruth Hartmann

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#### **1. SCHOLARLY TEACHING FELLOW (STF) PROPOSAL**

NTEU representatives requested a follow up on discussions regarding potential STF positions for Newstep staff. The Director, English Language and Foundation Centre, Seamus Fagan responded that STF opportunities are being explored for approximately 6 teaching staff. Under the proposal current staff could elect whether to translate to STF position in the Academic Staff Enterprise Agreement or remain in current roles under the Teachers Enterprise Agreement. New appointments to New step would be as STFs only.

Discussion followed as to the eligibility requirements and level of appointment for STF position and whether there could be flexibility with part-time appointments. NTEU representatives also flagged the potential for salary slippage for staff that have a responsibility allowance for Head Teacher or Deputy Convenor. The Associate Director, Employee Relations and HR Partnering, Mark Kelly commented that translation to STF positions could provide staff with opportunities for academic career path and promotion.

NTEU representative, Lance Dale indicated that the he was open to the proposal and requested information be forwarded in writing.

<b>University</b> – Forward proposal on STF positions for New step staff to NTEU
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#### **2. NEWCASTLE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE (NIC)**

Union representatives requested a follow up on discussions on the impact of NIC's Extended Foundation Program on ELICOS programs and teachers. At the last Committee meeting the Director, Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies, Seamus Fagan indicated that the new program effectively reduces the amount of weeks that NIC students study at the UON Language Centre by about 10 weeks. Associate Professor Fagan had raised this with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) who was to have discussions with NI College. The Associate Director, Employee Relations and HR Partnering, Mark Kelly reported that due to both himself and Professor Parfitt being on leave

follow up discussions had not yet occurred but undertook to do so at the earliest availability and will report back prior to the next Committee meeting.

**University** – follow up on discussion regarding Newcastle International College with DVC (A) and report back before next TCC meeting.

### **3. NEWCASTLE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE AND ROOM BOOKINGS**

Union representative commented on issues with room availability for Elicos courses. Room bookings are typically made on a semester basis, however, Elicos has shorter more frequent courses and room requirements are subject to student numbers that are not known well in advance.

The Associate Director, Employee Relations and HR Partnering, Mark Kelly responded that these issues may be addressed by the demand timetabling approach that is the subject of a current project led by Professor Liz Burd, Pro Vice-Chancellor Learning & Teaching.

### **4. OTHER BUSINESS**

Union representatives raised issues with the transparency of NI programs regarding proficiency standards and impact on the University's Language Centre. University representatives will forward concerns and follow up with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Andrew Parfitt.

**University** – raise issues of NI program transparency and impact on Language with DVC(A)

Responding to a request regarding the advertisement for ELICOS Convenor, University representatives confirmed the position is covered by the Teachers Enterprise Agreement and attracts an allowance outlined in Schedule 1 of the Agreement.

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*The meeting closed at approximately 3.45pm*