

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY

COUNCIL

Meeting 14/6 of the Council of the University of Technology, Sydney, to be held at 9.00am on Wednesday, 26 November 2014 in the Aerial UTS Function Centre, Level 7, Building 10, Jones Street, Ultimo.

PRESENT: Professor Vicki Sara AO (Chancellor), Mr Peter Bennett, Professor Attila Brungs (Vice-Chancellor), Ms Michelene Collopy, Professor Andrew Jakubowicz, Mr Robert Kelly, Mr Abhishek Loumish, Mr Aaron Ngan, Dr Ron Sandland AM, Mr Michael Sexton SC, Dr Merilyn Sleigh, 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: None.

IN ATTENDANCE: Professor Shirley Alexander (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education and Students)), Professor Peter Booth (Provost), Ms Anne Dwyer (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Services)), Professor William Purcell (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Advancement)), 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 Items 3.3- 3.3.2:

- Ms Martin Hanlon (Director, Planning and Quality Unit); and
- Ms Carolyn Newbiggin (Performance Analysis and Reporting Specialist, Planning and Quality Unit)

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

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

COU/14-6/121

Council resolved to note that no apologies have been received.

Note for the record

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

The Chancellor welcomed Dr Marilyn Sleight to her first meeting as a member. As it was also their first meeting, the Chancellor welcomed newly elected student representatives Mr Abhishek Loumish and Mr Aaron Ngan to Council. Council also welcomed Professor Andrew Jakubowicz and Professor Sally Varnham to their first meeting as elected academic staff representatives. Council noted that Professor Varnham will also hold the position of Chair of Academic Board until the end of the year. Council was advised that Associate Professor Joanne Gray has been elected as the incoming Chair of Academic Board for the term beginning 1 January 2015. Council members congratulated Associate Professor Gray and expressed their pleasure in working with her in the future.

Council was advised that Mr Brian Wilson has been re-elected as Deputy Chancellor, and Mr Robert Kelly and Dr Ron Sandland as Pro-Chancellors. The Chancellor congratulated all three and thanked them for their continued contributions.

1.2 Declaration/Recording of Any Relevant Material Interests

COU/14-6/122

No new declarations were recorded for items on the agenda.

1.3 Starring of Recommendations for Discussion

COU/14-6/123

Council to:

- .1 star items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5, and 6.3.
- .2 adopt the unstarred recommendations.

2 MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Minutes of meeting 14/5 (15 October 2014)

COU/14-6/124

Council resolved that the minutes of meeting 14/5 (15 October 2014) be confirmed and signed as a true record.

2.2 Actions Arising

COU/14-6/125

Council resolved to receive and note the Actions Arising list.

3 STRATEGIC ITEMS OF BUSINESS

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

COU/14-6/126

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 continued state of flux with regard to the Federal Government's higher education agenda. Council was advised, as in previous meetings, that the University will be in a strong position regardless of the outcome of the Government's higher education reforms

Council was advised as to the strategic investment decisions made with regard to the funds from the sale of the Pyrmont property. The proceeds will be invested in teaching, learning and research activities to support the University's strategic objectives.

The Vice-Chancellor discussed the Australian Research Council (ARC) outcomes as detailed in the report. Council noted that although the results are slightly down on 2013 achievements, they are still very good for the University.

Further to the report, Council noted that the Vice-Chancellor will bring principles for a pricing strategy to the 17 December Council Strategy Day for discussion. Council discussed preliminary options for a strategy, noting that such a strategy will be subject firstly, to Council's input in December, and secondly, to Council's approval in early 2015.

***3.2 Strategic Briefing- International & Advancement**

COU/14-6/127

Council resolved to receive and note the report *Strategic Briefing-International and Advancement*, as detailed in Document 3.2 and its attachments.

Note for the record

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Advancement) spoke to this item and provided a PowerPoint presentation for Council.

