SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

WARRNAMBOOL COLLEGE OF TAFE

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

APRIL 1986

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2 APRIL, 1986

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

As indicated by the President, 1985 was a year of establishment, growth and adjustment. The objectives set in last year's statement have all been addressed.

1985 OBJECTIVES

Management and administrative structures are now in place which will provide for growth and future movement into a multicampus operation. The remaining senior administrative appointment is yet to be made but has been advertized and the person would be in place in the very near future.

Student growth of 10% was exceeded and the Learning Skills Unit established. Not enough work has yet been done in working with local employers as their direct training agent.

Publicity during the year has gone some way towards making the community aware of the College's presence, but there is still much to be done to clarify the public's image of our role.

Arrangements have been established for the accommodation of students using existing community facilities which is a more desirable solution at least in the short term than having the College provide its own accommodation.

Finally, the interaction between South Western TAFE providers has been much greater than imagined possible. As a result of this and the Minister's intervention across the State, it appears likely that in approximately twelve months the College will have direct responsibility for all vocational provision in the South West.

WARRNAMBOOL OPERATIONS

The President indicated that growth in enrolments in 1985 was very considerable. I do not anticipate similar growth this year. We have undertaken a dramatic change in our program mix and several of the new programs will take some time to get established.
New vocational programs in science, supervision, catering, and extensions of our programs in secretarial studies, accounting, welfare studies, computing and civil engineering are all in place. Consolidation and extension of these programs will be important activities over the next couple of years.

To support this new stronger vocational base, the College is also looking to establish a series of Advisory Groups over the next year.

In parallel with the expansion of the vocational programs, there have been adjustments to the preparatory programs in line with Blackburn requirements. These adjustments have now been made and a revised series of bridging, access and "stepping stone" programs established.

WARRNAMBOOL NORTH TRANSFER

Arrangements for the transfer of Warrnambool North Technical School's TAFE operations are complete except for a few internal negotiations with the TAFE Board and settlement of the ancillary staff arrangements.

The proposed date for transfer is 7 July.

The transfer will again significantly improve the vocational program mix of the College and consolidate TAFE operations in Warrnambool.

WARRNAMBOOL CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

The redevelopment of this campus is now almost complete and plans for Stage 2 are ready to go this year.

Transfer of the Custom's House to the College has been a very slow process but is apparently now near completion. The grounds of this building will provide the campus with a little bit of open space.

The site will then be fully utilized however and to allow for future growth the College is having to consider where it should go. Partly the decisions will depend on the resources and space made available to the College by the transfer of TAFE operations at Portland and Hamilton.
TRANSFERS OF PORTLAND AND HAMILTON TAFE OPERATIONS

Following the announcement by the Minister in December that TAFE operations at Hamilton and Portland Technical Schools will transfer to the TAFE College the regional planning group has provided advice about possible constitutional management and the College is now commencing direct negotiations with the schools.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Because the College is now past its establishment stage and because of the proposed expansion of the College's role, Council have initiated a review of the Constitution of the College. Likely outcomes of this review will be amendments to the membership of Council to underwrite the expanded role and a change in the name of the College.

These are substantial issues and must not be rushed, but there is growing consensus about the changes.

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE AND POLICY DOCUMENTS

During the latter part of 1985 and the start of this year the College has invested considerable effort in preparing an Institutional Profile which both provides a "snap shot" of the College as it is and some quite detailed program projections. The important components of this document have been completed, although some data collections are still required to allow the whole document to be finalized.

In addition to the detail proposals the Institutional Profile has included in it, the need has emerged for some more general policy guideline documents. Work has also commenced on these documents.

It is important with all of these documents that they be "living" statements that will allow for growth and change as the needs of the College develop. They must not become constraints on constructive activity.

KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 1986

Arising from the above the key objectives for the coming year would appear to be as follows:

(a) The seeing through of the establishment of the multicampus college and the strengthening of the operations into a series of stable, effective, cohesive units.

(b) Consolidation of the new range of programs being offered by the College.
Key objectives for 1986 continued.

(c) Establishment of a range of Advisory Groups to support locality and discipline area developments within the College.

(d) The commencement of Stage II development of Warrnambool including in the next year the landscaping of the main campus area.

(e) The preparation of a range of policy documents providing general guidelines to the College in the areas of staffing, funding, facilities and management structures.

(f) Continue the promotion of the College to the community so that the community has a good awareness of the range of programs and services the College provides.

CONCLUSION

As expected 1985 was a year of challenge and growth. 1986 will present different challenges but will be equally interesting and possibly even more important to the future of the College.

I am confident that in the future we will be able to offer all the people of South Western Victoria improved training and education facilities.

This confidence stems from the dedication of the Council and Staff of the College and the support we enjoy from the community.

In closing I would like to pay particular tribute to the efforts and dynamism of our retiring President, Mr Bruce Rogers. His support for me and the College is absolute and the very existence of the College is due substantially to his efforts. I hope we will have him back in office for the College in the very near future.

B Baker
Director