



# COUNCIL BULLETIN

JULY 2018

SIGNIFICANT ITEMS APPROVED BY COUNCIL AT THE 9 JULY 2018 MEETING:

May 2018 Financial Statements | New Chair of Academic Board  
Council Election Policy and Council Election Procedure

**The next meeting of the USQ Council is scheduled for Monday 3 September 2018  
at the USQ Springfield Campus**

The 9 July 2018 Council meeting was held at the USQ Toowoomba Campus. The Chancellor briefed Council on the recent graduation ceremony and alumni function held in Kuala Lumpur in early June 2018, noting that USQ has around 8,000 alumni in Malaysia. He also advised that a revised 'Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Public Universities' was adopted at the recent University Chancellors' Council (UCC) meeting (15 May 2018).

The Chancellor thanked Associate Professor Alexander Kist for his significant contribution to Academic Board during his time as Acting Chair over the past six months, noting that this was his last Council meeting as Acting Chair of Academic Board.

In accordance with the Academic Board Terms of Reference (Section 3.5 Appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair), Council members considered nominations for the position of Chair, Academic Board for the Board's forthcoming term. Following a confidential vote, Professor Grant Daggard was declared as the new Chair of Academic Board for a three year term from 31 July 2018.

## REPORTS

The Vice-Chancellor provided a detailed report on activities and issues since the May 2018 Council meeting, including the University Performance Report – July 2018, an update on USQ's registration renewal by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA), results from the recent Employee Engagement (Voice) Survey and potential impacts of the Federal Government's funding freeze on universities.

Professor Helen Partridge, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) joined the Council meeting to present her Education Report, the first of three strategic reports to be provided to Council this year. A Research Report will be provided for the 3 September meeting and an Enterprise Report for the 22 October meeting. The three key foci for the Education portfolio are Student Experience, Learning and Teaching Quality, and On-Line, with various taskforces and projects established to support initiatives in these areas.

Mr Peter Becker, Student Member on Council, provided a report on student activities and issues.

Key initiatives and activities of Academic Board were highlighted by Associate Professor Alexander Kist, Acting Chair of Academic Board. As the next term of Academic Board commences on 31 July 2018, a self-assessment

survey of outgoing Board members was conducted to provide direction for the incoming Board and Chair. The results of this survey will be presented to the first meeting of the new Academic Board when it meets on 31 July. Council discussed a number of Academic Board issues, including reporting, measuring effectiveness, and standing committee structures including who should chair these committees.

Council also received a half-yearly report on USQ's Student Amenities Fee (SA Fee), Risk Management Report, Policy and Procedure Status Update, HR Quarterly Safety Report, and a report on Student Complaints and Academic Appeals for the 2017 academic year.

## CHANGES TO UNIVERSITY LEGISLATION

Following recent changes to university legislation in Queensland, the revised USQ Act will come into effect from 1 August 2018. As the legislative amendments remove the ability for university governing bodies to make university statutes, USQ is required to replace its Council Elections Statute with a policy and related procedure. Accordingly, a new Council Election Policy and Council Election Procedure were developed for consideration through Chancellor's Committee and subsequently recommended to Council for approval. As the new policy is to be in place by 1 August, Council approved the Council Election Policy and Council Election Procedure, subject to some further changes identified in discussion, but noted that further work was required on the electoral rolls and complaint handling components of the Procedure. A revised version of the Procedure will be provided for consideration by Council in due course.

## USQ STUDENT GUILD

Council received and noted the USQ Student Guild 2017 Annual Report, presented by Mr Neil Brown (Chair of the Student Guild Board), Mr Glenn Roberts (Chief Executive Officer of the Student Guild) and Mr Michael Saunders (President of the Student Guild).

Professor Aileen Cater-Steel, Council's representative on the USQ Student Guild Board, also presented a report to Council relating to the Board and activities of the Guild.

## RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Council approved the following:

- May 2018 Financial Statements;
- Council Election Policy and Council Election Procedure.

All correspondence for University Council should be directed to [USQGovernance.Office@usq.edu.au](mailto:USQGovernance.Office@usq.edu.au)

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