

**Non-Confidential Minutes of Meeting of ACU Senate**  
**Meeting 06/2019 on 4 December at 9.00 am**  
**The Polding Room**  
**Level 18, Tenison Woods House**  
**8-20 Napier Street, North Sydney**

**Senators at meeting**

- The Hon. John Fahey AC GCSG, Chair & Chancellor
- Mr Julien O'Connell AM, Pro-Chancellor
- Professor Greg Craven AO GCSG, Vice-Chancellor and President
- Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP
- Mr Michael Benson
- The Hon. Justice James Douglas
- Mr Stephen Elder OAM KSS
- Associate Professor Elspeth Froude
- Mr Ross Fox
- Professor Margot Hillel OAM
- Mr Tim Kirk
- Ms Danielle Leahy (departed meeting 2.00 pm)
- Mr Karl Morris AO
- Dr Judith Norris
- The Hon. Barbara Perry
- Ms Annette Schmiede
- Ms Bernadette Steele

**Apologies**

- Dr Josephine Ryan

**ACU Staff at meeting**

- Dr Stephen Weller, Secretary and Chief Operating Officer
- Dr Diane Barker, Director of Governance
- Mr Scott Jenkins, Chief Financial Officer (for 2020 Budget, Agenda Item 9)
- Ms Simone Chetcuti, Director, Office of Vice-Chancellor and President
- Mr Hugh McCuaig, Governance Officer

Mass was held before the meeting at 9.00 am in Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Chapel which was celebrated by Father Anthony Casamento csma. A morning tea was provided after the Mass after which time the meeting commenced at 9.50 am.

## **Part A – Procedural**

### **1 Welcome and apologies**

The Chancellor welcomed to the meeting:

Mr Karl Morris AO, appointed to the Queensland Chapter position on Senate which has a term of office of three years. The Chancellor provided a summary of Mr Morris' Board membership including:

- ♦ Executive Chairman, Ord Minnett Ltd (since 2009)
- ♦ Chair, Mary MacKillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund
- ♦ B/Member, Archdiocese of Brisbane Catholic Foundation
- ♦ Director, Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation
- ♦ Chair, Bravehearts Foundation Fund
- ♦ Governor, University of Notre Dame of Australia
- ♦ B/Member, JP Morgan Australia Advisory Council
- ♦ B/Member, Financial Sector Advisory Council, Treasury, Australian Government
- ♦ Chairman, Brisbane Broncos Ltd

Ms Natalie Geyer, Bachelor of Laws / Bachelor of Global Studies student from Melbourne campus who is part-way through an intensive, two-week placement in the Office of General Counsel and Governance Directorate. Ms Geyer has undertaken a range of activities since commencing the placement.

Apologies as per above were received and noted.

### **2 Minutes of Meeting held on 17 October 2019**

Resolution S 2019/075

The Minutes of Meeting 05/2019 (17 October) of Senate were confirmed as a true and accurate record, as detailed in Document 2.

### **3 Business Arising**

#### **3.1 Freedom of Speech, Item 5 from Minutes**

The Chancellor referred to the Free Speech Consultation Pack and summary of stakeholder comments referred to the Senate for noting at Agenda Item 12.1.

### **4 Register of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest against specific agenda items.

## **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 October Meeting of Senate including the following:

- ♦ 2019 Elite Athletes and Performers Dinner, North Sydney
- ♦ Chancellor Papal Honour Ceremony St Gregory the Great, Sydney
- ♦ Dinner for Blacktown, Mosman
- ♦ ACU Parliamentary Interfaith Breakfast, Melbourne
- ♦ Alumni Awards 2019, Melbourne
- ♦ Vice-Chancellor's Christmas Party, Mosman
- ♦ Doctor of Laws Celebration for Her Excellency The Hon Margaret Beazley, Mosman

#### **5.2 Final Meeting for Student Senator**

The Chancellor stated that this was the final meeting for the 2019 Student Senator, Michael Benson. The Chancellor acknowledged Mr Benson's success during his tenure as Student Senator to bring to fruition the initiative to introduce a provision in the Constitution for a qualified Student Senator to re-nominate for election for the year following their initial year of election. Mr Benson was provided with a gift of gratitude from the Chancellor and Senate. Mr Benson thanked the Chancellor and Senators for the opportunity to serve on the Senate and the Academic Board during 2019 and wished the University well in its future endeavours including the Rome and Blacktown Campuses.

#### **5.3 2019 Prize for Poetry**

The Chancellor provided the background for the tabled publication *Solace 2019 ACU Prize for Poetry*.

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

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to the Report which included:

- ♦ Key Bills Federal Parliament
- ♦ Report on Vice-Chancellor's Overseas Visit to Nepal and India
- ♦ National School Resourcing Board
- ♦ Item removed University Agreement with Blacktown City Council
- ♦ Work Health and Safety Report
- ♦ Vice-Chancellor Staff Awards and Medal Winner
- ♦ Staff Appointments and Reappointments
- ♦ Item removed 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

#### **6.1 Confidential item**

#### **6.2 MyVoice Survey**

Text removed.

### **6.3 WGEA Employer of Choice for Gender Equality (2019/20 Application)**

Text removed.

Notation

Senate noted the Workplace Gender Equality Agency application for the 2019/2020.

Resolution S 2019/076

Senate noted the Vice-Chancellor's Report, as detailed in Document 6.

