

**COUNCIL****Meeting No 5/24****Council Room, Bedford Park****Thursday, 5 December 2024****2:00pm****MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** John Hood (**Chair**) (Chancellor), Professor Colin Stirling (Vice-Chancellor), Kim Cheater, Douglas Gautier AM (Deputy Chancellor), Lucinda Hewitson, Abhishek Jain, Matt Johnson, Professor Christopher Kee, \*Leanne Liddle (from 3.20pm), Associate Professor Amanda Muller, Elizabeth Perry AM (Deputy Chancellor), Kate Walsh, Brenda Wilson AM and Sharon Wilson.

*\*virtual attendance*

**APOLOGIES:** Benjamin Grillett

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Marc Davies (General Counsel and University Secretary), Jayne Flaherty (Chief of Staff) for item 3.1, Bev Bury (Chief Marketing Officer) for item 3.1, Adam Thompson (Principal, Thompson Organisations) for item 3.1, Mark Gregory (Vice-President, Corporate Services) for item 3.2-3.4, Clint Chapman (Associate Director, Strategic Planning and Sustainability) for item 3.2, Bryanni Lane (Strategic Campus Planner) for item 3.2, \*Elliet Spring (Director, MGS Architects) for item 3.2, \*Vanessa Mooney (Associate Director, MGS Architects) for item 3.2, Luke Havelberg (Chief Information Officer) for item 3.6, Professor Romy Lawson (Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor) for items 3.9 and 3.10, Richard Porter (Chief Financial Officer) for item 3.5, Professor Sebastian Raneskold (Vice-President and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International)) for item 3.9, Mark Schultz (Director, People and Culture) for item 2.3, Karl Sellmann (Chief Information Security Officer) for item 3.6

*All resolutions are passed by consensus unless otherwise indicated.*

**1. OPENING****1.1 Acknowledgement of Country**

The Council acknowledged the land upon which the meeting was held as the traditional land of the Kurna people, and paid respects to their spiritual relationship with their country, the Kurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and the continuing importance of their culture and heritage.

**1.2 Apologies**

Ben Grillett was absent.

### 1.3 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of Council 4/24 meeting held on 17 October 2024 (*Doc C M/5/24*) were confirmed as a true and correct record.

### 1.4 Business Arising

Council noted the Business Arising.

### 1.5 Arrangement of the Agenda

The Chancellor noted that the agenda was already organised in an appropriate order but may be rearranged during the meeting to facilitate presenters if required.

### 1.6 Disclosure of Interests

Sharon Wilson advised she would provide an email with updated disclosures and confirmed none created a conflict of interest with any matter listed on the agenda.

In relation to matters on the agenda, Kim Cheater reiterated that he was on the Board of Australian Unity Ltd which has an investment fund with student accommodation assets, and Sarah Constructions.

There were no other new disclosures of interest.

The Chancellor acknowledged that it was Elizabeth Perry AM's last Council meeting before retiring as Deputy Chancellor at the end of year and reminded members of the event to celebrate following the meeting.

## 2. NON-CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

### 2.1 Vice-Chancellor's Report

Council reviewed and discussed the various academic, research, strategic, operational, staff, students and other matters reported in the Vice-Chancellor's report (*Doc C 1/5/24*).

The Vice Chancellor highlighted a number of other matters, including:

- That the ESOS Bill did not pass through Parliament, with the Government stating that amendments would be made to how MD107 was implemented by the Department in processing visas, but it will remain in place for the time being.
- There has been some acceleration of visa application processing, however there are still a large number of student visas outstanding. The Government has indicated that they are endeavouring to speed up processing.
- Work is still underway on the Nexus development proposal with Federal and State governments looking at it.

The Council noted the successes listed in the Vice-Chancellor's report such as the announcement of Professor Jamie Craig as SA Scientist of the Year, and the outstanding Alumni Awards night.

*Part of the Vice-Chancellor's verbal update was confidential and minutes of those items are available for members only.*

## 2.2 Academic Senate Chair's Report

Professor Christopher Kee (Chair, Academic Senate) presented the report on Academic Senate business (*Doc C 2/5/24*), highlighting the significant work undertaken on the Course Simplification Project, including a number of policy changes and introduction of the Award Course Structure Standards and Teach Out and Student Transition Procedures to assist the University better manage old courses.

