

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (ACU)  
DIGEST OF SENATE MEETING 4/2011  
HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2011**

### **Chancellor's Report**

The Chancellor reported on the following:

- His Eminence Cardinal George Pell AC DD was re-elected President of ACU for a period of five (5) years, with effect from 4 October 2011. The Chancellor welcomed Cardinal Pell's continuing stewardship.
- ACU has begun discussions with Most Reverend Philip Wilson, Archbishop of Adelaide following the announced closure of the Catholic Theological College (CTC) in Adelaide. ACU and CTC are discussing possibilities for collaboration and for ensuring the future of the theological education in the Archdiocese.
- The Chancellor was pleased to report that Professor Craven will remain Vice-Chancellor of ACU until March 2018. To that end he had written to stakeholders and Cardinal Pell who were delighted with the information.
- Remuneration of Senators: After discussion by Senate, it was agreed that Senate members will not be remunerated for their generous service and time given to the various committees of ACU.

### **Vice-Chancellors Report**

The Vice-Chancellor's report which covered the following matters:

- Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA).
- Latest higher education statistics.
- Prime Minister's visit to ACU's Strathfield campus.
- Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer's visit to ACU's Brisbane campus.
- Visit to ACU's Ballarat campus by Victorian Minister for Higher Education and Skills'.
- Appointment of Professor Margot Hillel OAM as Chair of Academic Board.
- Implementation of outcomes from Enterprise Bargaining.
- The University has submitted nominations for the Equal Opportunity for Women (EOW) Business Achievement Awards in the categories: *Leading Organisation for the Advancement of Women; and the Diversity Leader for the Advancement of Women*. Short listing will occur in October and the award winners will be announced on 9 November 2011.
- University Rankings: There are two major world rankings that the Australian higher education sector considers: the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) and the QS World University Rankings. ACU does not participate in either ranking, as the focus is heavily weighted to the scientific disciplines and on research output and impact.
- Academic Careers Pathways: The implementation of the Academic Careers Pathways is underway. The project's purpose is to facilitate the design and implementation of an academic career pathway model that recognises, embraces and enables a range of career trajectories.
- ACU Strategic Plan 2012-2014 Refresh Project: Rather than a wholesale change of direction, it was agreed to 'refresh' the 2009-2011 Strategic Plan and refine the supporting planning and reporting framework for 2012-2014.
- Initial enrolment figures indicate that ACU is 42 per cent over enrolled for 2012.
- Attendance at all open days were significantly higher except for the Canberra campus;
- Inquiries from early achievers had increased by 20 per cent.
- First preferences will be available at the end of September.
- ACU is hoping to reach its target 25,000 effective full time student load.

## Higher Education Discussion: Strategy and Policy

Professor Craven discussed the current Australian higher education policy landscape in the context of the establishment of Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA) and other Commonwealth initiatives. He also reported that he had had been appointed Chair of the newly established '*Universities Australia Standing Committee*' on TEQSA.

## Course Proposals

Senate approved the following course proposals:

- Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies from Semester 1, 2012 at the Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne and Strathfield campuses;
- The introduction of the Bachelor of Applied Public Health from 2012 at the Brisbane, Melbourne and North Sydney campuses; and
- The proposal for the restructure the Faculty of Health Sciences and governance of the Schools of Nursing Midwifery and Paramedicine from 1 January 2012.

## Renewal/award of Honorary title of Adjunct Professor

Senate approved the award and or renewal of the term of Adjunct Professor for the a further period of 3 years to 15 September 2014 to:

- Dr Gerard Rummery fsc;
- Dr Anne Benjamin;
- Dr Daniel Madigan sj;
- Rabbi John Levi AM;
- Dr Michael Radel;
- Professor Philippe Obert;
- Professor Daniel Courteix;
- Professor Jeffrey Kosky;
- Professor Eleonore Stump;
- Professor Merold Westphal;
- Archbishop Mark Coleridge DD;
- Professor Michael Costigan;
- Mr John D'Arcy May;
- Professor Chris Sidoti; and
- Mr Greg Smith.

## Reports

Senate receives and noted the following reports:

- Meeting calendar for 2012
- Standing and Finance Committee meeting of 13 July and 2 August 2011;
- Academic Board meeting of 20 July 2011;
- Ceremonial and Protocols Committee meeting of 16 June and 10 August 2011;
- ACT Chapter report of 19 May 2011;
- Victorian Chapter report of 7 June and 9 August 2011;
- Queensland Chapter report of 28 June 2011;
- New South Wales Chapter report of September 2011;
- 2010 Annual Report from the Faculty of Education;
- 2010 Annual Report from the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy;
- 2010 Annual Report from the Mathematics Teaching and Learning Research Centre;

- 2010 Annual Report from the Plunkett Centre; and
- 2010 Annual Report from Nursing Research Institute.

**Next Meeting**

3 November 2011 at 10:00 am in Melbourne.

**Mr John Cameron**

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration and Resources)