### **7 Melbourne Campus Development**

Notation

Senate noted the Progress Report for the Melbourne Campus Development, as detailed in Document 7.

### **8 Blacktown Campus Development**

Notation

Senate noted the Progress Report for the Blacktown Campus Development, as detailed in Document 8.

### **9 Confidential Item**

### **10 University Budget 2020**

Dr Weller introduced Mr Scott Jenkins, Chief Financial Officer, who spoke to the proposed Budget 2020 and provided a presentation *ACU Funding Model Overview 2020*. The Pro-Chancellor, in his capacity as Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee, commended the Mr Jenkins, the staff of the Finance Directorate and the University for the preparation and progress of the Budget.

Resolution S 2019/078

Senate approved the 2020 Budget, as recommended by the Finance and Resources Committee (additional text removed).

### **11 Faculty Profile (Faculty of Education and Arts)**

This agenda item postponed to 2020.

### **12 Governance**

#### **12.1 Statute 13 - Freedom of Speech and Intellectual Freedom**

Dr Weller spoke to the Free Speech Consultation Pack. Text removed.

It was agreed that this agenda item be referred to the February 2020 Meeting of Senate for consideration.

## **12.2 Protected Disclosures Policy and Procedure**

Dr Weller spoke and provided the background to the proposed amendments to the Protected Disclosures Policy and the Protected Disclosures Procedure.

Resolution S 2019/080

Senate approved the updated Protected Disclosures Policy and the Protected Disclosures Procedure, as detailed in Document 12.2, consequent upon the amendments to Part 9.4AAA of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) effected by the Treasury Laws Amendment (Enhancing Whistleblower Protections) Act 2019 (Cth).

## **12.3 Strategic Plan Key Performance Indicators**

Dr Weller provided the background for the development of the Strategic Plan 2020 – 2023 and the proposed Strategic Key Performance Indicators.

Resolution S 2019/081

Senate endorsed the draft ACU Strategic Plan 2020 – 2023 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), as detailed in Document 12.3.

Text removed.

## **12.4 Statute 8.1 – Elections to Senate**

Dr Weller provided the background to the recent amendments made to the Constitution in relation to the introduction of a re-nomination provision for the position of Student Member of Senate and the subsequent amendments to Statute 8.1 – Elections to the Senate.

Resolution S 2019/082

Senate:

- i. noted the Special Resolution (2019/011) of Members of Corporation re the Term of Office of Student Member of Senate; and
- ii. approved the consequential amendment to Statute 8.1 – Elections to the Senate as detailed in Appendix 2 of Document 12.4.

## **12.5 Contract Execution Register**

Dr Weller spoke to the Contract Execution Register for the period 2 October 2019 to 19 November 2019.

Resolution S 2019/083

Senate noted the Contract Execution Register for contracts executed pursuant to section 127(1) of the Corporations Act for the period 2 October 2019 to 19 November 2019, as detailed in Document 12.5.

## **12.6 Chapter Reports**

### **12.6.1 New South Wales**

Ms Schmiede spoke to the Report from the New South Wales Chapter from its meeting of 4 November 2019.

### **12.6.2 Victoria**

No report since the last meeting of Senate.

### **12.6.3 Queensland**

Senate noted the Report from the Queensland Chapter from its meeting of 11 November 2019.

### **12.6.4 ACT**

Mr Fox spoke provided a Report from the ACT Chapter including a summary from its report from the meeting of 19 September 2019.

#### **Notation**

Senate noted the Reports from the 4 November 2019 Meeting of the New South Wales Chapter; 11 November 2019 Meeting of the Queensland Chapter; and the 19 September 2019 Meeting of the ACT Chapter.

## **Part C – For Discussion (Reporting Committees)**

### **13 Academic Board**

No report since the last meeting of Senate.

### **14 Sub-Committees of Senate**

#### **14.1 Finance and Resources Committee**

The Pro-Chancellor spoke to the Report from Finance and Resources Committee Meeting of 14 October 2019.

Resolution S 2019/084

Senate noted the Report from the Finance and Resources Committee Meeting of 14 October 2019, as detailed in Document 14.1.

#### **14.2 Audit and Risk Committee**

Dr Weller spoke to the Report from Audit and Risk Committee Meeting of 30 October 2019.

Resolution S 2019/085

Senate noted the Report from the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting of 30 October 2019, as detailed in Document 14.2.

#### **14.3 Senate Standing Committee**

No report since the last meeting of Senate.

#### **14.4 Honorary Awards Committee**

No report since the last meeting of Senate.

## **Part D – For Noting**

### **15 Actions Register**

Refer Business Arising (Agenda Item 3).

### **16 General Business**

#### **16.1 Confidential item**

#### **16.2 Confidential item**

### **17 Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of Senate would be held on Wednesday, 12 February 2019 at the Signadou Campus in Canberra. On the preceding day (Tuesday), Senators are invited to attend the Blessing of the Canberra Health Science Facilities which will be followed by dinner at a venue near hotels for interstate Senators. The dinner will be held in honour of Senators whose terms had recently ended (Most Reverend Christopher Prowse DD; and Ms Moira Najdecki).

### **18 Closing Prayer**

Senators recited the Closing Prayer.

The Chancellor thanked Senators for their contributions to the deliberations and meetings of Senate throughout 2020 and wished Senators a holy and safe Christmas and New Year.

The Meeting closed at 2.50 pm.

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**Chancellor**

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**Date**