



Senate Minutes, Meeting 01/2021
11 February at 9.00 am
Held on the MacKillop Camus (North Sydney)

The meeting was preceded by the State of Play Presentation held in the Peter Cosgrove Centre, Tenison Woods House on Wednesday, 10 February. The Presentation was followed by Mass at the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel and Dinner in North Sydney.

Senators at meeting

- Mr Julien O'Connell AO, Pro-Chancellor, Acting Chancellor and Chair
- Professor Zlatko Skrbis, Vice-Chancellor and President
- Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP
- The Hon. James Douglas
- Mr Stephen Elder OAM KSS
- Mr Ross Fox
- Associate Professor Elspeth Froude
- Ms Emily Ginis
- Mr Gerard Goodwin-Moore
- Mr Tim Kirk
- Professor Tim McKenry
- Mr Karl Morris AO (present to and including Agenda Item 10)
- Dr Judith Norris
- Dr Josephine Ryan
- Ms Annette Schmiede (not present for Agenda Items 11, 12)
- Ms Bernadette Steele

Apologies

- The Hon. Barbara Perry

Attendees at meeting

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

Part A – Procedural

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Acting Chancellor acknowledged:

- ♦ First meeting of Vice-Chancellor & President, Professor Zlatko Skrbis;
- ♦ First meeting in new term of office for Dr Josephine Ryan, elected member of academic staff;
- ♦ First meeting of Emily Ginis, Student Member of Senate (2021);
- ♦ First meeting (in attendance) for Provost, Professor Belinda Tynan.

2 Acknowledgement of Country and Opening Prayer

The Acknowledgement of Country was given by Georgia Durmush, PhD Student, Institute for Positive Psychology and Education. Ms Durmush provided an overview of her research thesis. The Acting Chancellor and Senators thanked Ms Durmush for the Acknowledgement of Country.

Archbishop Fisher provided a Prayer for the start of the Senate meeting and Senators read the Opening Prayer.

3 Minutes

3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 3 December 2020

Resolution S 2021/001

Senate confirmed the Minutes of Meeting 06/2020 (3 December) of Senate as a true and accurate record.

4 Business arising

4.1 Naming of Eileen O'Connor Institute for Nursing Research

Item 7.4 from Meeting 06/2020 (3 December) (refer Item 7.3 of the minutes).

4.2 Rome Campus

Item 7.6 from Meeting 06/2020 (3 December) (refer Item 7.4 of the minutes).

5 Register of Interests

Detail removed

Part B – For Discussion (Governance and Strategy)

6 Acting Chancellor's Report

6.1 Selection of Chancellor

Text removed

Resolution S 2021/002

Senate noted the progress report of the Selection of Chancellor.

6.2 Vice-Chancellor's Annual Priorities 2021

Building upon the Vice-Chancellor's *State of Play* address as presented to Senators on the previous evening, as detailed in Document 6.2.1, the Acting Chancellor introduced the Vice-Chancellor's Annual Priorities 2021 as detailed in Document 6.2.2.

Text removed.

Resolution S 2021/003

Senate endorsed the Vice-Chancellor's Annual Priorities 2021.

6.3 Confidential Item

Senate noted that 11 February is World Day of the Sick. The Acting Chancellor invited Senators to wear their blue ribbon provided in acknowledgement of this important day supported by Catholic Health Australia.

Senators received copies of the 2021 Pocket Statistics.

Resolution S 2021/005

Senate noted the Report from the Acting Chancellor.

7 Vice-Chancellor and President's Report

7.1 Report from Vice-Chancellor and President

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to his report which included:

- ♦ Government Policy and Strategy
- ♦ Strategic Plan
- ♦ Research Activities
- ♦ Higher Education Academy
- ♦ Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture Series 2021
- ♦ Gender Equality Initiatives Report
- ♦ Respect. Now. Always. Committee Update
- ♦ Blacktown Campus (Federal Shadow Education Minister Tanya Plibersek and local MP Michelle Rowland visit campus)
- ♦ Report on Vice-Chancellor Meetings and Events with stakeholders

Enrolments

Text removed

Commonwealth Funding

Text removed

Executive Governance Arrangements

The Vice-Chancellor advised that, following sector consultation and benchmarking, and with a view to optimal transparency, accountability and executive inclusion, revised executive governance arrangements are to be implemented. This includes the Vice-Chancellor's Advisory Committee (VCAC) which advises the Vice-Chancellor on key strategic University matters; the Vice-Chancellor's Executive Board (VCEB) which is the principle management committee and which ratifies VCAC recommendations; and the University Consultative Committee (UCC) which includes members across various leadership groups and will be chaired by the Chair of Academic Board. This latter committee provides the opportunity for strategic discussion, information sharing and social engagement. Dr Weller advised that the paper describing the revised arrangements would be uploaded to the meeting software resource centre.

Philanthropy and Advancement

Text removed

University of Notre Dame Australia

Senate noted the upgrading of the University of Notre Dame Australia (UNDA) to Table A status under the Higher Education Support Act in regard to additional sources of government funding and student loans for UNDA and discussed potential implications for ACU.

Resolution S 2021/006

Senate received the Report from the Vice-Chancellor and President.

7.2 COVID-19 Recovery Budget Progress Report

The Vice-Chancellor introduced, and Dr Weller spoke to, the COVID-19 Budget Progress Report.

