

Defence Industry Education and Skills Consortium (DIESC)

Meeting Minutes

Date and time: 10.30am on Monday 27 November 2017

Venue: Board Room, Level 1 Adelaide City Campus TAFE SA

Chair: Margot Forster (MF) Chief Executive Officer, Defence Teaming Centre Inc

Secretary: April McLennan (AM) Director Skilling and Workforce, Defence Teaming Centre

Present:

Kristian Galanti (KG)	Senior Adviser Government Relations, Policy and Impact Team, RMIT University
Penny Johnston (PJ)	Director, Defence Industries, TAFE SA
Sonia Mackay Coghill (SMC)	Executive Director Enterprise & Development, ECU (via phone)
Nigel Relph (NR)	Deputy Vice Chancellor & Vice President: External Relations and Strategic Projects, University of South Australia
John Roddick (JR)	Chair of Information Technology, Flinders University
Michael Webb (MW)	Director, Defence & Security, University of Adelaide
Melinda Blagaich (MB)	South Metropolitan TAFE (SMTAFE) (via phone)
David Cropley (DC)	Professor of Engineering, Innovation University of South Australia

Item 1 Meeting opened at 1030am

Item 2 Welcome and Introductions

MF welcomed the DIESC members both in the room and on the phone and asked each to do a brief introduction.

Item 3 Apologies

AM reported that apologies were received from the follow DIESC members:

Adam Goodes (AG)	CEO Indigenous Defence Consortium
George Mifsud (GM)	Director Indigenous Defence Consortium
Darshi Ganeson-Oats (DG)	Director Strategic Partnerships at South Metropolitan TAFE (SMTAFE)
Brian Rungie (BR)	Executive Director, Education at TAFE SA
Peter Ashman (PA)	Deputy Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences and Head of Chemical Engineering, University of Adelaide
Andy Koronios (AK)	Dean: Industry & Enterprise,

Item 5 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 August 2017 were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

NH wished to reinforce the importance of Item 2.3 the list of "Priority areas for the DIESC in the future".

Item 5.1 Outstanding Action Items

2017-08-04 Reported that AMC had been approached about joining DIESC stressing the Consortium's collaborative nature however, AMC declined the offer. DIESC agreed that AMC should be approached again with a standing offer to join.

2017-08-10 Victorian and WA partners to contact AIDN chapters in their respective states, and advising of their membership in the DIESC and asking for collaboration with the DTC to ensure industry requirements are understood.

Item 6 Launch of DIESC

MF reported that the only outstanding activity from the DIESC launch is to settle the accounts. There are two elements of cost relating to:

- 1 design, printing, banners, couriers to get collateral to PAC \$15,000
- 2 catering and chair hire (\$3,300)

The DIESC agreed to split the collateral costs amongst DIESC members. The DTC will pay the total amount upfront and then seek reimbursement from the DIESC members.

EY as the event sponsor will be asked to cover the cost of the catering and chair hire.

DTC funding to support DIESC was discussed. The DTC will invoice each of the DIESC members \$10,000 with the exception of the IDC which will allow the DTC to hire a part time staff member to support DIESC work.

Action: Invoice DIESC members outstanding cost of Launch (17,000) and invoice each DIESC member (not IDC) \$10,00 for DTC to support and administer DIESC activities.

NH raised the point that that there should be some follow up to those who attended the DIESC Launch and expressed an interest in the DIESC and what it does.

Action: Recognition/follow up to those who attended DIESC launch and expressed an interest in what we are doing. DTC to draft a follow up letter to say thank you for attending the launch and celebrating DIESC's success and explain what DIESC intends to do. Circulate to DIESC for comment.

Item 7 Naval Shipbuilding College (NSC)

A letter of support was provided to HII on behalf of the DIESC. Offered to do the same for Babcock and was preparing a letter when advised their bid had already gone in.

MF briefed the DIESC on the bids for the NSC and advised that DTC was requested by HII to be part of their presentation to the Commonwealth and speak on behalf of the DIESC. The awarding of the contract for the NSC should be announced the week of December 5th. The Government has asked the DTC to arrange an industry site (Small Business) who would be willing to host the announcement.

ACTION: DTC to follow up identifying small business that would be happy to host NSC announcement.

It was noted that DIESC needs to be prepared for the NSC announcement, focusing on what TAFE SA can offer and bring in SMTAFE and RMIT.

ACTION: DIESC members to send Margot points to include when drafting media release supporting government and the awarding of NSC contract.

Item 8 Education and Skills

8.1 Luerssen Australia Shipbuilding, Education and Apprenticeship (SEA) Scholarship Program

Luerssen Australia and its OPV teaming partners have partnered with the DTC to manage this program. Twelve scholarships will be on offer valued at \$10,000 each per year which will cover tuition and study related costs for relevant shipbuilding courses. Internships at Luerssen, ASC Shipbuilding and Civmec/Forgacs will also be offered to three of the most promising students. A draft program outline has been sent to Luerssen for their review and consideration.

