

**DRAFT NOTES OF INTERVIEW WITH ADRIAN ROBINSON
CFO, SERVICES UNE LIMITED**

Adrian is new to the University and was appointed CFO of Services UNE in early December – he was at the directors' meeting on 5 December. He reports to JC.

At the meeting on 5 December, his concern was whether \$2.65 million was a fair price because he had no idea. He was told it was and that it was about \$150,000 more than the next best offer.

In relation to the minutes of 12 January and the discussion about substituting a purchaser, he said that the legal advice was that while there was a slight risk in accepting a new purchaser, they would have to start again if they did not. *[Pam's note: Adrian did not seem to understand what was involved here. He was one of the first people I spoke with. Sue Paint explained it better – see the notes of conversation with her.]*

In January 2006, Jenny Crew (a member of Council, an honorary life member and part of the group which was against selling the assets of the Union and perhaps any change in relation to the Union) said to Adrian that JC had a conflict of interest and asked Adrian to bring it up at the Board meeting. Jenny told Adrian that Darrell Hendry was one of JC's colleagues and that they worked together. Adrian said that she should put her concerns in writing. *[Pam's note: Jenny Crew did this – see her letter of 23 January 2006 which the Board dealt with at its meeting on 24 January 2006.]*

In January, JC rang Adrian and said that all sorts of rumours were being fuelled by Jenny Crew and Col McCallum (Head of Security) that he had a conflict of interest. JC told that Darrell Hendry had approached him about 19 January and asked him to invest in the hotel and he agreed. JC asked Adrian if he thought he had a conflict? JC said that as it was after the fact, he couldn't see any. *[Pam's note: On 20 January, JC also told the Acting Vice-Chancellor of his investment in the hotel – see the first two lines of the first document in bundle (d).]*

Adrian is aware of JC's letter of 5 February 2006 where JC makes disclosure to the Audit Committee. Before this, Graeme Dennehy had come in to the office and said to the acting Vice Chancellor and Adrian that he (Graeme) had had a long conversation with JC and JC had set his mind at rest.

JC is a member of the Audit Committee. He attends, say, six out of seven meetings. He attended the one on 10 February and tendered his letter. Adrian can't recall any discussion about this other than something from JC along the lines to Jenny Crew of 'if you're going to besmirch my reputation, I'll besmirch yours'. Adrian observes that he wouldn't have believed Jenny Crew could be as quiet as she was.

[Pam's note: There are no minutes of this meeting yet. The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Robyn Rolland, recalled that the discussion centered around paragraph (c) of JC's letter of 5 February 2006. Jenny Crew was taking the position that UNE Union was not trading insubstantially. The Acting Vice-Chancellor also mentioned that JC chaired his meeting. He is entitled to chair his meeting, which he should. The Acting Vice-Chancellor was not able to explain why he didn't say anything as the Acting Vice-Chancellor had seen the format of the James Harris (the Benny) Chair and in the corridor, in the time (so to speak) JC was asked about this – see the notes of meeting with him on 22 February 2006.]