

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE
TEACHERS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (TCC)

Notes of a meeting of the **Teachers Consultative Committee** held at 12:00pm on Thursday 17 November 2016 in the HRS Meeting Room, The Chancellery.

PRESENT:

University – Seamus Fagan, and Mark Kelly
NTEU – Paul Chojenta, Sue Hodgson and Lance Dale

APOLOGIES:

NTEU - Ben Carter and Liza Pezzano
Chair – Paul Chojenta
Note-taker – Ruth Hartmann

1. SCHOLARLY TEACHING FELLOW (STF) PROPOSAL

NTEU representatives requested a follow up on discussions regarding potential STF positions for Newstep staff.

The Associate Director, Employee Relations and HR Partnering, Mark Kelly explained that STF opportunities are being explored for approximately 6 teaching staff. Under the proposal current Newstep staff, other than casuals, could elect whether to translate to STF position in the Academic Staff Enterprise Agreement or remain under the Teachers Enterprise Agreement.

Discussion followed as to the eligibility requirements, level of appointment and promotion opportunities as an STF. Mr Kelly noted that the proposal is conceptual at this point and a briefing paper is being prepared for consideration by the Vice-Chancellor. However, it is proposed that a 'grandfathering' arrangement be implemented for Newstep staff transferring to STF positions to avoid salary slippage. While primarily focused on teaching the STF positions would have a 20% workload allocation for research to undertake PhD studies as well as allocation for teaching-related service. The Director, English Language and Foundation Centre, Seamus Fagan explained that as with STF positions in enabling programs at other Universities there would be opportunities for STFs to be promoted up to professor.

NTEU representative, Lance Dale indicated he welcomed the proposal and requested further information be forwarded in writing when available.

University – Forward proposal on STF positions for Newstep staff to NTEU

2. REPORT ON TEACHING STAFF RATIOS

NTEU representatives requested a report on the number of teaching staff including a breakdown of continuing, contingent, fixed-term and casual for Newstep and Elicos for each campus: Callaghan, Ourimbah and Sydney.

University representatives noted that a request for this information has been placed with the HRIS team and a report is expected in 2 weeks. The report will be forwarded to Committee members when available.

University – Forward report on teaching staff ratios

3. NEWCASTLE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE (NIC)

Union representatives requested a follow up on discussions regarding the impact of NIC's Extended Foundation Program on ELICOS programs and teachers. At previous meetings Union representatives had also raised issues with the transparency of NI programs regarding proficiency standards.

The Director, Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies, Seamus Fagan had raised these concerns with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Andrew Parfitt. The Associate Director, Employee Relations and HR Partnering, Mark Kelly followed up with Professor Parfitt. He responded that he had discussions with NI College and no apparent issues were reported.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

NTEU representative, Lance Dale enquired whether the Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies was looking at recruitment of targeted Indigenous positions available under the University's ADB exemption. Centre Director, Seamus Fagan noted that the Yapug Convenor recently recruited was an identified position.

Discussion followed regarding the upcoming professional staff review. Committee members confirmed that Centre staff were briefed about the review yesterday.

The meeting closed at approximately 1.00pm