

OPEN Council Minutes – 27 July 2018 (3:2018)



Minutes of the Open session of the third University of New England Council meeting for 2018, held at 8:30 am, Friday 27 July 2018, in the Council Room, Booloominbah and by teleconference.

PRESENT

Mr J Harris (*Chancellor and Chair*)
Ms J McClelland (*Deputy Chancellor*)
Prof A Duncan (*Vice-Chancellor & CEO*)
Prof M Perry (*Chair of Academic Board*)
Prof M Sims
Dr J Hobbs
Dr R Muldoon
Mr D van Aanholt – *via teleconference*
Mr R Evans
Mr R Finch
Mr C Hebblewhite
Ms R Leamon
Ms C Millis
Ms A Myers
Ms M Symons

IN ATTENDANCE

Prof M Choct (*Pro Vice-Chancellor External Relations*)
Prof P Creamer (*Chief Operating Officer*)
Prof H Daniel (*Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research*)
Prof J Powles (*Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic Innovation*)
Prof T Walker (*Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor*)
Mr K Kauffmann (*Chief Financial Officer*)
Mr B Peet (*Chief Legal and Governance Officer*)
Mrs G Price (*Deputy University Secretary*), *minute recorder*
Mrs Libby Kettlestring (*Senior Secretariat Officer*)

Observers

There were a number of observers present.

1. * MEETING OPENING AND WELCOME COMMENTS

The Chair and Chancellor, Mr James Harris welcomed everyone to the open session of Council. The Chair reiterated the words spoken at the Council function the previous evening, thanking Professor Margaret Sims, Dr Jack Hobbs and Dr Robyn Muldoon for their contribution to the Council over their respective terms.

The Chancellor explained the observers today included Associate Professor Richard Scully, who has been elected as the academic staff member of Council and who will take up this role middle of August. Ms Louisa Quiddington, who has been elected as the student representative on Council from mid- October of this year has be invited to observe the open session of the September meeting of the Council.

1.1. * Acknowledgement of Country

The members acknowledged the traditional custodians of this land called New England and showed respect to their Elders past and present.

1.2. * Apologies

There were no apologies.

1.3. * Council Member Conflict of Interest Disclosures

There were no conflicts of interest.

1.4. Disclosed Register of Interest

Council members were reminded to update their Disclosed Register of Interest to the Secretariat as necessary.

1.5. * Order of Business (including adoption of non-starred items)

There were no changes suggested to the order of business.

Council ACCEPTED the Order of Business and that non-starred items be adopted.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2018 had been approved as a true and correct record via email on 19 July 2018. These minutes are available for viewing in the Council Document Library.

2.2. * Matters Arising

Council members were provided with a list of matters arising from previous minutes.

Meeting/Item #	Action	Status
28 July 2017, Item 3.1. UNE Students Association Report to Council #17181	The Chief Legal and Governance Officer agreed to write to the new UNESA Board regarding a number of suggestions for the new UNESA Constitution.	In progress. Have been in touch with UNESA and awaiting further discussions regarding a possible Student Senate at UNE.
25 May 2018, 4.2. Vice-Chancellor's Open Report #18207	The Vice-Chancellor was asked to provide further detail regarding diversity outcomes at Faculty or School level.	Complete. Refer to the Vice-Chancellor's Open report on today's agenda.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

4. LEADERSHIP REPORTS

4.1. * Chancellor's Open Report to Council #18162

The Chancellor took his report as read, and provided a brief update regarding meetings he had attended earlier in the week, including with the Regional Universities Network (RUN) Chancellor's and a meeting of the subcommittee of the University Chancellors' Council (UCC). He explained many of the RUN Chancellors noted that caps were not having a significant effect

this year, but would impact in future years, especially for those multi-campus universities who were looking to grow student numbers to build these campuses. He noted there were different market experiences in the dual University and TAFE space which appeared to relate to the governance structures in the particular State.

The Chancellor noted the Universities Governance Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) Course would be run in Melbourne and Perth and again in Sydney in next year, and invited members who might be interested in attending the Sydney course to please contact Secretariat.

Council members noted a number of Universities were talking about merging, and UNE's focus on growth and strength in online learning delivery was discussed.

The Chancellor referred to the email circulated to the Council about the UNE Student Association (UNESA) being in the process of being deregistered and noted the advice that UNESA no longer had a functioning board. The Chancellor asked the Chief Legal and Governance Officer, Mr Brendan Peet and the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Todd Walker, about the impact of these changes and the University's response.

- Mr Brendan Peet noted that UNESA was a separate organisation to UNE and that changes to the UNESA Constitution by student leaders had meant UNE was not able provide support in circumstances such as this.
- Professor Todd Walker explained that the University would seek to support a new student representative body and in the interim was consulting with those students on other representative bodies including Council, the students advisory Board of UNE Life, and Academic Board and its committees, as well as from other student associations including the Indigenous Students Association. He noted the approach needed to be supported by students.

Council members expressed concern about the lack of a functioning student body and asked if there were lessons learned and the impact of this on UNE's reputation and for students wanting to enrol at UNE. It was explained that there were a number of lessons for students and UNE, including the need for collaboration and a strong working relationship between the student body and the University.

The Council asked about the timeframe for a solution to this matter and it was discussed that Professor Walker's office would engage an independent person to help co-ordinate engagement of students and progress to a representative body and that this would start in August. Regarding the impact on the consultation with students regarding Student Services Amenity Fee expenditure, it was hoped that a solution was in place by the time that planning for next year's expenditure commenced.

ACTION: The PDVC was asked to provide an update regarding the progress towards the reestablishment of a UNE Student Association, to the September Council meeting.

Council NOTED the Chancellor's report to Council, #18162.

4.2. * Vice-Chancellor's Report #18206

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Annabelle Duncan, took her report as read and spoke of the positive engagement in progress with TAFE Digital. UNE and TAFE Digital were currently working on the development of a virtual tractor, and discussing ways to improve pathways both for TAFE students who might seek higher education and also for UNE students who also wish to secure hands on skills and work based certifications following studies at UNE.

The Vice-Chancellor spoke of the success of UNE students in various development programs and competitions. The Vice-Chancellor highlighted UNE's outreach in the international and innovation space with the inaugural Australian-ASEAN Virtual International Business Plan Competition held in Sydney. This competition is aimed at supporting entrepreneurship and the exchange of ideas and culture.

Council NOTED the Vice-Chancellor's Open report to Council, #18206.

4.3. * Chair of Academic Board Report #1812

The Chair of Academic Board, Professor Mark Perry took his report as read. There were no additional comments from members who thanked him for his report.

Council:

- 1) NOTED the Chair of Academic Board Open report to Council, #18120 (1);
- 2) NOTED the new Academic Quality Assurance Rule #18120 (2); and
- 3) NOTED the student survey results, #18120 (3).

5. STRATEGIC MATTERS

Nil

6. GENERAL ITEMS

Nil

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

There were no general business matters raised.

8. MEETING FINALISATION

8.1. Work Plan

Council NOTED the 2018 Open Council work plan.

8.2. * Next Meeting

The Chair noted that the next open meeting of Council is scheduled for Friday 21 September 2018 and will be held in the Council Room, Booloominbah.

8.3. * Meeting Close

The Chair expressed again his thanks to Dr Robyn Muldoon, Professor Margaret Sims and Dr Jack Hobbs and declared the open session closed at 9.07 am. Observers left the meeting and the Chair moved to the confidential session.

Signed by:

Chair 

29.8.2018
Date

