

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY

COUNCIL

Meeting 15/1 of the Council of the University of Technology, Sydney, held at 9.00am on Wednesday, 18 February 2015 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, Associate Professor Joanne Gray, Professor Andrew Jakubowicz, Mr Robert Kelly, Mr Abhishek Loumish, Mr Aaron Ngan, Dr Ron Sandland AM, Mr Michael Sexton SC, Dr Marilyn Sleigh, Mr Tony Tobin, Professor Sally Varnham, and Mr Daniel Willis.

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

APOLOGIES: Mr Russell Taylor and Mr Brian Wilson

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 3.1.3: Mr David Diviny and Mr Peter Wiseman (Senior Consultants, Nous Group)

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

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

COU/15-1/1

Council resolved to note that apologies have been received from Mr Russell Taylor and Mr Brian Wilson, and resolved that they be excused for their absence.

Note for the record

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

The Chancellor welcomed all members to the first meeting of 2015, and particularly welcomed Associate Professor Joanne Gray to her first meeting as Chair of Academic Board. The Chancellor on behalf of Council thanked and congratulated all University staff involved for the outstanding success of events in early February related to the opening of the Dr Chau Chak Wing building designed by Frank Gehry.

1.2 Declaration/Recording of Any Relevant Material Interests

COU 15/1-2

Council resolved to:

- .1 note the declaration of interest by Mr William Paterson, University Secretary, in relation to Item 5.1 *Appointment to the Board of UTS Union Ltd*; and
- .2 note that if the item is starred, Mr Paterson will leave the room for the duration of the discussion.

1.3 Starring of Recommendations for Discussion

COU 15/1-3

Council resolved to:

- .1 star items 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.2, 4.4, 6.3 and 6.4; and
- .2 adopt the unstarred recommendations.

2 MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Minutes of Meeting 14/6 (26 November 2014)

COU 15/1-4

Council resolved that the minutes of meeting 14/6 (26 November 2014) be confirmed and signed as a true record.

2.2 Actions Arising

COU 15/1-5

Council resolved to receive and note the Actions Arising list.

3 STRATEGIC ITEMS OF BUSINESS

3.1 Reports from the Vice-Chancellor

***3.1.1 Report from the Vice-Chancellor**

COU 15/1-6

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 was advised that the situation with regard to the Commonwealth Government's higher education policy continues to be fluid, and changing rapidly. Council will be kept up-to-date by the Vice-Chancellor.

Further to the report, Council noted that Professor William Purcell (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International & Advancement)) has been reappointed as the Vice-Chancellor's nominee on the Board of Insearch Limited, for the term 22 May 2015 - 21 May 2017. As detailed in Item 6.2, Mr Patrick Woods (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources)) has concluded his term as a Director of Insearch, and Ms Anne Dwyer (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Services)) is now the Council's appointee to that Board. Council also noted the appointment of Professor Peter Scott, who is currently the Director of the Knowledge Media Institute at the UK's Open University, as the Assistant Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education and Students).

***3.1.2 Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Priorities for 2015**

COU 15/1-7

Council resolved to:

Confidential

***3.1.3 Report on Vice-Chancellor and Council Strategic Conversation**

COU 15/1-8

Council resolved to:

Confidential

***3.2 Interim Report on Student Admissions**

COU 15/1-9

Council resolved to:

Confidential

4 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS FOR APPROVAL AND NOTING

4.1 Report from Commercial Activities Committee

COU 15/1-10

Council resolved to:

Confidential

4.2 Report from Finance Committee

COU 15/1-11

Council resolved to:

Confidential

4.3 Report from Governance Committee

COU 15/1-12

Council resolved to:

Confidential

***4.4 Report from Physical Infrastructure Committee**

COU 15/1-13

Council resolved to:

Confidential

5 ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

5.1 Appointment to the Board of UTS Union Ltd

COU 15/1-14

Council resolved to approve the reappointment of Mr William Paterson as the Third Council Appointee on the Board of UTS Union Ltd for the term 18 February 2015 to 31 December 2016.

6 ITEMS FOR NOTING

6.1 Report from the Chancellor

COU 15/1-15

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 15/1-16

Council resolved to note:

- .1 the action taken to affix the University Seal during the period 20 November 2014 to 11 February 2015 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 26 November 2014 to 11 February 2015

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

COU 15/1-17

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

Note for the record

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to this report. Council noted the significantly improved uptake in work health and safety training, and thanked the Senior Executive for their leadership on this matter. Council further noted that a result of 90% uptake is still required, and that this will be monitored going forward.

***6.4 Annual Report from Academic Board**

COU 15/1-18

Council resolved to receive and note the Academic Board Annual Report 2014, as detailed in Document 6.4 - *Academic Board Annual Report 2014* and its Attachment.

Note for the record

The Chair of Academic Board spoke to this report and provided a PowerPoint presentation to Council. The presentation focussed on the Academic Board's 2014 achievements, particularly in establishing a governance structure for the Connected Intelligence Centre; implementing the Indigenous Graduate Attribute, including academic appointments to support this project; making recommendations with regard to the future of honours degrees at UTS; and conducting course and subject performance evaluations. With regard to honours, Council noted that Academic Board has concluded the initial phase of its investigation into honours options, and will establish a further working party in 2015 to consider the value of a dual-purpose honours degree, with variations as required by faculty and by course.

In response to a student comment regarding the introduction of balanced semesters, the Provost indicated that further communications will be made to students with relevant information.

6.5 Report from Academic Board

COU 15/1-19

Council resolved to receive and note the report of the Academic Board, as detailed in Document 6.5 and its Attachments, *Report from Academic Board*.

6.6 Declarations of Interest Procedure

COU 15/1-20

Council resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report, as detailed in Document 6.6 –*Declarations of Interest*; and
- .2 note that the process for obtaining Declarations of Interest for Council and Committee members has been followed and is complete

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 12.10pm

The 15/1 meeting of Council was followed by a presentation by the Director of the Institute for Sustainable Future, Professor Stuart White.

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR

DATE