

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
DIGEST OF SENATE MEETING 2/2010  
HELD ON 16 JUNE 2010**

## **Welcome**

The Chair welcomed participants to the meeting. He particularly welcomed Ms Margaret Vider, newly elected Queensland Chapter representative on Senate and Professor Margot Hillel OAM and Associate Professor James McLaren, the newly elected Senate academic staff representatives. He congratulated Mr John Carroll, Bishop James Foley and Ms Moira Najdecki on their re-election to Senate.

## **Appointment of Chancellor**

Senate noted details regarding the Vice-Chancellor's announcement to staff regarding the appointment of General Peter Cosgrove AC MC as the third Chancellor of ACU. Members paid tribute to Brother Julian McDonald cfc AO, who retires from the position on 4 November following ten years of outstanding service to the University.

## **Status of enrolments for mid-year**

Senate noted increases in both domestic and international student enrolments for mid-year 2010.

## **Government Relations Advisers**

Senate noted that Professor Vin Massaro and Ms Lorraine Perry, from Massaro Consulting, had been appointed to provide advice and liaise with Government on the University's behalf.

## **Structural Adjustment Fund (SAF)**

The Vice-Chancellor reported that the draft guidelines for the Commonwealth's SAF had been released (an announcement regarding the final guidelines and the call for applications were expected in July). Approximately \$400m would be available to universities to fund significant structural adjustment and realignment of mission. In this context, ACU would be preparing an application to fund expansion of the Sydney campuses in line with the Master Planning process.

## **Commonwealth Budget 2010-2011**

Senate noted that, although no additional funding for universities was announced in the May Commonwealth Budget, all indications were that the Commonwealth would honour its commitment to provide full funding for domestic undergraduates from 2012.

## **Federal Opposition's Higher Education Policy**

The Vice-Chancellor reported regarding his recent meeting with Senator Christopher Pyne, Shadow Minister for Education and Senator Brett Mason, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Education. Senator Pyne had confirmed that the Opposition would continue with the Commonwealth's higher education growth agenda, including the provision of funding for the growth in Commonwealth Supported Places from 2012 as proposed by the current Labor Government.

## **Review of basis for costing of courses**

Senate noted that the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) was, as a matter of priority, facilitating the review of the costing basis for each course across all Schools, Faculties and Campuses.

## **Review of International Operations**

The Vice-Chancellor referred Senate to the final report of the Review of International Operations, conducted by Mr Rob Lawrence. Senate paid tribute to Ms Valerie Hoogstad, retiring Director of International, for her many years of commitment, hard work and critical involvement in growing the University's international student numbers.

## **Renaming of building – Ballarat campus**

Senate approved the renaming of the Stuart Murray Building on the Ballarat campus as the *Sisters of Mercy Building* in celebration of their 100 year anniversary in Ballarat.

## **Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)**

The Vice-Chancellor reported that discussions were continuing between Universities Australia and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to enhance the planning for TEQSA.

## **Capital Planning**

The Vice-Chancellor reported regarding the following:

### *Sydney Master Planning process*

Hassell, the master planning and architecture practice, had almost completed the Sydney Master Plan.

### *Melbourne campus developments*

Further action was being pursued to progress the approval of the National Centre for Health and Wellbeing in Melbourne. Discussions were continuing with the Archdiocese of Melbourne in relation to the purchase of the land on the corner of Victoria Parade and Brunswick Street (the bicycle factory).

### *Brisbane campus developments*

The capital developments were proceeding as planned on the Brisbane campus to allow for the expansion of the physiotherapy and exercise science programs.

## **Proposal for Law School Planning Committee**

Senate endorsed the proposal by the Vice-Chancellor to establish a Planning Committee for the establishment of a Law School. The composition of the Planning Committee is as follows:

Professor John Devereaux, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Brisbane and former Professor of Law, University of Queensland [Chair]

Mr John Cameron, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Administration and Resources)

Mr Paul Campbell, Director, Information Technology

Professor Gail Crossley, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Ms Fleur Edwards, Director, Office of the Vice-Chancellor

Professor Elizabeth More, Dean, Faculty of Business

Mr Chris Sheargold, Director, Libraries

Two practising lawyers – to be determined.

## **Membership of Senate Committees**

Senate appointed members to the Audit, Standing and Finance and Honorary Awards Committees for a period of two years.

## **Course Proposal**

Senate approved the course proposal for the Graduate Certificate in Inclusive Education for implementation from semester 2, 2011 at the Canberra and Strathfield campuses.

## **Proposals to award the title of Adjunct Professor**

**Senate awarded** the following persons the title of Adjunct Professor for a period of three years to 31 March 2013:

Associate Professor Jose Aguilera;  
 Ms Leslie Everson;  
 Mr John Geoghegan;  
 Dr Abdullah Omari;  
 Ms Barbara Paris;  
 Dr Julie Thompson;  
 Ms Maeve Tumulty; and  
 Fr Brian Lucas.

## **Proposal to renew the title of Adjunct Professor**

Senate approved the renewal of the title of Adjunct Professor in respect of Professor Deirdre Duncan for a period of three years to 31 March 2013.

## **Revision of protocols for honorary titles**

Senate approved revisions to the protocols for Adjunct Professor, Honorary Fellow, Clinical Fellow and Clinical Associate Professor.

## **Record of appreciation to former Senate academic staff representatives**

Senate placed on record its appreciation for the contribution made by Professors Judith Chapman AM and Marea Nicholson, whose term as academic staff representatives on Senate concluded at the AGM on 21 May 2010.

## **Reports**

Senate received and noted the following reports:

- Academic Board meeting held on 12 May 2010;
- Annual General Meeting of Members of Australian Catholic University Limited held on 21 May 2010;
- Ceremonial and Protocols Committee meeting held on 3 May 2010;
- Identity and Mission Committee meeting held on 18 May 2010;
- Queensland Chapter meeting held on 27 April 2010;
- Standing and Finance Committee meeting held on 14 May 2010;
- Victorian Chapter meeting held on 16 March 2010;
- 2009 ACU Annual Report;
- 2009 ACU Mathematics Teaching and Learning Research Centre Annual Report;
- 2009 ACU Quality of Life and Social Justice Flagship Annual Report;
- 2009 Plunkett Centre for Ethics Annual Report; and
- *Bioethics Outlook* – Plunkett Centre for Ethics – March 2010.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting of Senate is scheduled to be held on Thursday 16 September 2010 at the Melbourne campus.

John Cameron  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Administration and Resources)  
19 July 2010