

Non-Confidential Minutes of Meeting of ACU Senate
Meeting 05/2019 on 17 October at 12.00 pm
The Nirimba Room
Blacktown City Council
62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown NSW

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
- Mr Stephen Elder OAM KSS
- Mr Ross Fox
- Associate Professor Elspeth Froude
- Professor Margot Hillel OAM
- Mr Tim Kirk
- Ms Danielle Leahy
- Dr Judith Norris
- The Hon. Barbara Perry
- Dr Josephine Ryan
- Ms Annette Schmiede
- Ms Bernadette Steele

Apologies

- Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP, Archbishop of Sydney
- The Hon. Justice James Douglas

ACU Staff at meeting

- Dr Stephen Weller, Secretary and Chief Operating Officer
- Dr Diane Barker, Director of Governance
- Mr Omer Yezdani, Director, Planning and Strategic Management (for Strategic Planning Item, Agenda Item 9)
- Ms Kathy Vozella, Director, Marketing & External Relations (for Marketing and Brand Update, Agenda Item 10)
- Ms Simone Chetcuti, Director, Office of Vice-Chancellor and President
- Mr Peter Rekouniotis, Pro Bono Placement Student
- Mr Hugh McCuaig, Governance Officer

Mass was held at 8.30 am in Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Chapel in North Sydney after which Senators travelled by coach to the Blacktown City Chamber to participate in the Heads of Agreement Signing Event for the establishment of the Blacktown Campus and a brief tour including the building which would form part of the new campus during its initial stages.

Part A – Procedural

1 Welcome and apologies

The Chancellor welcomed to the meeting:

Governance Officer, Cristina Avati;
Pro Bono Placement Student, Peter Rekouniotis

Apologies as per above were received and noted.

2 Minutes of Meeting held on 8 August 2019

Resolution S 2019/061

The Minutes of Meeting 04/2019 (8 August) of Senate were confirmed as a true and accurate record, as detailed in Document 2.

3 Business Arising

3.1 Freedom of Speech, Item 14 from Minutes

The Chancellor stated that an update on the progress of the Freedom of Speech Code would be provided at the December meeting.

4 Register of Interests

There were no declarations of interest against specific agenda items.

Additional information in relation to interests removed.

Part B – For Discussion (Governance and Strategy)

5 Chancellor's Report

5.1 Participation in Events since the Last Meeting

The Chancellor informed Senate that he had participated in events since the August Meeting of Senate including the following:

- ♦ Interview with Menios Constantinou
- ♦ State Funeral for the Honourable Tim Fischer AC, Albury
- ♦ 2019 Strathfield Scholarship Appreciation Lunch, Strathfield
- ♦ Lecture and Private Dinner for Right Reverend and Right Honourable Lord Williams of Oystermouth, former Archbishop of Canterbury and current Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge, in Sydney
- ♦ Leaders in Education Evening, Brisbane
- ♦ Emerge Foundation – Rugby Lunch, Sydney
- ♦ Filming for Strategic Plan 2020-2023, Canberra
- ♦ 2019 Canberra Scholarship Donor Appreciation Lunch
- ♦ Guest lecture - LAWS107: Public Law
- ♦ Universities Chancellors Council Meeting and Council Dinner, Brisbane
- ♦ Launch of Amen: a history of prayers in Parliament at the National Prayer Breakfast
- ♦ ACU Sydney Spring Graduations including the Conferral of Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC, Sydney
- ♦ 2019 Vice-Chancellors Staff Awards Ceremony, Sydney

PM Glynn publication

The Chancellor stated that Senators had each been provided with a copy of the publication *Story of Our Country* written by Adrian Pabst, Professor of Politics at the University of Kent and visiting Fellow of the PM Glynn Institute.

6 Vice-Chancellor and President's Report

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to the Report which included:

- ♦ Executive Planning Group Retreat (EPG) (including Course and Academic Innovation; Innovation in Student Administration; and Innovation in Academic Culture)
- ♦ Strategic International Program – October to November 2019
- ♦ Graduate Outcomes Survey
- ♦ Enrolments
- ♦ Strathfield Campus Activities
- ♦ ACU 2019 Prize for Poetry and Book of the Year
- ♦ ACU's Inaugural 'Book of the Year' launch
- ♦ Canon Law Centre launch
- ♦ Respect. Now. Always. (RNA)
- ♦ Media Reports
- ♦ Vice-Chancellor's external engagements, hosted events and speeches
- ♦ Reports from the Provost; Chief Operating Officer; Vice President; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education and Innovation; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Co-ordination

Papal Honour for Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor advised Senate that news had been received from the Holy See that the Chancellor will be awarded the Honour of Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St Gregory the Great in November.