He advised that further updates would be provided at item 3.8 relating to Academic Governance.

*Mark Schultz (Director, People & Culture) joined the meeting at 2.28pm.*

## 2.3 WHS Quarterly Report

Mark Schultz provided an overview of the Work Health and Safety Q3 2024 report (*Doc C 3/5/24*).

The Council noted that it had been some time since there had been training provided to Council members on their WHS obligations, and requested that the Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee and the GCUS discuss and plan a training session for Council to be delivered sometime in 2025.

**ACTION:** *The Chair of Audit and Risk Committee and GCUS to discuss and plan training for Council members on their WHS obligations for delivery during 2025.*

*Mark Schultz left the meeting at 2.37pm.*

## 2.4 Professional and Academic Staff Member Elections

Marc Davies (General Counsel & University Secretary) spoke to the paper (*Doc C 4/5/24*) and advised that both current members of staff had been re-elected for further 2-year terms:

- Assoc Prof Amanda Muller – Academic staff member
- Ms Kate Walsh – Professional staff member

Council congratulated both members on being re-elected.

## 2.5 Election Procedures

Marc Davies (General Counsel & University Secretary) provided an overview of the Election Procedures paper (*Doc C 5/5/25*) highlighting the material changes to procedures which, in accordance with the Policy Framework, are reserved for Council approval on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

The Council noted that most of the changes were triggered by the Academic Governance review conducted in 2023 (to be discussed at agenda item 3.8) which recommended that there be a number of elected members on Academic Senate. The proposed changes to the Election Procedures would facilitate the requirement for Senate, not just Council, to have elected members.

Following discussion, the Council recommended that the procedures include accessibility provisions, but were otherwise appropriate for approval.

**RESOLUTION:** Council, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, approved the revised Election Procedures, subject to Council approving the new Academic Structure and Terms of Reference at agenda item 3.8, and the inclusion of accessibility provisions to be drafted by the GCUS.

## 2.6 Finance and Investment Committee Terms of Reference

Marc Davies (General Counsel and University Secretary) provided the background to the proposed minor amendment to the Finance and Investment Committee's Terms of Reference (Doc C 6/5/24) which clarified the total number of members by making clear that the Vice-Chancellor (as an *ex-officio* member) was in addition to the other members.

**RESOLUTION:** Council, on recommendation of the Finance and Investment Committee, approved the amended Finance and Investment Committee's Terms of Reference.

## 3. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS.

ITEMS 3.1 TO 3.12 WERE CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO MEMBERS ONLY

*Minutes of these items are available for members only.*

## 4. MEETING FINALISATION

### 4.1 Minutes of Sub-Committees

Council reviewed and noted the minutes of Sub-Committees (Doc C 18/5/24):

- Academic Senate 5/24 (unconfirmed)
- Audit and Risk Committee 5/24 (unconfirmed)
- Executive Committee 6/24 (unconfirmed)
- Finance and Investment Committee 5/24 (unconfirmed)

### 4.2 Other Business

Lucinda Hewitson reflected on her time on the Council, acknowledging that although 2024 had been a challenging year due to issues like visa processing times, the University had performed well and was establishing a clear path for the future.

She reminded the Vice-Chancellor that a challenging year like this one would have taken a toll and encouraged him and his team to take time over the Christmas break to rest and recharge.

The Council also acknowledged that whilst the year had brought challenges there were also successes such as the opening of City Campus and the HMRB.

The Chancellor thanked Elizabeth Perry AM for her time and substantial effort during her tenure on Council and committees, noting that members would have the opportunity to farewell her at the event at the conclusion of the meeting.

There was no other business.

**4.3 Schedule of Business**

Council noted the Schedule of Business for 2025 (*Doc C SB/25*).

**4.4 Next Meeting**

Council noted that the date of its next scheduled meeting was 13 March 2025 at 2.00pm.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 5.33pm

**EXTRACT FROM confidential minutes of meeting 5/24**

Non Confidential Extract