

COUNCIL BULLETIN

DECEMBER 2017

SIGNIFICANT ITEMS APPROVED BY COUNCIL:

Revised Terms of Reference for Academic Board
2018 Budget | October 2017 Financial Statements
Revised Honorary Award and Title Policy, Schedule and Procedure

The next meeting of the USQ Council is scheduled for Monday 19 February 2018 at the Toowoomba Campus

The 11 December 2017 Council meeting was held at the Queensland College of Wine Tourism (QCWT), Stanthorpe. Council received a presentation from Mr Peter O'Reilly, Chief Executive Officer of QCWT on activities and developments involving the College. Council also met with members of the local community at a cocktail reception following the meeting.

REPORTS

The Vice-Chancellor provided a detailed report on activities and issues since the previous Council meeting. Of particular note was the launch of the 'Qantas Future Pilot Program' in Sydney on 11 December 2017 where USQ was announced as one of five universities across Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria whose aviation students will be provided with a direct pathway into an aviation career with QantasLink.

Mr Peter Becker, Student Member on Council, provided a report on student activities and on his attendance at the recent TEQSA Conference in Melbourne, noting that there had been a strong focus on student engagement as well as how success and quality is measured. TEQSA provided a complimentary registration for one student from each higher education provider to be able to attend the conference which was themed 'Students, Quality, Success'.

Council received a report from Professor Aileen Cater-Steel, Chair of Academic Board, outlining key activities of the Board. A major focus was the process for determining new Terms of Reference for Academic Board, including a revised membership structure. Significant feedback from the extensive consultation process was incorporated into the revised Terms of Reference, and matters included in the Internal Audit Report were addressed. The revised functions of Academic Board are to take effect immediately, whereas the membership changes will take effect at the end of the current Academic Board term. The new membership provisions will result in a reduced membership (from 42 to 35 members). The first meeting of the new Board is scheduled for 31 July 2018.

A report on the Chairs of Academic Boards, Senates and Secretaries Conference 2017 (attended by the Deputy Chair of Academic Board, Associate Professor Alex Kist, and the Secretary of Academic Board, Ms Connie Venning) was provided to Council. The theme of the

conference was 'Academic Governance in Times of Change' and several topics were identified as particularly relevant for consideration by USQ's Academic Board.

Council also received reports on USQ's Student Services and Amenities Fee (SA Fee) and on the USQ Student Endowment Fund (USEF), as well as a Policy and Procedure Status Update and Risk Management Report.

2018 BUDGET

Council considered and approved the 2018 Budget, noting that while the budget will present many challenges for the coming year, there are also likely to be opportunities for USQ. The planning section of the 2018 Annual Plan and Budget is still being developed, following the recent senior managers planning day.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Council approved the following:

- 2018 Budget
- October 2017 Financial Statements;
- Revised Terms of Reference for Academic Board (revised functions to take effect immediately and membership changes to take effect at the end of the current Academic Board term);
- Continuation of delegated authority to the Vice-Chancellor for specific fee setting activities and approval of additional fee setting flexibility arrangements;
- Minor amendments to previously approved 2017 / 2018 / 2019 Domestic and International Fee Schedules
- Revised Honorary Award and Title Policy, Honorary Award and Title Schedule, and Honorary Award and Title Procedure;
- Revised Terms of Reference for Honorary Awards Committee.

All correspondence for University Council should be directed to USQGovernance.Office@usq.edu.au

Information on the University Council is available at: <http://www.usq.edu.au/about-usq/governance-management/council>