

COUNCIL BULLETIN

MAY 2019

SIGNIFICANT ITEMS APPROVED BY COUNCIL AT THE 13 MAY MEETING:

March 2019 Financial Statements | 2020 Domestic and General Fee Schedules
Research Code of Conduct Policy | Revised Council Election Procedure

The next meeting of the USQ Council is scheduled for Monday 8 July 2019
at the USQ Toowoomba Campus

The 13 May 2019 Council meeting was held at the USQ Ipswich Campus.

The Chancellor briefed Council on the recent graduation ceremonies held in Toowoomba (5 and 12 April) and Ipswich (10 May). Graduation ceremonies are also scheduled for Kuala Lumpur (26 May) and Sydney (3 June).

The Chancellor welcomed Ms Lauren Walsburg, new Student Member, who joined the meeting via Zoom link. Ms Walsburg is an on-line student currently residing in Clare, South Australia.

REPORTS

The Vice-Chancellor provided detailed reports on activities and issues since the March 2019 Council meeting, including the University Performance Report – May 2019.

The Vice-Chancellor also provided the annual USQ Status and Performance Report, noting that this report was provided later than normal this year in order to coincide with the Council Reflective Forum held at the conclusion of the 13 May Council meeting. The report contained an overview of the current status of the University and priorities for the year ahead, together with a review of 2018 performance and achievements.

Council received an update on work that is being done across the University to address the various components of the TEQSA Re-registration Condition. Work is progressing on development of an Academic Delegations Schedule, as well as a new program accreditation procedure and a new course and program performance evaluation and review process. A restructuring of school leadership and management roles and school/faculty academic quality committees is also underway and is expected to facilitate interaction between schools, faculties, Academic Board standing committees and Academic Board. Work is also progressing on refining the Academic Dashboard and developing associated reporting frameworks and data evaluation tools.

Council also received an update on the External Review of USQ Corporate Governance, noting that the external reviewers would be conducting interviews with Council members, members of the University Executive and other relevant individuals during the last week of May 2019.

A report on the key initiatives and activities of Academic Board was provided to Council. It was noted that the next Academic Board self-assessment survey instrument had been approved, with the survey to take place in mid-2019. A comprehensive review of progress against the recommendations of the 2017 Internal Audit of Academic Board has been undertaken by Emeritus Professor Hilary Winchester. The new Academic Board standing committees, approved by Academic Board on 16 April 2019, have had their inaugural meetings and will be pivotal in the flow of information.

Council also received the following reports:

- Final Student Load Reports – Semester 3, 2018 and Semester 1, 2019
- Risk Management Report
- USQ Student Endowment Fund – progress update
- HR Quarterly Safety Report
- Policy and Procedure Status Update.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Council approved the following:

- March 2019 Financial Statements
- 2020 Domestic Fees (including Residential College Fees, various Service Fees and Domestic Upskill Fees)
- Revised Council Election Procedure
- Research Code of Conduct Policy (revised to align with the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research which was recently updated following a general compliance review involving the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), the Australian Research Council (ARC), and Universities Australia).

COUNCIL REFLECTIVE FORUM

At the conclusion of the Council meeting, Council held its annual Reflective Forum to discuss future strategic issues and initiatives. Topics included Campus Master Planning and International, with Michael Thomas, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Enterprise Services) and Professor Ren Yi, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) joining the Forum for these items.

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

Information on the University Council is available at:

<https://www.usq.edu.au/about-usq/governance-leadership/governance/usq-council>