

**Non-Confidential Minutes of Meeting 01/2019 of Senate  
Held on 18 February at 12.30 pm  
In The Apostolic Delegation Room  
Ground Floor, Vice-Chancellery  
40 Edward St, North Sydney**

**Senators at meeting**

- The Hon. John Fahey AC, Chair & Chancellor
- Mr Julien O'Connell AM, Pro-Chancellor
- Professor Greg Craven AO GCSG, Vice-Chancellor and President
- Mr Michael Benson
- The Hon. Justice James Douglas
- Mr Stephen Elder OAM KSS
- Dr Bill Franzsen
- Professor Margot Hillel OAM
- Mr Tim Kirk
- Ms Danielle Leahy
- Ms Moira Najdecki
- Professor Michael Ondaatje
- The Hon. Barbara Perry
- Dr Josephine Ryan
- Ms Annette Schmiede
- Ms Bernadette Steele
- Ms Margaret Vider DSG

**Apologies**

- The Most Reverend Christopher Prowse DD

**ACU Staff at meeting**

- Dr Stephen Weller, Secretary and Chief Operating Officer
- Dr Diane Barker, Director of Governance
- Ms Simone Chetcuti, Director, Office of Vice-Chancellor and President
- Mr Hugh McCuaig, Governance Officer

Mass was held after the meeting at 5.00 pm in Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Chapel. After the Mass, Senators participated in a farewell event for retiring Associate Vice-Chancellor, NSW/ACT, Professor Marea Nicholson, in Tenison Woods House.

**Part A – Procedural**

**1 Welcome and apologies**

The Chancellor welcomed Mr Michael Benson, Student Senator for 2019, to the Senate. The Chancellor stated that Mr Benson was in his final year of a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Global Studies at the Mackillop Campus. Mr Benson had held positions of Secretary, Vice President and President of ACUNSA.

**2 Welcome to Country**

A *Welcome to Country* was provided by Ms Theresa Ardler, Research Indigenous Liaison Officer, Institute for Positive Psychology & Education.

### **3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

#### **Resolution S 2019/001**

The Minutes of Meeting 06/2018 (29 November 2018) were confirmed as a true and accurate record, as detailed in Document 3.

### **4 Business arising**

#### **4.1 Listening and Dialogue Session (Plenary Council 2020)**

The Chancellor provided an update with respect to the Report from the Senate Plenary Council *Listening and Dialogue Session* held on 29 November 2018. The Chancellor requested that a copy of the report be provided to Senators.

#### **4.2 ACU Blacktown Expression of Interest**

The Chancellor advised Senate that the Vice-Chancellor would provide an update in regard to the Blacktown Expression of Interest as part of his report. The Chancellor provided the background for the two tabled publications:

- a. Blacktown CBD University Campus *Expression of Interest*
- b. Blacktown CBD University Campus *Returnable Schedules*

### **5 Register of Interests**

There was one declaration of interest as follows:

Senator: Mr Stephen Elder OAM KSS  
Agenda Item 13 (Nomination for an Honorary Title of Adjunct Professor)

## Part B – For Discussion (Governance and Strategy)

### 6 Chancellor's Report

The Chancellor introduced his report with an outline of events in which he had participated since the meeting of November 2018 including the 2018 ACU Alumni Awards.

#### 6.1 Vice-Chancellor and President Achievement against Focus Areas (2018)

The Chancellor spoke to the *Achievement against Focus Areas (Vice-Chancellor and President)* for 2018.

##### Resolution S 2019/002

Senate noted the *Achievement against Focus Areas (Vice-Chancellor and President) (2018)*, as detailed in Document 6.1.

#### 6.2 Vice-Chancellor and President's 2019 Focus Areas

The Chancellor spoke to the *Vice-Chancellor and President's 2019 Focus Areas*. Senators discussed cleric and senior administrative staff formation as a potential area of focus. In relation to *Cultural Strategy*, the connection between music and liturgy was emphasised.

##### Resolution S 2019/003

Senate noted the *Vice-Chancellor and President's 2019 Focus Areas*, as detailed in Document 6.2.

#### 6.3 Timing for Senate Meetings

The Chancellor outlined the wide ranging business for Senate around planning, finance, compliance and policy development covered by Senators and the often limited amount of time allocated to properly consider the full range of these areas at meetings. This was despite domains of accountability delegated to the Academic Board and Standing Committees enabling informed recommendations to be referred to Senate. Senate discussed and agreed to the Chancellor's proposal that meetings commence an hour earlier, retain existing half hour allocations for Mass, morning tea and lunch, and retain the existing meeting conclusion timeframe; and that accommodation be provided as required for Senators traveling from interstate.

Notation: It was agreed for future meetings of the Senate to be scheduled from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm with half hour allocated each for the Mass and morning tea (held at the commencement of proceedings), half an hour for lunch, and an afternoon tea; and that accommodation be provided as required for Senators traveling from interstate.