Text removed

Senate noted that the Recovery Budget Progress Report will be issued monthly from February through to April 2021 and will continue to report progress against the operating surplus, workforce levels, enrolments, change management and external factors.

Resolution S 2021/007

Senate noted the COVID-19 Budget Progress Report.

7.3 Research Institutes and Centres

The Vice-Chancellor provided an overview of the University's existing and planned research institutes and centres and outlined the relationship between Research Institutes, Research Centre and Faculties and differences between Institutes in regard to areas such as their strategic objectives and whether researchers reside onshore or offshore.

Text removed

Resolution S 2021/008

Senate noted the profile of planned ACU Research Institutes and Centres.

7.4 Confidential Item

7.5 Senate Presentations 2021

The Vice-Chancellor stated that he hoped the presentations schedule, as detailed in Document 7.5, would enable Senators to be kept abreast of initiatives and developments across the faculties and portfolios during 2021 and that this would complement the presentations and opportunities for Senate engagement and contribution at the Planning Day in August.

Resolution S 2021/022

Senate noted the document, *Senate Presentations for 2021*.

8 Melbourne Campus Development

Dr Weller spoke to the Melbourne Campus Development Report.

Resolution S 2021/010

Senate noted the Melbourne Campus Development Progress Report.

9 Blacktown Campus Development

Text removed

Resolution S 2021/011

Senate noted the Blacktown Campus Development Progress Report.

10 Student Services and Amenities Fee Report

Dr Weller spoke to the Student Services and Amenities Fee Report.

Resolution S 2021/012

Senate noted the Student Services Amenities Fee Report including use of funds in 2020 and planned allocations for 2021.

11 Governance

11.1 Review of Strategic Plan Key Performance Indicators

Dr Weller spoke to the briefing paper and proposed amendments of the Strategic Plan Key Performance Indicators (KPI's). Text removed

Resolution S 2021/013

Senate noted the annual review of Strategic Plan Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and endorsed the addition of new KPI's, as detailed in Document 11.1.

11.2 Confidential item

11.3 Work Health and Safety Report, 4th Quarter 2020

Dr Weller spoke to the Work Health and Safety Report for the 4th Quarter 2020. Text removed

Resolution S 2021/015

Senate noted the Work Health and Safety Report, 4th Quarter 2020.

11.4 Contract Execution Register

Dr Weller spoke to the Contract Execution Register for the period 19 November 2020 to 25 January 2021.

Resolution S 2021/016

Senate noted the Contract Execution Register for contracts executed pursuant to section 127(1) of the Corporations Act for the period 19 November 2020 to 25 January 2021.

11.5 Chapter Reports

11.5.1 New South Wales

Ms Schmiede spoke to the Report from 16 November 2020 Meeting of the NSW Chapter.

11.5.2 Victoria

Mr Elder spoke to the Report from 17 November 2020 Meeting of the Victorian Chapter.

11.5.3 Queensland

No report since the last meeting

11.5.4 ACT

Mr Fox spoke to the Report from 10 December 2020 Meeting of the ACT Chapter.

Resolution S 2021/017

Senate noted the Reports from the 16 November 2020 Meeting of the NSW Chapter, 17 November 2020 Meeting of the Victorian Chapter and the 10 December 2020 Meeting of the ACT Chapter.

Part C – For Discussion (Reporting Committees)

12 Academic Board

Professor McKenry spoke to the new course proposals from the 25 November 2020 Meeting of the Academic Board in addition to the 2020 Annual Report.

12.1 Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation) / Bachelor of Laws

Resolution S 2021/018

Senate approved the new course proposal for the Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation)/Bachelor of Laws to be offered at the North Sydney campus, as recommended by the Academic Board from its meeting of 25 November 2020, as detailed in Document 12.1, for implementation from Semester 1, 2022.

12.2 Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation) / Bachelor of Laws (Honours)

Resolution S 2021/019

Senate approved the new course proposal for the Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation)/Bachelor of Laws (Honours) to be offered at the North Sydney campus, as recommended by the Academic Board from its meeting of 25 November 2020, as detailed in Document 12.2, for implementation from Semester 1, 2022.

12.3 Undergraduate Certificate in Nutrition Science

Resolution S 2021/020

Senate approved the new course proposal for the Undergraduate Certificate in Nutrition Science, to be offered on the Melbourne, Blacktown, and North Sydney campuses, as detailed in Document 12.3, for implementation from Semester 1 2021.

12.4 2020 Annual Academic Board Report to Senate

Resolution S 2021/021

Senate noted the 2020 Annual Academic Board Report to Senate.

12.5 MOU with Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation

Text removed

Senate noted the appointment of Professor Robert Carver as the Director of the Western Civilisation Program.

13 Sub-Committees of Senate

13.1 Finance and Resources Committee

No report since last meeting

13.2 Audit and Risk Committee

No report since last meeting

13.3 Senate Standing Committee

No report since last meeting

13.4 Honorary Awards Committee

No report since last meeting

Part D – For Noting

14 General Business

No General Business.

15 Next Meeting

Senate noted that the next meeting of Senate is scheduled for Wednesday, 7 April 2021

16 Closing Prayer

Senators read the Closing Prayer.

17 Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 1.30 pm.

The Acting Chancellor thanked Senators and attendees for their contributions to the meeting.