Agency details

Agency number: 34
Start date: 1947
End date: 1949
Creation: New South Wales Cabinet meeting 8th July, 1947
Abolition: Upon proclamation of the Technical Education & New South Wales University of Technology Act, 1949 on 1st July, 1949, the functions of the Developmental Council were complete.

Administrative history note:
The New South Wales Institute of Technology Developmental Council was appointed by the New South Wales Cabinet on 8th July, 1947. With the New South Wales Minister for Education, Hon. Robert J. Heffron, as Chairman, the inaugural meeting of the Developmental Council occurred on 27th August, 1947. This meeting was attended by fourteen out of the total seventeen members of the Developmental Council. Six Committees were also created at the meeting - Building & Grounds, Industrial Co-operation, Academic Studies, Administration, Finance and Public Relations. As well, the Development Council established that its Terms of Reference were to:

"i) exercise immediate control over the Institute;
ii) recommend the principles that should be established for the co-operation between the Institute and industry in the carrying out of industrial research and co-operation between the Institute and other educational and scientific bodies;
iii) advise on the nature of buildings and equipment most appropriate for the purposes of the Institute;
iv) make recommendations covering the appropriate structure for the future control of the Institute and its authorities, powers and functions;
v) survey present technical college courses in the light of the needs of industry and where necessary recommend the establishment of appropriate courses at graduate and postgraduate levels and recommend the nature of academic awards at the completion of these courses;
vi) in the light of the foregoing enquiries, draft legislation for the incorporation of the Institute as one which a) provides technological courses at university degree and postgraduate levels; b) grants awards to those who complete its courses; c) carries out investigations aimed at adapting scientific discoveries to industrial purposes; and d) is soundly and democratically controlled;
vii) recommend the co-ordination which should exist between the University of Sydney and the Institute"

The name changes of the Developmental Council reflect the variations in the proposed names for the University. From the 16th September, 1948 until the 18th November, 1948 meetings the Council was known as the New South Wales Technical University Developmental Council. Then beginning with the 24th February, 1949 meeting, the name became the New South Wales University of Technology Developmental Council. Apart from formulating the necessary legislation for the establishment of the University, the Developmental Council also made several important advances in
On 22nd January, 1948 it approved the beginning of the first degree courses in Civil, Electrical, Mechanical and Mining Engineering, which were undertaken at Sydney Technical College from March, 1948. On 21st October, 1948 the Developmental Council endorsed degree courses in Applied Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, as well as a post-graduate course in Electrical Engineering, which started in March, 1949. The final meeting of the Developmental Council occurred on 26th May, 1949.

With the proclamation of the Technical Education & New South Wales University of Technology Act, 1949 on 1st July, 1949, the functions of the Developmental Council were complete.

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