

Motion of Condolence
Passed by Monash University Academic Board
25 February 2009

The President Academic Board, Professor Jayne Godfrey, advised members that this meeting was the first major gathering of a large group within Monash University since the enormity of the tragedy caused by Victoria's February bushfires became clear and that following the example of Parliament she proposed to move a motion of condolence from the Board.

Upon the motion of the President, seconded by the Vice-Chancellor, Academic Board:

- *Extended its deepest sympathies to the families and loved ones of those killed as a consequence of Victoria's tragic bushfires;*
- *Extended its particular sympathies to the families, loved ones and colleagues of the Monash staff and student community killed, injured or who had otherwise suffered as a consequence of the fires.*
- *Empathised most sincerely with all those affected directly, or indirectly, by human injury, loss of property, harm to animals, or the destruction of communities and environments as a consequence of the fires;*
- *Expressed its deep appreciation for the work of emergency services, volunteers and community members in this time of dire need; and especially acknowledged the significant roles played by many members of the Monash Community, particularly those who contributed to the critical role played by the Gippsland campus;*
- *Acknowledged the profound impact on those communities affected by the fires, the role of governments and the Australian community in assisting their recovery, and the role to be played by research and education in helping to prevent or mitigate future devastation caused by bushfires.*