From the Council

At its meeting on 6 October 2011, Council received a report from the Vice-Chancellor on a number of key matters, including reports on:

- Review of Flinders Campus Community Services Inc
- Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency
- Strategic Review of the Student Visa Program 2011
- International University Rankings
- Good Universities Guide 2012 Edition
- A Productive Country – The contribution of Australian universities to national productivity – A report from Universities Australia
- Higher Education Support Amendment (Demand Driven Funding System and Other Measures) Bill 2011
- Appointments
- Enrolment Report
- SATAC preferences

Council approved:

- the appointment of Dr Bronwyn Halliday as a co-opted member of the Governance Committee.
- amendments to the Register of Degrees, Diplomas and Other Academic Awards, as identified below.

  Establishment of new courses:
  - Graduate Certificate in Nursing
  - Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Management and Education
  - Graduate Certificate in Global Point-of-Care Testing

  Change of Name of a Course
  - Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner) amended to ‘Master of Advanced Clinical Practice’

In October 2011, the Commonwealth Government passed legislation to amend the Higher Education Support Act 2003 to allow universities to charge a compulsory student services and amenities fee. The Bill allows the funds collected to be used by universities for a range of non-academic purposes, which include: the provision of food and beverage services, promoting the health or welfare of students, provision of employment and career advisory services, provision of advocacy and financial assistance services, and providing support for sporting and other recreational activities.

Council approved the levying of a student services and amenities fee from 2012, noting that further approval would be sought regarding the level of the fee, and that the plans for the allocation of revenue would be presented after consultation with representatives from the Student Council and other internal stakeholders.

Council noted:

- a presentation from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) on developments in research, with specific reference to progress on enhancing research at Flinders.
• a presentation from the Managing Director of Flinders Partners P/L on the services, projects, finances and future strategies of Flinders Partners.

• a briefing paper from the Vice-Chancellor which provided an overview of the ways in which the University manages its statutory and other obligations in regard to equal opportunity and diversity.

• the election of a student member of Council, Mr Minh Nguyen, for a term of one-year commencing on 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012.

Further information about the items listed above can be found in the non-confidential Agenda Papers for Council meeting 5/11, which is available on the University website at: http://www.flinders.edu.au/compserv/ucs/public/

Melinda Pike
Acting Council Secretary

MP:BAS 20/10/2011