

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
DIGEST OF SENATE MEETING 4/2010
HELD ON 4 NOVEMBER 2010**

Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and in particular welcomed Professor Peter Cosgrove AC MC, Chancellor elect.

Open Day attendance

Senate noted statistics relating to Open Day attendance during the period 2008-2010 which indicated that, across all campuses, attendance had increased from 6296 (2008) to 9830 (2010).

Total Admissions Preferences for ACU through Tertiary Admission Centres

Senate noted details summarising the preferences for admission to ACU through the University Admissions Centre, the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre and the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre for admission in Semester One, 2011 which, in total, indicated a 21 percent increase when compared with 2010.

Health Workforce Australia (HWA) Grants

Senate was pleased to note that ACU was the leading institution in seven of the applications that were listed among the successful HWA Clinical Training Grants which were announced on 13 October 2010. Senate further noted that the University was also a joint applicant in a further eight successful grants.

Canonisation of Mary MacKillop

The Vice-Chancellor reported regarding his attendance at the recent canonisation of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop in Rome. Senate noted that ACU had supported 40 staff and students to represent the University at the canonisation, including a number of performers at the Vigil and Celebratory Mass. Professor Craven stated that the University was proud to have supported the Sisters of St Joseph in this wonderful occasion for the Australian Church which had also provided ACU with an excellent profiling opportunity with key Church stakeholders.

Senate placed on record its appreciation to Professor Anne Cummins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching) and Professor Marea Nicholson, Associate Vice-Chancellor (Sydney) for their outstanding work in association with the canonisation.

National Centre for Health and Wellbeing (NCHW)

Senate noted that on 6 October 2010, the Victorian Planning Minister, Justin Madden had granted planning approval for the new NCHW at St Patrick's campus in Fitzroy. The nine-story development on Young Street will provide state-of-the-art learning and research facilities including accommodation for the Schools of Exercise Science, Nursing and Midwifery, Psychology and Occupational Therapy.

Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency (EOWA)

Senate noted that the University had recently applied for the EOWA Employer of Choice for Women citation (the citation is issued by the EOWA to recognise an organisation's efforts in the area of equal opportunity for women) and the Diversity @Work 2010 Employment and Inclusion Award.

Review of University Symbols

The Vice-Chancellor foreshadowed the submission of the above report to the Senate's next meeting on 7 April 2011, prior to its consideration by Company Members at the Annual General Meeting on 13 May.

Sydney Master Planning

Senate received a briefing from Professor Marea Nicholson, Associate Vice-Chancellor (Sydney) and Chair of the Sydney Master Planning Working Party regarding the Sydney master planning process. A detailed proposal, including a capital management plan, will be considered by Senate at its next meeting.

Law School Planning Report

Professor John Devereaux, Associate Vice-Chancellor (Brisbane) and Chair of the Law School Planning Working Party, addressed Senate regarding the report of the Law School Planning Working Party.

Senate approved the establishment of a Law School in Melbourne in 2013 followed by expansion to Sydney in 2016 (or earlier if possible) and then Brisbane.

Report regarding Objects of Australian Catholic University

Senate received and noted the report which was prepared by the Vice-Chancellor for the consideration of the Governance Working Party. The report, which sets out new objectives for the Company of ACU and thereby the University itself, was scheduled to be considered at the next Annual General Meeting on 13 May 2011.

Revisions of University Statutes

Senate approved the deletion of all references to *Pro-Vice-Chancellor* and *Dean*, and their replacement with *Deputy Vice-Chancellor* and *Executive Dean*, respectively, in the relevant Statutes.

Election of Pro-Chancellor

Senate noted that the Members of Australian Catholic University Limited had unanimously elected Mr Ted Exell AM as Pro-Chancellor for a further term. Mr Exell has undertaken to serve in this position for a period of two years effective from 5 November 2010.

2011 draft Operating Budget

Senate adopted the 2011 draft Operating Budget.

Banking Facilities

Senate accepted the terms and conditions for banking facilities of National Australia Bank as outlined in the Bank's letter of offer dated 22 September 2010.

Course proposals

Senate approved the introduction of the:

- Bachelor of Paramedicine for implementation from semester 1, 2011 at the Melbourne campus; and
- Bachelor of Business Administration for implementation from 2011 at the Brisbane, Melbourne and North Sydney campuses.

Proposals to award the title of Adjunct Professor

Senate awarded the title of Adjunct Professor for a period of three years, to 4 November 2013, to:

Associate Professor Peter Bastian; and
Dr Ruth Powell.

Renewal of term of Adjunct Professors

Senate renewed the term of the following Adjunct Professors for a further period of three years to 4 November 2013:

Emeritus Professor Gerald O'Collins sj; and
Dr Robert Pryor.

Renaming of Mon Sejour Building

Senate approved the renaming of the Mon Sejour building as Drake House in honour of the University's foundation Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Drake.

Student Senate Representative 2011

Senate noted that this was the final Senate meeting to be attended by Mr Michael Vilella in his capacity as Student representative. Members placed on record their appreciation to Mr Vilella for his valuable contribution to the deliberations of Senate during 2010.

Tribute to outgoing Chancellor

Senate joined the Pro-Chancellor in a tribute to the outgoing Chancellor, Br Julian McDonald cfc AO. Mr Exell conveyed members' gratitude to Br Julian for his leadership, tireless commitment, support and friendship. He stated that Senate, its committees as well as the staff and students of ACU had all expressed their appreciation for the contribution of the outgoing Chancellor. The Vice-Chancellor conveyed his personal gratitude to Br Julian for his assistance and support, particularly during his first year with ACU.

Members noted that, during his term as Pro-Chancellor and, for the past ten years, as Chancellor, Br Julian had provided invaluable guidance to Senate in its deliberations, particularly in relation to the numerous and diverse challenges faced by the University.

Reports

Senate received and noted the following reports:

- ACT Chapter meeting held on 19 August 2010;
- New South Wales Chapter meeting held on 20 September 2010;

- Queensland Chapter meeting held on 26 October 2010;
- Academic Board meeting held on 11 October 2010;
- Audit Committee meeting held on 14 September 2010;
- Identity and Mission Committee meeting held on 10 September 2010;
- Ceremonial and Protocols Committee meeting held on 21 September 2010;
- Honorary Awards Committee meeting held on 5 October 2010;
- Standing and Finance Committee meeting held on 5 October;
- 2009 Annual Report from the National Centre for Clinical Outcomes Research; and
- 2009 Annual Report from the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy.

Next meeting

Thursday 7 April 2011 at 10.00 am in Sydney.

John Cameron
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration and Resources)