Federal Government Higher Education priorities and Mission-Based Compacts

The Vice-Chancellor provided an update in relation to emerging Higher Education priorities and reforms. Additional text removed.

Coaldrake Review of Higher Education Provider Category Standards

Senate discussed potential implications of the recommendations from the Review of Australia's Higher Education Provider Category Standards which was being undertaken by Emeritus Professor Peter Coaldrake AO and which had now been presented to the Federal Government. Additional text removed.

2019 Times Higher Education World University Rankings

The Vice-Chancellor advised Senate that, for the third consecutive year, ACU had risen in the Times Higher Education Rankings to the 351-400 band with a score in the band of 43. In 2018, ACU was ranked in the 501-600 band and in 2017 in the 601-800 band.

Vale

Names and detail removed.

6.1 Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences

Text removed.

Related Circular Resolution.

Resolution S 2019/075

In accordance with Statute 2.7.1, Senate approved the:

- i. Establishment of the Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences; and
- ii. Disestablishment of the Institute of Religion, Politics and Society.

Senate noted the resolution would be referred to the November meeting of the Academic Board for their information.

7 Melbourne Campus Development (Update)

Dr Weller spoke to the Melbourne Campus Development (Update), provided an account of costs against budget and timeframes. Additional detail removed.

Notation:

Senate noted the Melbourne Campus Development (Update), as detailed in Document 7.

8 Blacktown Campus Development (Update)

Dr Weller spoke to the Blacktown Campus Development (Update). Senate discussion removed.

Notation:

Senate noted the Blacktown Campus Development (Update), as detailed in Document 8.

9 Strategic Plan 2023

Dr Weller introduced Dr Omer Yezdani, Director, Planning & Strategic Management. Dr Yezdani provided an outline of the process leading to the development of the tabled *Strategic Plan 2020 – 2023*. Dr Yezdani provided a presentation which included a short video which included an introduction from the Chancellor. Senate congratulated the University and Dr Yezdani for the production of a plan which encapsulates its strategic priorities into themes embracing mission, distinctive and student-centred education, world-leading research with impact, vibrant academic culture and service, stewardship and sustainability. Additional detail removed.

Resolution S 2019/063

Senate endorsed the proposed new Strategic Plan for the period 2020 to 2023, as detailed in the tabled publication *Strategic Plan 2020 – 2023*.

10 Marketing and Brand Update

Dr Weller introduced Kathy Vozella, Director, Marketing & External Relations. Ms Vozella provided a presentation *Blacktown Recruitment Strategy*.

Senate discussion removed.

11 Governance

11.1 Statutes 2, 8, 9

Dr Weller introduced proposed amendments to Statutes 2 (Governing Bodies), 8 (Elections) and 9 (Campus Student Associations and other Organisations) in relation to elections for student positions on the Academic Board and Academic Board membership; and elections and membership for Faculty Boards.

Resolution S 2019/064

As detailed in Document 11.1, Senate approved the proposed amendments to:

- i. Statute 2.5 – The Academic Board
- ii. Statute 8.3 – Elections to Academic Board
- iii. Statute 9 – Campus Student Associations and other Organisations
- iv. Statute 8.2 – Elections to Faculty Boards
- v. Statute 2.6 – The Faculties

11.2 Confidential item removed.

11.3 Contract Execution Register

Dr Weller spoke to the Contract Execution Register for the period 30 July 2019 to 1 October 2019.

In response to a question from Senate, Dr Barker stated, informed by section 127 of the Corporations Act, the Register includes documents and contracts executed on behalf of the Senate deemed to be of higher relative risk and documents relating to execution in Section 4 (Property) of the ACU Delegations Policy and Register. Section 2.9 of the Policy provides for the execution of documents by delegates within their relevant delegated authority.

Resolution S 2019/066

Senate noted the Contract Execution Register for contracts executed pursuant to section 127(1) of the Corporations Act for the period 30 July 2019 to 1 October 2019.

