

OPEN Council Minutes — 21 September 2018 (4:2018)



Minutes from the Open session of the fourth University of New England Council meeting for 2018, held at 8:30 am, Friday 21 September 2018, in the Council Room, Booloominbah and by skype.

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*)
Assoc. Prof R Scully
Mr D van Aanholt
Mr R Evans
Mr R Finch
Mr C Hebblewhite
Ms R Leamon
Ms C Millis
Ms A Myers – *via skype*
Ms M Symons

IN ATTENDANCE

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*
Ms Jennifer Croaker (*Secretariat Officer*)

Observers

Ms Louisa Quiddington – Student (elected to Council from 12 October)

1. * MEETING OPENING AND WELCOME COMMENTS

The Chair, Mr James Harris welcomed members and observers including Ms Anne Myers who was attending via skype. He also noted that this was the final Council meeting for Ms Catherine Millis student representative and the first Council meeting for Associate Professor Richard Scully. Also that Ms Louisa Quiddington the incoming student member was attending the open sessions as an observer and would take up her role on the Council from mid-October of this year.

1.1. * Acknowledgement of Country

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 declared for the open session.

1.4. Disclosed Register of Interest

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

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

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

1.6. * Introduction by Incoming Council Member - Associate Professor Richard Scully

The Chancellor invited Associate Professor Richard Scully to provide an introduction. Associate Professor Scully explained that his family had moved to Armidale in 2009. He explained that his focus area was on Modern European History, and that his specific interest lay in the study of political cartoons and that had led to some interesting conversations from time to time. He outlined that he was very happy to have been elected to his new role and looked forward to being part of the Council.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2018 were approved as a true and correct record via email on 29 August 2018. These minutes are available for viewing in the 'Council Minutes' Document Library (formerly known as a Reading Room).

2.2. * Matters Arising

Professor Todd Walker, Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (PDVC) explained the former president of UNESA had been hard to find to confirm the status of the association. He noted that having checked with NSW Fair Trading, the association had not yet been fully wound up. He noted that as an entity separate from the University there was little ability for UNE to gather additional insights and it was discussed that a final business statement might need to be lodged before the association could be disestablished.

The PDVC explained that in terms of helping the student body to establish a new student body, that a number of options were being discussed with those student representatives from Faculties and from the Academic Board student members. Models used by other universities and the concept of a 'student senate' were being explored. While the engagement of an external consultant to help this process had been considered, it was now suggested that the model be developed in house.

Ms Catherine Millis, student representative, asked if all students would be involved in the choice of the final model and it was confirmed that this was the case. Professor Walker noted that Professor Powles, Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic Innovation, had taken carriage of this matter and was facilitating further discussions with students. An 'all student survey' would be conducted once the recommendations from the student representatives had been agreed.

ACTION: Ms Catherine Millis to contact the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic Innovation to discuss potential models for a new student body at UNE.

Meeting/Item #	Action	Status
27 July 2018, 4.1. Chancellor's Open Report to Council #18162	The PDVC was asked to provide an update regarding the progress towards the reestablishment of a UNE Student Association, to the September Council meeting.	Complete.
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.	Closed following winding up of UNESA.

3. LEADERSHIP REPORTS

3.1. * Chancellor's Open Report to Council #18161

The Council NOTED the Chancellor's report to Council, #18161.

3.2. * Vice-Chancellor's Report #18205

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Annabelle Duncan, explained that work continued on the Respect Now Always campaign, that reporting of incidents was becoming the norm, and matters followed up appropriately. Also, with regard to the ongoing area of concern that some sponsorship received by students for college teams or events was been related to a level of consumption of alcohol, the University is finding alternate funding to help reduce this reliance. The University was confident that positive sponsorship arrangements and indeed student's patronage of community facilities would not be harmed, but hoped that this action would remove any overt pressure to overindulge and the associated anti-social behaviour. The Vice-Chancellor noted that the proposed high profile mentor approach was not proceeding.

The Vice-Chancellor highlighted that UNE had done very well in the recent International Student Barometer survey, and in terms of research, spoke of the continued progress of the IndoBeef partnership, noting that UNE had recently signed a \$5m contract which formed part of this program.

The 'Future of Work' event, organised by the Pro Vice-Chancellor External Relations and Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic Innovation in Tamworth, and with guest speaker from Google, had attracted around 1800 young students from far and wide. A key observation was that the changes in work were of concern among attendees, who were wondering what their careers might look like, whether they required tertiary study for their careers (and how would it help) and even if all University degrees required mathematics understanding. This was a very positive event that will help UNE consider how to provide information and support to future students trying to work through what is best for them.