#### 6.4 Giving Bags initiative

The Chancellor outlined a new initiative in 2019, ACU's *Giving Bags* was a dual-branded collaboration between Campus Ministry and ACU Engagement to help promote staff and students' commitment to those in need in our society and beyond. The bags formed part of Campus Ministry's Lenten awareness campaign and the Orientation Week and Market Day experience for new students at the Campus Ministry and ACU Engagement stalls. Senators received a *giving bag* at the conclusion of the meeting.

## **6.5 Alumni Magazine and daily Media Digest**

Senate agreed that Senators receive copies of the Alumni Magazine; *Impact* (online); and the daily Media Digest (online). Senators were requested to indicate if they would prefer not to receive the daily media clippings (online).

## **7 Review of Remuneration (Vice-Chancellor & President)**

This item was discussed as a closed session of Senators. [The Vice-Chancellor was not present for this first item of business for the meeting; and Dr Barker, Ms Chetcuti and Mr McCuaig left the meeting room for this item].

## **8 Vice-Chancellor and President's Report**

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to the Report which included:

- ♦ Strategic Plan 2020-2023
- ♦ Blacktown Update: Funding
- ♦ Appointment to the Committee for the Transformation of Catholic Higher Education
- ♦ Appointment to the Performance Contingent Funding Expert Advisory Panel
- ♦ Rome Campus Developments (Transition Process; Summer Term 2019)
- ♦ Significant meetings with federal ministers, shadow ministers and MPs
- ♦ Enrolment Update
- ♦ 2018 ARC Outcomes

The Report included update reports from the Offices of:

- ♦ Provost
- ♦ Chief Operating Officer
- ♦ Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education
- ♦ Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research
- ♦ Vice-President
- ♦ Government, Policy and Strategy

With respect to enrolments, Senate discussed teacher education cut-off scores, pathway programs, best practice online learning, future for micro-credentialing, short course offerings, international markets by region and reforms to selection and admission by discipline area.

With respect to initial teacher education, Senate discussed recent changes in levels of staffing by campus, capacity to adapt to changes in enrolment and approaches adopted to determine levels of casualisation.

With respect to a potential campus in Blacktown, Senate discussed drivers for innovation in course offerings and modes of delivery in addition to local influences.

### **8.1 Newly created role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Co-ordination)**

The Vice-Chancellor provided the rationale for the creation of the new role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Co-ordination).

#### **Resolution S 2019/006**

In accordance with the ACU Constitution (Clause 23.1) and the ACU Delegations of Authority and Policy Register (Clause 6.3), Senate:

- i. Approved the creation of the role Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Co-ordination);
- ii. Approved the appointment of Professor Hayden Ramsay to the role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Co-ordination).

### **8.2 Establishment of an Institute for Philosophy**

The Vice-Chancellor provided the rationale for the establishment of an Institute for Philosophy.

#### **Resolution S 2019/007**

In accordance with the ACU Constitution and Statute 2.7.1, and the ACU Delegations of Authority and Policy Register (Clause 1.2), Senate approved the establishment of an Institute for Philosophy, to become effective on the appointment of a Director to lead the Institute, as detailed in Document 8.2.

### **8.3 University Land Holdings**

The Vice-Chancellor reported to Senate concerning developments in relation to the sites held by the University, including the purchase of the Ballarat campus and current negotiations for the purchase of the Canberra and Rome campuses.

Notation: Senate noted the Report from the Vice-Chancellor, as detailed in Attachment 8.

## **9 Student Services and Amenities Fee Report**

The Chancellor introduced this agenda item [Student Services Amenities Fee (SSAF) Management and Allocation] – including the use of funds actual for 2018 and planned use of funds for 2019. Senate discussed the breakdown of actual expenses (2018) against budget.

#### **Resolution S 2019/008**

Senate noted the Report *Student Service and Amenities Fee (SSAF) Management and Allocation 2019 Report* (incorporating the 2019 budget and actual use of SSAF for 2018), as detailed in Document 9.

## **10 Melbourne Campus Development (Update)**

Dr Weller spoke to the Melbourne Campus Development (Update).

## **11 Governance**

### **11.1 Statute 2.5 (The Academic Board)**

Dr Weller spoke to the proposed amendments to Statute 2.5 (The Academic Board).

#### **Resolution S 2019/009**

Senate approved the amendments to Statute 2 (The Academic Board), as detailed in Document 11.1.

## **11.2 Contract Execution Register**

Dr Weller spoke to the Contract Execution Register for the period 17 November 2018 to 1 February 2019.

### **Resolution S 2019/010**

Senate noted the Contract Execution Register for contracts executed pursuant to section 127(1) of the Corporations Act for the period 17 November 2018 to 1 February 2019.

## **11.3 Chapter Reports**

### **11.3.1 New South Wales**

The Report from the New South Wales Chapter was noted.

Notation: Senate noted the Report from the 5 November 2019 Meeting of the NSW Chapter, as detailed in Document 11.3.1.

### **11.3.2 Victoria**

Mr O'Connell spoke to the Report from the Victorian Chapter.

Notation: Senate noted the Report from the 13 November 2019 Meeting of the Victorian Chapter, as detailed in Document 11.3.2.

