

SENATE DIGEST FOR MEETING OF 1 SEPTEMBER 2022

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chancellor welcomed Senators and attendees to the meeting and apologies were noted for Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP, Ross Fox, Chapter Nominee (ACT), Francine Pirola, Panel Nominee (NSW), The Hon. James Douglas QC, Panel Nominee (QLD), Associate Professor Elspeth Froude, elected Academic Staff member.

2. Report from Chancellor

The Chancellor provided an introduction and noted the privilege to be at Blacktown Campus for the Meeting of Senate. The Chancellor provided a summary of the events and meetings in which he had participated since the previous meeting, including:

- Constitution Review Members' Forum;
- Announcement of the ACU Townsville Leadership Centre, Townsville;
- Campus visit and dinner hosted by the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor of UniSQ;
- Celebrate conferral of the ACU honorary degree, Doctor of the University upon Reverend Wilson (Bill) Miscamble CSC, Brisbane;
- Meeting with ACU National Student Association (ACUNSA), Brisbane;
- Hiring for Mission Project video recording, Brisbane;
- Dinner with Her Excellency Ms Chiara Porro, Australian Ambassador to the Holy See, Brisbane;
- Order of Holy Sepulchre (after dinner speaker), Brisbane;
- Inaugural Tim Fischer Oration on Ethics in Public and Political Life, Canberra;
- Meeting with Julien O'Connell AO and Michael Casey regarding the PM Glynn Institute; and
- Senate Planning Day.

3. Report from Vice-Chancellor and President

The Vice-Chancellor and President (VC) provided an overview of the Report and highlighted the following:

- Thank you to Senators for contributions to the Senate Planning Day which will be fed into the Strategic Planning process;
- The process for developing ACU's next strategic plan has commenced. An update will be provided at the next Meeting of Senate;
- 2023 Budget considerations have commenced and will proceed to Senate for approval in December;
- Dr Peter Langford, Director Voice Project will attend to present myVoice results which show a big improvement on the 2019 results;
- ACU ranked 14 in the world for nursing in the 2022 Shanghai Global Ranking of Academic Subjects, moving up four places from 2021. ACU's second highest subject in the Shanghai ranking, remains in the top 50 worldwide;
- ACU's performance in the 2022 CWTS Leiden Ranking showed further improvement from 2021 to be ranked first in Australia and 44 in the world by proportion of outputs in the top 10% of publications, and 31 in the world for outputs in the top 5% of publications (up from 47 in 2021). ACU is the leading Australian university for top 5% and 10% outputs in biomedical and health sciences. In the social sciences and humanities, ACU moved to 19 in the world for the top 1% papers metric;
- According to QILT data, ACU is top performing university in Victoria, in terms of student experience. ACU have improved in every single student experience category. Continuous investment in student experience is required to continually improve student satisfaction;
- Professor Suzanne Kuys has been appointed to the position of Campus Dean, Brisbane, and Professor of Physiotherapy;

- Associate Professor Darius von Güttner has been appointed to the position of Campus Dean Canberra, commencing 1 August. Currently a research associate at ACU's Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences, Associate Professor von Güttner's role will also encompass a position with the School of Education for ACT and Regional NSW;
- Associate Professor Krista Maglen has been appointed to the position of Campus Dean Melbourne, commencing 2 October;
- Dr Valentine Mukuria has been appointed to the position of Campus Dean Blacktown, commencing 1 September. Dr Mukuria is also Senior Research Fellow, Community Engagement;
- Recruitment for the Campus Dean North Sydney is progressing;
- The first mission retreat for senior ACU staff in Sydney gained positive feedback and was great opportunity to discuss mission. The event will continue; and
- The VC was elected President of the Strategic Alliance of Catholic Universities (SACRU). ACU will host the 2024 meeting of The Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities (ASEACCU).

Senate discussed:

- the NTEU submission to Fair Work Commission in the context of the ongoing Enterprise Agreement negotiations;
- how to address the national teacher and nurse shortage, while increasing quality;
- Plans to improve ACU's profile internationally; and
- Widening participation.

4. Senior Executive Appointments

Senate discussed a number of Senior Executive Appointments and re-appointments.

5. TEQSA Re-registration

Professor Timothy McKenry, Institutional Lead, Renewal of Registration provided a verbal update on efforts to prepare for ACU's TEQSA Re-registration in 2025 and highlighted the following:

- It is the aim that ACU achieve 7 years renewed registration without condition. Confidence was expressed that this is an achievable outcome;
- Confidence that ACU complies with the Higher Education Standards Framework (HES) and that the work being undertaken relates to strengthening good practice and ensuring that ACU document processes effectively; and
- Registration is due in early 2025. Prior to re-registration, TEQSA will receive specific university records and use these to make a determination around the scope of documentation required for re-registration.

6. Report from Interim Provost

The Interim Provost provided a brief overview of the Report and highlighted the following:

- The fixed term appointment of Professor Chris Lonsdale – Deputy Provost; and
- Commencing student survey data indicates overall satisfaction is up for commencing students. 92% NET in 2022 satisfied vs 88% satisfied in 2021. Stronger satisfaction for all domestic undergraduates has translated into a significantly higher intention to complete their program at ACU (94% in 2022 vs. 90% in 2021).

Senate:

- noted the submission of the Report from Interim Provost.

7. Report from the Chief Operating Officer

Senate:

- noted the staff responses to the myVoice Staff Engagement Survey 2022.
- noted the Melbourne Campus Major Projects Progress Report;
- noted the Contract Execution Register for contracts executed pursuant to section 127(1) of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) and the Power of Attorney registered BK 4677 No 305 for the period 2 June 2022 to 17 August 2022; and
- noted the report Work, Health and Safety Report Quarter 2 2022.

8. Report from Academic Board

The Chair of Academic Board provided an overview of the Report of the Academic Board and noted the new course proposal for the Graduate Certificate in Sports Analytics for approval.

Senate:

- approved the new course proposal for the Graduate Certificate in Sports Analytics for delivery via ACU Online, for implementation from ACU Online Term 1 2023, detailed in CMAS proposal PR000315;
- noted the Digest of Academic Board meeting 04/2022, held on 13 July 2022.

9. Report of the Senate Standing Committee:

The Chair provided a brief overview of the report.

Senate:

- noted the Report from the Senate Standing Committee from its meeting of 26 July 2022 and its meeting by circular resolution closing 17 August 2022; and
- approved the amendment of Statute 8.1 – Elections to the Senate, Statute 8.3 – Elections to the Academic Board, Statute 8.4 – Elections to Committees of the Academic Board, and Statute 9 – Campus Student Associations and Other Organisations, as presented, with effect for elections commencing after 1 September 2022.

10. Report of the Finance and Resources Committee

The Secretary provided an overview of the Report of the Finance and Resources Committee (FRC).

Senate:

- noted the report from meeting 03/2022 of the Finance and Resources Committee, held on 12 July 2022.

11. Report of the Audit and Risk Committee

The Secretary provided an overview of the Report of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC).

Senate:

- noted the report from meeting 03/2022 of the Audit and Risk Committee, held on 18 July 2022.

12. Reports from State Chapters

Senate:

- noted the Report of the ACT State Chapter meeting of 26 May 2022;
- noted the Report of the ACT State Chapter meeting of 4 August 2022; and
- noted the Report of the Qld State Chapter meeting of 21 June 2022.