

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY

COUNCIL

Meeting 14/5 of the Council of the University of Technology, Sydney held at 9.00am on Wednesday, 15 October 2014, UTS Aerial Function Centre, Level 7, Building 10, Jones St, Ultimo.

PRESENT: Professor Vicki Sara AO (Chancellor), Mr Peter Bennett, Professor Attila Brungs (Vice-Chancellor), Ms Michelene Collopy, Ms Elizabeth Hanley (from Item 3.1), Mr Robert Kelly (left during Item 4.6), Mr Douglas McDonald, Professor Jenny Onyx, Mr Michael Sexton SC, Professor Greg Skilbeck, Dr Ron Sandland AM, Mr Russell Taylor, Mr Tony Tobin, Professor Sally Varnham, Mr Daniel Willis, and Mr Brian Wilson.

Mr William Paterson (University Secretary) and Ms Philippa Scott (Executive Officer to the UTS Council).

APOLOGIES: Mrs Megan Cornelius AM and Mr Su-Ming Wong.

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr Marilyn Sleigh (left during Item 4.6), Professor Shirley Alexander (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Teaching, Learning and Equity), until Item 3.2), Ms Anne Dwyer (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Services)), Professor William Purcell (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Development)), Professor Glenn Wightwick (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)), Mr Patrick Woods (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources)), and Ms Michelle Callen (Executive Manager, Strategy and Communications, Office of the Vice-Chancellor).

For Item 5.2:

- Ms Rebecca Murphy (Executive Officer to Academic Board)

Items are recorded in the order they appear on the agenda.

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

COU/14-5/96

Council resolved to receive and note the apologies from Mrs Megan Cornelius AM and Mr Su-Ming Wong and agreed that they be excused for their absence.

Note for the record

The Chancellor gave an Acknowledgement of Country on behalf of Council.

As it was their last meeting, on behalf of Council, the Chancellor thanked elected academic staff representatives Professor Greg Skilbeck and Professor Jenny Onyx for their contributions and commitment to Council over many years. Professor Skilbeck and Professor Onyx have each been on Council since 2006. The Chancellor noted that they will be sorely missed.

This is also the last meeting as elected student representatives for Douglas McDonald and Elizabeth Hanley. The Chancellor also thanked them for their significant contributions to Council.

The Chancellor welcomed Bill Paterson to his first meeting as University Secretary, and noted that Council looks forward to working with him in his new role.

The Chancellor informed Council that Minister Piccoli had agreed to the appointment of Brian Wilson and Tony Tobin as the two ministerial appointments to Council. The Chancellor congratulated them both and expressed Council's appreciation of their continuing contribution to the University.

The Chancellor advised Council that Professor Sally Varnham, who has reached her term limit as Chair of Academic Board, has been elected as an academic staff member of Council for a term beginning 1 November 2014. Dan Willis has been re-elected as the professional staff member of Council for a term beginning 1 November 2014. Congratulations and appreciation was given to them both.

Council was advised of the full range of newly elected members to Council as follows:

Two academic staff positions:

- Professor Sally Varnham (Faculty of Law)
- Professor Andrew Jakubowicz (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)

One professional staff position

- Dan Willis (Faculty of Science)

One postgraduate student position

- Abhishek Loumish (Faculty of Engineering and IT)

One undergraduate student position

- Aaron Ngan (UTS Business School)

The election for the position of Chair of Academic Board will take place in November 2014

Council was introduced to Dr Merylyn Sleigh, who will attend today's meeting as an observer. Dr Sleigh, who is a nominee for a Council-Appointed position, will leave the room during Item 4.6.

Council was advised to note the sale of the property at Pymont by Executive Action, as detailed in Item 6.2 – *Report on Executive Action*, which is unstarred and that the VC will propose the strategic use of the proceeds to Council as early as possible.

1.2 Declaration/Recording of Any Relevant Material Interests

COU/14-5/97

No new declarations were recorded for items on the agenda.

Note for the record

Council was advised that a new standing declaration of interest had been received from the University Secretary, who is a Director of both UTS Union Ltd, and UTS Haberfield Club, Ltd. This declaration has been recorded on Council's register, and drawn to the attention of the Chancellor, who has determined that it does not constitute any material conflict of interest.

1.3 Starring of Recommendations for Discussion

COU/14-5/98

Council to:

- .1 star items 3.1, 3.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.4.1, 4.6, 4.7, 5.2, and 6.5.
- .2 adopt the unstarred recommendations.

Note for the record

Following the passage of resolution COU/14-5/98.2, thanks and congratulations were extended to Peter Bennett, who is again the Council's nominee to the Board of Insearch Limited, as shown in Item 6.7.