### **11.3.3 Queensland**

There was no report from the Queensland Chapter since the November meeting of Senate.

### **11.3.4 ACT**

Ms Najdecki spoke to the Report from the ACT Chapter.

Notation: Senate noted the Report from the 6 December 2019 Meetings of the ACT Chapter, as detailed in Document 11.3.4.

## Part C – For Discussion (Reporting Committees)

### 12 Academic Board

#### 12.1 Report from Meeting of 28 November 2018

Professor Hillel spoke to the Report from the 28 November Meeting of the Academic Board. Professor Hillel advised that Senate had approved the introduction of the online short course modules (non-award) for Child Safe Organisations course for delivery to external individuals and organisations at the November Meeting of Senate, as recommended from the Preliminary Report from the November Meeting of the Academic Board. Professor Hillel advised that Senate was now requested to consider for approval the new course *Bachelor of Philosophy/Bachelor of Laws*. Professor Hillel advised that it was hoped for this course to be offered on the Brisbane Campus in the future.

Notation: Senate noted the Report from the Academic Board Meeting of 28 November 2018, as detailed in Document 12.1.

#### **Resolution S 2019/011**

Senate approved the new course proposal for the Bachelor of Philosophy/Bachelor of Laws at the North Sydney (Law), Strathfield (Philosophy) and Melbourne (Philosophy/Law) campuses and delivered in attendance, online and multi-mode for implementation from Semester 1, 2020, as detailed in Document 12.1.

#### 12.2 Academic Board Annual Report 2018

Professor Hillel spoke to the Academic Board Annual Report for 2018. Senate noted the Annual Report.

### 13 Ceremonial and Protocols Committee

The Chancellor spoke to the February Report from the Ceremonial and Protocols Committee and the proposal to award an honorary title of Adjunct Professor to (Senator) Mr Stephen Elder. The declaration of interest (referred to in Agenda Item 5) was noted.

#### **Resolution S 2019/012**

Senate approved the award of the title of Adjunct Professor to Mr Stephen Elder OAM, with effect from 18 February 2019 until 17 February 2022, as detailed in Document 13.

### 14 Sub-Committees of Senate

#### 14.1 Standing and Finance Committee

No report since November meeting of Senate.

#### 14.2 Audit and Risk Committee

No report since November meeting of Senate.

#### 14.3 Honorary Awards Committee

No report since November meeting of Senate.

#### **14.4 Nominations and Remuneration Committee**

The Chancellor provided a verbal update from the 18 February Meeting of the Nominations and Remuneration Committee (which preceded the Senate meeting).

The Chancellor indicated that the report from the February Meeting would be referred to the April meeting of Senate. This report would provide updates in regard to the Chapter and Panel positions which had terms of office concluding at the 2019 AGM.

The Chancellor announced that the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference had nominated Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP to Senate to succeed Archbishop Prowse DD for the period May 2019 to May 2024.

Refer also Agenda Item 7 [Review of Remuneration (Vice-Chancellor & President)].



## **Part D – For Noting**

### **15 Actions Register**

Senate noted:

- 15.1 Listening and Dialogue Session (Plenary Council 2020), from Agenda Item 5, Meeting 06/2018
- 15.2 ACU Blacktown Expression of Interest, from Agenda 10, Meeting 04/2018 (Refer Vice-Chancellor's Report and tabled booklets)

### **16 General Business**

#### **16.1 Consulting Senators around philanthropy initiative**

Dr Weller provided an update on a philanthropy initiative which would take place in 2019. In 2018, the University had conducted a review of its philanthropic activities, the results of which were shared with Senate. Following the review, the Advancement Team within Marketing and External Relations developed an Advancement Plan and an Alumni Plan.

#### **16.2 ACU Book of the Year initiative**

Professor Hillel provided an overview of the ACU Book of the Year initiative which would emphasise social and cultural elements, an interdisciplinary approach, the diversity of the student body, support for cultural as well as literary values and linkages with ACU teaching. The initiative was funded from Student Services and Amenities Fees funding.

#### **16.3 Mary Glowrey Museum**

The Pro-Chancellor stated that the presence of the Mary Glowrey Museum on the Melbourne Campus drew visitors and attention to the University. Senate discussed the merits of equivalent cultural centerpieces on the other campuses.

### **17 Close of Meeting**

At the conclusion of the meeting, Senators met Dr Michele Riondino, who was the foundation Professor of Canon Law at ACU, a joint appointment between the Faculties of *Law and Business* and *Theology and Philosophy* and who had joined the University from Pontifical Lateran University in Rome.

Senators also viewed the triptych painted in the Siennese style by Chiara Perinetti Casoni and commissioned by ACU to complement the University's Arts and Culture Strategy and reinforce the important role of the Catholic Church as a patron of the Arts.

The Chancellor thanked Senators and attendees for their participation in the meeting and declared it closed at 4.20 pm. The next meeting of Senate is on Thursday, 11 April 2019 at the St Patrick's Campus in Melbourne.