MW asked if he could have a copy of this outline.

ACTION: AM to provide DIESC members with copy of the Draft program outline.

8.2 Commonwealth Scholarship Program for SA

The DTC sits on the Industry Reference Group for this program. The second round of applications opened on 20 November 17 and will close on 8 January 2018. It was clear from last round that advertising/promotion did not reach the target audience as most students that applied for a scholarship (particularly in Stream 1 – Defence) were doing higher education, very few applications were received from students doing vocational education and training.

ACTION: AM to follow up with Matt Williams re announcement for 2nd round of applications as to date nothing has been sent out.

8.3 STEM Internship/Scholarship program

AM provided a brief summary of the activity the DTC was supporting in this space. The DTC help to administer the scholarship program for the Department of State Development (DSD) and sit on the panel that review all the scholarship applications.

MW advised the DIESC that the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute (AMSI) internship program that has been running in Victoria will now extend into SA and will be managed by the Department of State Development. The program in South Australia will offer PHD students a placement with a small to medium enterprise creating links between businesses and universities, increasing the value-add that can be achieved through the engagement of a high level research capability.

ACTION: MW to provide contact name for program to DIESC. DTC to place link to AMSI on DTC website.

Item 9 IET Event

MF discussed the upcoming IET event on 14 December 17 and referred to the flyer and running sheet that had been sent out to the DIESC. MF is to speak on behalf of the DIESC, and intends to build on her speech that was delivered at the DIESC launch. The DIESC have been provided with 10 tickets to attend the event DIESC members are requested to advise AM if they wish to attend (DIESC members are not to register separately).

ACTION: The DIESC members provide MF with examples of tailoring education and skilling to better target defence industry requirements to include in speech at the IET event.

Item 10 Expansion of DIESC Membership

NR suggested that the DIESC needed to determine what they as a group what they want to achieve to assist in determining whether membership should have a national footprint.

SMC stated that WA needed to be better represented and therefore ECU were not averse to Curtin University and University of Western Australia (UWA) joining as skills in both Universities are going to be relevant.

AM attended the Welding Technology Institute of Australia (WTIA) Conference in WA recently and took opportunity to meet with Prue Ayling and do a tour of their facilities (Engineering and the UWA Oceans Institute). Prue stated that the UWA were keen to join the DIESC.

Charles Darwin University (CDU) has also expressed an interest in joining the DIESC noting that the Northern Territory currently has a sustainment role for the Patrol boats. CDU also have a TAFE which would be included if the university became a member of the DIESC. Charles Darwin have chemical engineering which is not offered by many universities so would be of interest to the defence industry.

ACTION: MF to write to the three universities (UWA, Curtin University and CDU) with a standing offer and include criteria for what is expected if joining the DIESC including capability and capacity in the defence area.

Discussed the "List of possible Education and Skills Initiatives" drafted by JR. Universities could look at having a list of electives for 'cross listed courses' that would extend students study though application in area of defence. Probably would be online courses and may be offered by a university other than the university the student is attending. Some topics could bridge back into the VET arena.

It was discussed if industry require a micro credential on top of degree, not a full qualification but enough for the individual to do the job? Could consider extending degree by 6 months and doing a double degree.

ACTION: JR to add to the list of possible Education and Skills Initiatives a 5th element to the list (Graduate Degree in DI management) and then circulate to DIESC for review and comment.

ACTION: DC to circulate information on the Associate Degree in Engineering (Defence Systems) that Uni SA ran a few years ago.

SMC advised that ECU have just appointed Dr Andrew Dowse (Air Vice Marshall) to lead the universities push into the defence sector.

It was discussed whether DIESC should look beyond its Australian borders but was decided that this should be considered but at a later date.

11 DIESC membership-funding for DTC support

(discussed as part of Item 6)

12 Other business

MF advised the group that EY will be presenting to the Defence Industry Workforce Group (DIWFG) on Tuesday 28 November 2017 on the Naval Shipbuilding Strategic Workforce Plan. SMC suggested that the DIESC draft a preparatory media release indicating support of government and key attributes of DIESC. DIESC decided that there should be two versions of this media release, one for HII and one for Babcock.

Raised by PJ how to share what is discussed at DIWFG meetings and vice a versa. MF suggested that members from DIESC could attend the next DIWFG in February 18. This will assist DIESC to understand the industry requirements.

ACTION: MF to discuss with DIWFG at tomorrow's meeting extending an invitation for representatives of DIESC to attend next meeting in February.

13 Summary and Close

TAFE SA as thanked for hosting this meeting.

Meeting concluded at 1205pm