2 MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Minutes of meeting 14/4 (13 August 2014)

COU/14-5/99

Council resolved that the 14/4 (13 August 2014) be confirmed and signed as a true record.

2.2 Actions Arising

COU/14-5/100

Council resolved to receive and note the Actions Arising list.

3 STRATEGIC ITEMS OF BUSINESS

***3.1 Report from the Vice-Chancellor**

COU/14-5/101

Council resolved to receive and note the report, as detailed in Document 3.1-*Report from the Vice-Chancellor*.

Note for the record

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to items in his report. Council took note of the University's success in the three recently released major ranking schemes: Academic Ranking of World Universities; QS World University Rankings; and Times Higher Education, particularly noting the improvement in the University's position in all three international rankings for the second year in a row.

Further to the report, Council noted that the Vice-Chancellor has recently held several successful staff forums across the City and Kuring-Gai Campuses. The Vice-Chancellor continues to communicate with staff and students on key elements of the University's Strategic Plan, including external engagement, research strategy, the full implementation of Learning2014, and performance management. The Vice-Chancellor continues to work with local and international external partners on key projects.

The Vice-Chancellor continues to consult with State and Federal Governments on future higher education policy implementation. Council was advised that despite the uncertainty of what the final outcome of proposed Federal Government higher education reforms might mean to the sector, the UTS Strategic Plan positions the University well.

*3.2 Strategic Briefing- Research

COU/14-5/102

Council to receive and note the report as detailed in Document 3.2 - *Strategic Briefing – Research*

Note for the record

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) spoke to this item and provided a visual presentation for Council.

This Strategic Briefing focussed on the University's performance against research KPI targets; external research income, the University's research strengths, and sector comparisons. With regard to performance overall, Council noted the success of the existing UTS Research Strategy, and that the University continues to meet or exceed all research KPIs and targets. Council noted that research income has increased in three out of four categories since 2008. The category that has not increased is Co-operative Research Centre (CRC) funding, and strategies are in place to improve the University's involvement in this area. Significant growth in Faculty research income was observed, particularly in Science, and the Faculties were commended for their success in this area. Several research awards for Faculty staff were noted. Comparative data of the University's performance relative to the sector was also presented.

Council was additionally advised that research performance is not consistent across each Faculty or research area, and that Faculty benchmarks would be developed to manage research performance. Potential funding reductions across the university sector will have a significant impact on research income, and the University will need to develop new local and international key partnerships as sources of research income. Council was also advised that in order to meet the University's goal of becoming a world-leading university of technology, a further step-change in research strategy would be required. High priority actions to support this step-change will be presented during the December 2014 Council Strategy Day and a complete strategy will be presented to Council in March 2015

Council thanked the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) for his report and presentation.

4 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS FOR APPROVAL AND NOTING

4.1 Report from Audit and Risk Committee

COU/14-5/103

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

4.2 Report from Commercial Activities Committee

COU/14-5/104

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

***4.3 Report from Finance Committee**

COU/14-5/105

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

***4.4 Report from Governance Committee**

COU/14-5/105

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

***4.4.1 UTS Rules Review Project**

COU/14-5/106

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

4.5 Report from Physical Infrastructure Committee

COU/14-5/107

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

***4.6 Report from Nominations Committee**

COU/14-5/108

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

***4.7 Appointment of Chairs and Members of Committees**

COU/14-5/109

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

5 ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

5.1 Standing Delegations of Authority Annual Review

COU/14-5/110

Council resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report, as detailed in Document 5.1 – 2014 Annual Review of the Standing Delegations of Authority and Attachments 1 and 2;
- .2 note that the Physical Infrastructure Committee considered and supports the proposed non-academic related amendments (Delegations 1.3 and 1.5) to the Standing Delegations of Authority;
- .3 note that the Governance Committee considered and supports the proposed non-academic related amendments (in Section 3 and Appendix A) to the Standing Delegations of Authority;

- .4 note that the Finance Committee considered and supports the remainder of the proposed non-academic related amendments to the Standing Delegations of Authority;
- .5 note that the Academic Board considered and supports the proposed academic related amendments (in Section 4) to the Standing Delegations of Authority;
- .6 approve the proposed amendments to the delegations, as detailed in Attachment 1 of Document 5.1 – 2014 Annual Review of the Standing Delegations of Authority, with effect from 1 December 2014; and
- .7 approve that any necessary consequential amendments to UTS policy instruments be effected by the Governance Support Unit

***5.2 Report from Academic Board**

Council resolved to:

COU/14-5/111

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 5.2 – *Report from Academic Board*, and its attachments;
- .2 note the amendments to Academic Board committee compositions and Terms of Reference, as detailed in Attachment 1;
- .3 note the revised composition and Terms of Reference of the Board of Studies, Graduate School of Health, as detailed in Attachment 2;
- .4 note the revised Academic Board Standing Orders, as detailed in Attachment 3;
- .5 note the Report on Late Conferrals and Corrections to Awards Autumn Semester 2014, as detailed in Attachment 4.