Council members:

- asked about some of the Vice-Chancellor's engagement activities in Sydney and Professor Duncan outlined a number of positive discussions she had with various groups to further UNE Discovery; and
- queried the lower than expected commencing load, including the long term implications from this reduced intake of new students. The Provost and Deputy Vice-

Chancellor, explained that with programs to increase retention of continuing students having their desired effect, the issue was the availability of Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs) across the University, following the limits imposed by the Government. There may be less CSP places for commencing students available in the future and to help address this a committee which monitored allocations of CSP had been established to help track when caps had been reached and strategies for full fee paying courses.

The Council NOTED the Vice-Chancellor's Open report to Council, #18205.

3.3. * Chair of Academic Board Report #18119

The Chair of Academic Board, Professor Mark Perry referred to his report and noted that the Council was being asked to rescind the terms of reference for the Graduate Research Subcommittee, which was to be replaced with a management committee reporting on research governance matters as needed to the Research Committee of Academic Board.

Council members asked about the process by which the Curriculum Committee decided whether to accept a new Course proposal. The Chair of Academic Board explained that prior to a new course proposal going to the committee, it needed to have passed a market viability test, and that there was an expected level of demand. While the Curriculum Committee looked at the academic merits of the program, the market factors have been considered prior to submission to the committee.

The Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Walker, explained that UNE was undertaking a review of courses and identifying where low enrolment Courses were either not viable and/or not strategic. Around 20% of courses are very low enrolment. He also explained that any decision to disestablish a course considered the support arrangements for students during teach out; and that there was oversight of new course proposals, which considered lead and lag indicators of market demand and whether new courses might be duplicating or diluting the existing offering.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic Innovation explained that the evolving criteria regarding subject area and industry engagement/experience, may change how students study.

Council members discussed the value of ensuring that course proposals align with UNE priority areas/strategy; and the pros and substantial negatives of flagging certain offerings as not eligible for CSP.

Members asked about the recent External review of Human Ethics Review at UNE and whether any particular areas of concern had been identified? The Chair of Academic Board explained that there were no very high level areas of concern, but that the recommendations from the review were being considered by the Research Committee and Ethics Committee. The recommendations and suggested response would then be circulated to UNE researchers for their feedback and a final report on changes made, prepared in due course.

Council:

- 1) NOTED the Chair of Academic Board Open report to Council, #18119;
- 2) APPROVED the rescission of the Graduate Research Subcommittee Terms of Reference; and
- 3) NOTED that the Academic Board endorsed the following matters at its August meeting:
 - a. A recommendation from student representatives, regarding further communication (and framework for support of staff) of the Teaching and Learning Expectations for staff and students was endorsed and referred to the Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic Innovation; and
 - b. The following significant course proposals:
 - Course Amendments
 - a. Graduate Certificate in Commerce (GradCertCom)
 - b. Graduate Diploma in Commerce (GradDipCom)
 - c. Bachelor of Psychology with Honours (BPsych)(Hons)
 - d. Master of Nursing (MN)
 - e. Bachelor of Training and Development (BTD)
 - New Courses
 - a. Graduate Certificate in Nursing Practice (GCNP)
 - b. Graduate Diploma In Professional Practice (GDPP).

4. STRATEGIC MATTERS

4.1. * Council and Committee Meeting Dates 2019 #18165

The Chancellor noted that the proposed Council Dates for 2019 had been circulated and comments incorporated in the attached dates for approval. Council members queried any key changes and it was explained that rather than Nominations and Honorary Degree Titles and Tributes Committee meetings being held on separate meeting days they would be held on the same day as the other Council Committee meetings (i.e. Audit and Risk and Finance & Infrastructure).

Council APPROVED the Council and Committee meeting dates for 2019, as per report #18165.

4.2. *Joint Medical Program Academic Calendar 2019, #18263

Professor Mark Perry, Chair of Academic Board, explained that the dates had been put forward by the Joint Medical Program Teaching and Learning Committee, and had recently been endorsed by the Academic Board Standing Committee (via a flying minute).

The Council:

- 1) NOTED report #18283 regarding the proposed Joint Medical Program Academic Calendar for 2019;
- 2) APPROVED the 2019 BMed JMP Academic Calendar; and
- 3) APPROVED the 2019 BMedSci/MD JMP Academic Calendar.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

There were no matters of general business.

6. MEETING FINALISATION

6.1. Work Plan

Council NOTED the 2018 Open Council work plan.

6.2. * Next Meeting & Close

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

The Chair thanked observers and declared the open session of Council closed at 9.05am.

Signed by:



Chair

16 NOV 2018
Date