

Section:	MAYORAL MINUTE	12 December 2006
Item:	<b>05.026/06 UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND – MEETING VICE CHANCELLOR</b>	

### REPORT SUMMARY

This Minute provides Council an overview of the Mayor's first meeting with newly appointed UNE Armidale Vice-Chancellor Pettigrew, which was aimed at strengthening the relationship with Council and securing a UNE presence in the Clarence Valley.

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayoral Minute on the meeting with Vice-Chancellor Pettigrew of the University of New England be noted.

### BACKGROUND

During 2005 I initiated discussions with UNE Vice-chancellor, Professor Ingrid Moses about securing a university presence, perhaps in the form of a satellite campus, in the Council's area. In September 2005 I accompanied Prof Moses around the Valley's High Schools and as a UNE alumni, supported her in extolling the advantages of a UNE tertiary education.

Unfortunately, Prof Moses left UNE at the end of 2005. I met with two UNE Pro-Vice Chancellors in April 2006 to try to progress a UNE presence but was informed that the University was undertaking a major strategic overview and that I should make contact later in the year.

I met at the University with the new Vice-Chancellor Allan Pettigrew, on 25 October 2006. He explained that the University was keen to support Council in relation to addressing our major issues, primarily through provision of research support and joint submissions for projects and the like. Prof Pettigrew advised that the UNE strategic review was essentially about strengthening 'regionality in a global world'. The University seeks to assist local government in addressing regional issues to provide competitive advantage. He sought advice as to the major issues for Council. I recently provided him with the Mayor Minute on State Election issues, as endorsed by Council at its November 2006 meeting.

As an indication of Council's good intent to advance a relationship with UNE for benefit of our constituents, I undertook to place UNE promotional material in 5 council offices and 4 branch libraries and have since done so. UNE staff will visit those offices and augment material as required.

Whilst I believe that the repositioning of UNE in strategic terms may mean in effect no satellite campus in the Clarence Valley, for a variety of reasons, one critical factor being growth of use of on-line units and Degrees, nevertheless I remain convinced and committed that strengthening of the relationship between UNE & CVC is very important for the people we represent. I therefore intend to pursue the relationship and to that aim have invited the Vice Chancellor to address Council in the New Year. I have also offered to accompany him around the Valley's High schools next year.

Clr Ian Tiley

MAYOR