

## Non-Confidential Minutes for Council meeting, 16 June 2023

16/06/2023 10:00 AM | AEST

GCB-C.6.17, Gold Coast campus

### Members Present (12)

Sandra McPhee AM, Chancellor (Chair)  
Prue Berry  
Professor Tyrone Carlin, Vice Chancellor  
Murray d'Almeida, Deputy Chancellor  
Julie Granger  
Associate Professor Renaud Joannes-Boyau  
Scott Noble  
Olivia Noffke  
Professor Andrew Rose, Chair of Academic Board  
Jonathan Rourke  
Lucy Shinnars  
Geoff Stalley

### In Attendance

Belinda Atkinson, Council Secretary  
Brendan Pearce, Acting Director, HR Services – item 8  
Tracy Manning, Governance Services (Secretariat)  
Professor Mary Spongberg, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Academic Integrity) – item 11  
Travis Walker, Vice President (Finance) - item 15  
Jack Williamson, Vice President (Strategy and Implementation) - item 12

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## IN-CAMERA COUNCIL ONLY DISCUSSION

Council met in-camera at the commencement of the meeting without the Vice Chancellor or other attendees.

## PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

### 1. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chancellor gave an acknowledgment of Country.

### 2. Apologies and Leaves of Absence

#### 2.1 Apologies

None.

#### 2.2 Leave of Absence

A leave of absence for Dr Austin Curtin AM had been approved by Council on 24 November 2022.

### 3. Chancellor's Introductory Remarks

The Chancellor proposed restructuring the Council agenda to facilitate Council's consideration of relevant matters, including strengthening reporting in certain areas and to allow increased focus on people and culture matters.

Council discussed implementing a traffic-light system for the enterprise performance dashboard.

## 4. Previous Meetings

### 4.1 Confirmation of Minutes – 18 April 2023

#### It was resolved:

#### **Council:**

- (a) **agreed** that the draft Confidential Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 April 2023 be signed by the Chancellor as a true and correct record of the meeting; and
- (b) **approved** the uploading of a Council Minuted Resolutions Report on items of open business of the Council meeting held on 18 April 2023 to the University Council website.

### 4.2 Matters Arising

Council discussed the safety briefing it had received prior to the previous Council meeting. The Vice Chancellor confirmed that the Executive team had received the same briefing.

### 4.3 Action Items

Council noted the action items.

## 5. Councillors' Business

None.

## 6. Declarations of Interest

No new declarations were made.

## 7. Agenda

### 7.1 Starring of Items

Item 25 Confidential: Budgeted expenditure greater than \$1 million was additionally starred for discussion.

#### It was resolved:

**Council agreed** to approve or note all unstarred items in accordance with the draft resolutions and without further discussion.

### 7.2 Arrangement of Agenda

- Item 19 People and Culture Committee report, was discussed during Item 3 Chancellor's Introductory Remarks.
- Item 17 Finance and Investment Committee report, was discussed before Item 15 Confidential – 2023 Year-end Forecast Update.

## KEY REPORTS

### 8. \*Work Health and Safety Report - Q1/2023

The report was taken as read. Brendan Pearce, Acting Director, HR Services, highlighted the following matters which had progressed since the report was presented to the People and Culture Committee on 9 May 2023:

- the audit report had been received.
- the new Manager, Occupational Health and Safety, had commenced.
- the Lismore gym contract cleaning incident had been resolved, and regulators were satisfied with the remediation.

Council discussed:

- the uptick in staff accessing the Employment Assistance Program (EAP).

- alignment of the WHS Framework and Enterprise Risk Framework.
- increased awareness of WHS across the University which was being led by the Vice Chancellor.
- WHS training programs and whether these were mandatory.

**9. \*Confidential: Vice Chancellor's Report**

**10. \*Report from Chair, Academic Board**

The report was taken as read. Professor Andrew Rose, Chair of Academic Board, highlighted:

- the formation of a working party by the Student Academic Experience Committee (SAEC) to develop a framework for the Student Academic Experience. The work was critical in order to provide an alignment between the central administration and the faculties to support the Student Academic Experience.

Council discussed:

- the mechanisms in place to ensure collaboration across teams. Council was advised that the working party's first task was identifying and collating who was responsible for what tasks.
- Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI). Council was advised that GenAI was a standing item in the Chair of Academic Board's report to the Academic Board. More broadly, the University would consider how best to incorporate GenAI into curriculum design and research and prepare graduates to work with it appropriately.

## KEY TRANSFORMATION MATTERS

**11. \*Confidential: Research Update**

**12. \*Confidential Strategic Directions – Update**

**13. \*Confidential - Anthology Contract Approval**

**14. \*Confidential: Digital Marketing Agency Contract Extension**

## KEY REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE MATTERS

**15. \*Confidential - 2023 Year-end Forecast Update**

**16. \*Call for Nominations – Deputy Chancellor**

The briefing paper was taken as read.

Belinda Atkinson, Council Secretary, advised that Council members would be invited to self-nominate for the Deputy Chancellor role on 19 June 2023. The incumbent, Murray d'Almeida, was eligible to re-nominate.

The Chancellor thanked Mr d'Almeida for his continued support and highlighted his contributions, particularly in relation to the graduation ceremonies.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**17. \*Confidential - Finance and Investment Committee**

**18. \*Confidential - Audit and Risk Management Committee**

**19. \*Confidential - People and Culture Committee**

## OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION

**20. Modern Slavery Statement for the year ended 31 December 2022**

It was resolved:

**Council:**

- (a) **approved** the Modern Slavery Statement for the year ended 30 December 2022; and
- (b) **authorised** the Vice Chancellor and Chancellor to sign the Modern Slavery Statement.

**21. Proposed Amendment to Risk Appetite Statements**

It was resolved:

**Council approved** the amended Risk Appetite Statements.

**22. Confidential: Chancellor's Committee Business**

It was resolved:

**Council ratified** the resolution of the Chancellor's Committee.

**23. Confidential: Posthumous Award - Liam Hampson (22949020)**

## **OTHER MATTERS FOR NOTING**

**24. Policy Report**

The report was noted.

**25. \*Confidential: Budgeted expenditure greater than \$1 million**

**26. Course Approval and Removal Report**

The report was noted.

**27. Confidential: Use of the University Seal**

## **CLOSING BUSINESS**

**28. Confidential: Determination of Matters for Public Disclosure**

No additional agenda items were identified as being confidential.

**29. Meeting Evaluation**

Professor Tyrone Carlin provided an evaluation of the meeting, noting:

- the cohesive journey through the agenda and focussed discussion.
- the Chancellor's chairing to keep the meeting focussed.
- reflection on the big-ticket items.
- the Council's frank and open discussion about safety.

Council discussed:

- the content of Council agendas and the length of the meetings
- the structure the content of the meetings throughout the year to reflect the University's operating requirements.
- remaining aware of positive or negative trends outside of business as usual.
- the value of Council having the space to have more conversations outside of formal meetings, such as via dinners or other events.
- receiving updates on the focus for each of the three campuses.
- receiving updates on the University's digital competency to respond to the changing landscape, artificial intelligence etc, and its capacity to keep up or lead in this space.
- hearing more from students and academic staff.

### **30. Next Meeting**

The next Council meeting was scheduled for 15 August 2023 at the Lismore campus.

The meeting closed at 1.59 pm.

**Belinda Atkinson**  
**Council Secretary**