This Strategic Briefing focussed on achievements, outlook and risks in the University's International and Advancement portfolios. With regard to International, Council was advised that the University has had considerable success with improving international student numbers, and finalising agreements with Key Technology Partners including making joint academic appointments. The University has also succeeded in achieving increased international commercialisation and industry engagement. The outlook for 2015 in International appears strong, with various indicators looking increasingly positive. Risks to the outlook for 2015 include increased competition for international students at English-speaking countries, in the Asian region, and in online course offerings.

With regard to Advancement, Council was advised that fundraising in gifts, pledges and bequests continues to grow. The challenges faced by the Advancement team are a relatively small pool of contributors, both of UTS alumni and of philanthropic donors in Australia generally, and the relatively small size of gifts. The Advancement team will focus on large gifts in 2015, and will look towards increased external engagement to achieve a step-change in this portfolio in the coming years.

The Chancellor on behalf of Council thanked the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Advancement) for his report and presentation, and congratulated the staff of International and Advancement for their achievements.

***3.3 Preliminary UTS Strategic Direction 2015**

COU/14-6/128

Confidential.

***3.3.1 Preliminary 2014 Performance Report and 2015 KPI Targets**

COU/14-6/129

Confidential.

***3.3.2 Draft Strategic Priorities for 2015-2017**

COU/14-6/130

Confidential.

***3.3.3 2015 Budget**

COU/14-6/131

Confidential.

***3.4 Final Student Load Report for 2014**

COU/14-6/132

Confidential.

***3.5 Preliminary Report on 2015 Student Applications**

COU/14-6/133

Confidential.

4 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS FOR APPROVAL AND NOTING

4.1 Report from Audit and Risk Committee

COU/14-6/134

Confidential.

***4.2 Report from Commercial Activities Committee**

COU/14-6/135

Council resolved to:

Confidential.

4.3 Report from Finance Committee

COU/14-6/136

Confidential.

***4.4 Report from Governance Committee**

COU/14-6/137

Confidential.

***4.5 Report from Honorary Awards Committee**

COU/14-6/138

Confidential.

4.6 Report from Physical Infrastructure Committee

COU/14-6/139

5 ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

5.1 Report from Academic Board

COU/14-6/140

Council resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 5.1 – *Report from Academic Board* and its Attachment;
- .2 approve the rescission of the Plain English Policy; and
- .3 note the Report on Late Conferrals and Corrections to Awards Spring Semester 2014, as detailed in Attachment

6 ITEMS FOR NOTING

***6.1 Report from the Chancellor**

COU/14-6/141

Council resolved 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/14-6/142

Council resolved to note:

- .1 the action taken to affix the University Seal during the period 8 October 2014 to 20 November 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 15 October 2014 to 20 November 2014.

***6.3 Work Health and Safety Standing Report**

COU/14-6/143

Council resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 6.3 – Health and Safety Standing Report to Council;
- .2 note the University's continued requirement for all staff to participate in designated health and safety training courses; and
- .3 note management's commitment to achieving the training uptake target, as detailed in the report.

Note for the record

The Chair of Audit and Risk Committee spoke to this report, and noted that he had requested that it be starred for discussion due to the report on the uptake of work, health and safety training, reported for the first time in this standing report. Noting that it is incumbent upon the Council in discharging its statutory duties to ensure that work health and safety standards are adhered to, Council requested that the recommendations of the report be amended as reflected above.

6.4 Report from Social Justice Committee

COU/14-6/144

Council resolved to receive and note the report, as detailed in Document 6.4 – *Report from Social Justice Committee* and its Attachment.

6.5 Final Council Meeting Dates 2015

COU/14-6/145

Council resolved to note the *Final Council Meeting Dates for 2015*, as detailed in Document 6.5 and Attachment 1

7 ITEMS OF GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Matters for further discussion arising from reports

7.2 Other Business (at Council’s discretion)

There being no other business the meeting ended at 12.15pm

The 14/5 meeting of Council was followed by a presentation by the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Bruce Milthorpe.

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR

DATE