11.4 Chapter Reports

11.4.1 New South Wales

Ms Schmiede spoke to the Report from the 26 August 2019 Meeting of the New South Wales Chapter.

11.4.2 Victoria

Mr Elder spoke to the Report from 20 August 2019 Meeting of the Victorian Chapter.

11.4.3 Queensland

Senate noted the Report from 29 August 2019 Meeting of the Queensland Chapter.

11.4.4 ACT

Mr Fox spoke to the Report from 1 August Meeting of the ACT Chapter.

Notation

Senate noted the Reports from the New South Wales, Victorian, Queensland and ACT Chapters, as detailed in Documents 11.4.1–11.4.4 .

Part C – For Discussion (Reporting Committees)

12 Academic Board

Professor Hillel spoke to the Report of the Academic Board from its Meeting of 18 September 2019. Professor Hillel outlined the background to the development of the three proposed new degrees which were to be considered by Senate.

12.1 Bachelor of Nutrition Science (Honours)

Resolution S 2019/067

Senate approved the new course proposal for the Bachelor of Nutrition Science (Honours), for implementation at the Melbourne, North Sydney and Strathfield campuses, from Semester 1, 2020, under cl.7.4 Delegations of Authority and B9, Guidelines Course Approval, Amendment and Review, as detailed in Document 12.1.

12.2 Bachelor of High-Performance Sport (Honours)

Resolution S 2019/068

Senate approved the new course proposal for the Bachelor of High-Performance Sport (Honours) for implementation at the Brisbane, Melbourne and Strathfield campuses from Semester 1, 2020, under cl.7.4 Delegations of Authority and B9, Guidelines Course Approval, Amendment and Review, as detailed in Document 12.2.

12.3 Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science/Bachelor of Nutrition Science

Resolution S 2019/069

Senate approved the new course proposal for the Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science/Bachelor of Nutrition Science for implementation at the Melbourne, North Sydney (Nutrition Science) and Strathfield (Exercise Science) campuses from Semester 1, 2021, under cl.7.4 Delegations of Authority and B9, Guidelines Course Approval, Amendment and Review, as detailed in Document 12.3.

13 Sub-Committees of Senate

13.1 Finance and Resources Committee

No report since the last meeting of Senate.

13.2 Audit and Risk Committee

No report since the last meeting of Senate.

13.3 Honorary Awards Committee

The Chancellor spoke to the Report of the Honorary Awards Committee of 8 August 2019 including the recommendations from that meeting.

Recommendations in relation to honorary awards and Emeritus Professor removed.

13.4 Senate Standing Committee

No report since the last meeting of Senate.

Part D – For Noting

14 Actions Register

Refer Business Arising (Agenda Item 3)

15 General Business

15.1 xx

Confidential item removed.

15.2 Review of Senate and Academic Governance

Dr Weller provided an update in relation to the independent review of Senate and academic governance which would be conducted during 2020. Additional text removed.

15.3 Queensland Chapter position on Senate

The Chancellor advised Senate that the Governance Directorate was administering a circular resolution among Members of ACU Corporation in regard to a new appointment to the Queensland Chapter position on the Senate. Additional text removed.

15.4 Visit from Representatives from Ireland

The Pro-Chancellor advised of a planned visit to Australia from representatives from Ireland including Patrick Cox, politician and President of the European Parliament from 2002 to 2004.

15.5 Academic Staff Workload Policy

In response to a request from Senate, Dr Weller provided an update with respect to the Academic Staff Workload Policy including timeframes, number of recommendations from the review committee and current and planned negotiations with staff and the academic staff union (National Tertiary Education Union).

15.6 Student Member of Senate (2020)

Dr Weller advised of the outcome of the recently conducted election for the position of Student Member of Senate (2020). The successful candidate is Chanchal Preet Kaur who would be in the final year of a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Arts during her year as Student Senator in 2020. Dr Weller also provided an update on the election process for two student positions on the Academic Board.

15.7 Student leadership positions

In response to questions from the Student Senator (Mr Michael Benson), Dr Barker advised ACU Corporation was currently considering a number of matters including an amendment to the Constitution which would permit the Student Member of Senate to be nominated and elected for a second term of office ie two years in total. Additional text removed.

16 Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 4 November 2019 at the MacKillop Campus in North Sydney.

17 Closing Prayer

Senators recited the Closing Prayer.

The Meeting closed at 4.00 pm.

Chancellor

Date