Note for the record

As Professor Sally Varnham will shortly be ending her second and last term as Chair of Academic Board, a position she has held since January 2011, she was invited to provide a presentation to Council on Academic Board's projects and achievements over her terms as Chair. The presentation focussed on Academic Board's recent strategies to enhance academic governance. This focus commenced in 2011 with a review of academic governance, and has continued by having strong, active Academic Board Committees, led by the Executive Committee of Academic Board; introducing the Governance Activities Framework; increasing communication and engagement with management, the Faculties, staff and students; increasing effective student representation; and liaising and benchmarking with the Australian and NSW Academic

Boards and Senates community. Ms Rebecca Murphy, the Executive Officer to Academic Board was in attendance for this item and Professor Varnham thanked her particularly for her work supporting the Board and the Chair.

The Chancellor thanked Professor Varnham for her work as Chair of Academic Board and congratulated her for her achievements in this position.

6 ITEMS FOR NOTING

***6.1 Report from the Chancellor**

COU/14-5/112

Council to receive and note the report, as detailed in Document 6.1 – *Report from the Chancellor*.

6.2 Use of University Seal and Executive Action

COU/14-5/113

Council resolved to note:

- .1 the action taken by the Chancellor and Registrar to affix the University Seal during the period 6 August 2014 to 8 October 2014 as described in Part A of Schedule 1 of Document 6.2; and
- .2 the Executive Action undertaken on behalf of Council during the period 13 August 2014 to 8 October 2014

6.3 Work Health and Safety Standing Report

COU/14-5/114

Council to receive and note the report as detailed in Document 6.3 – *Work Health and Safety Standing Report to Council*.

6.4 Report from Student/Council Liaison Group

COU/14-5/115

Council to receive and note the report, as detailed in Document 6.4 – *Report from Student/Council Liaison Group* and its Attachment

***6.5 Notice of Deputy Chancellor and Pro Chancellor Elections**

COU/14-5/116

Council to receive and note the report Document 6.5 - *Notice of Election of Deputy Chancellor and Pro-Chancellors*.

Note for the record

The Chancellor spoke to this item. Council noted that the Chancellor will nominate Mr Brian Wilson for a further term as Deputy Chancellor, and Mr Robert Kelly and Dr Ron Sandland AM for further terms as Pro-Chancellors. Should members wish to make further nominations, nomination forms are available from the University Secretary. If more nominations are received than there are vacancies, an election will be held in accordance with the timetable in the paper

6.6 Appointment to the Board of UTS Union Ltd

COU/14-5/117

Council resolved to note the reappointment of Ms Jacqueline Wise as a University-appointed Staff Director on the Board of UTS Union Ltd for the term 7 October 2014 to 6 October 2016.

6.7 Appointment to the Board of Insearch Ltd

COU/14-5/118

Council resolved to approve that Mr Peter Bennett be appointed as a Member and Director of Insearch Limited for a term of two years, ending 31 October 2016.

7 ITEMS OF GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Matters for further discussion arising from reports

7.2 Other Business (at Council's discretion)

7.2.1 Change to representation of University name

COU/14-5/119

Council resolved to:

- .1 approve that all necessary action is taken to change the representation of the University's name from 'University of Technology, Sydney' to 'University of



Technology Sydney', by removing the comma, and this be given effect in all relevant instruments; and

.2 approve that this action is to be enacted by the University Secretary.

Note for the record

Further to Item 3.2- *Strategic Briefing (Research)*, Council noted that the inclusion of a comma in the University's official name has, on occasion, resulted in a disadvantageous impact on the University's research publications not being correctly attributed to the University's research output, and may cause confusion and inconsistency generally. Council resolved that the representation of the University's name be amended (by removing the comma) in relevant instruments so as to remove any unintended impediment to the business of the University and the achievement of strategic objectives.

7.2.2 Thanks from outgoing elected Council members

COU/14-5/120

Each of the outgoing Council members, being Professor Jenny Onyx, Professor Greg Skilbeck, Mr Douglas McDonald and Ms Elizabeth Hanley thanked the Chancellor and other members of Council for their support, insight and generosity over their terms as members, and noted their pleasure at having had the opportunity to serve as a member of Council.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 12.20pm

The 14/5 meeting of Council was followed by a presentation by the Dean of the UTS Business School, Professor Roy Green.

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR

DATE