



## UOW COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

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*The following matters, which may be of interest to the staff and students of the University, were considered by the University Council at its meeting of 14 August 2020.*

*Due to the government's restrictions regarding the spread of COVID-19, Council members participated in the Council meeting on 14 August 2020 in person or via videoconference (Webex).*

This was Chancellor Broadbent's final meeting of Council. Prior to the meeting officially closing, the Deputy Chancellors and Vice-Chancellor, on behalf of Council and the University community, expressed their appreciation and gratitude to Chancellor Broadbent for her leadership and outstanding contribution to the University of Wollongong over the past eleven years. The Chancellor acknowledged her appreciation and wished the University continued success.

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**

Council noted the preparations that were undertaken, in line with current COVID-19 restrictions, for ensuring a safe return to campus for Spring session. For further information about UOW's COVID-19 response: <https://www.uow.edu.au/coronavirus/>

### **Vice-Chancellor's Report**

The Vice-Chancellor briefly highlighted the following items in his report:

- The UOW Virtual Open Day on Saturday 8 August 2020 was extremely successful with over 1000 students participating in a range of engagement activities.
- International recruitment and conversion activity has primarily been in the form of virtual engagement with students and agent partners. The University has been working in collaboration with UOW Global Enterprises offshore campuses promoting UOW's pathway to Australia via offshore campuses.
- The Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) met on fourteen occasions over six weeks and reached agreement on variations to the Enterprise Agreements that will assist UOW to return to a sustainable financial position. The Vice-Chancellor noted that to achieve a multi-year deal is a testament to staff and it recognises the willingness of staff to be part of the University's financial recovery process.
- Three new staff appointments have been made: Professor Clive Baldock, Dean of Graduate Research; Associate Professor Alberto Nettel-Aguirre, Professor in Biostatistics and Director, Centre for Health and Social Analytics; and Associate Professor Umberto Berardi, Director, Sustainable Buildings Research Centre.
- The build and fit-out of the \$2M Industry Hub at the Shoalhaven campus continues with a soft launch planned for later in the year.
- New and existing degrees, including the Bachelor of Laws (Graduate Entry), will be offered at the Sydney Business School in 2021.
- The Minister for Education, The Hon Dan Tehan recently announced the funding for the 2020 Industrial Transformation Research Program Research Hubs. There are only five in Australia and the University is involved in three of them. The University will be taking the lead for the ARC Research Hub for Australian Steel Innovation which includes \$5M funding over five years.

### **2020-2025 University Strategies**

Council approved the University Strategies: 2020-2025 Education Strategy; 2020-2025 Research & Innovation Strategy; and the 2020-2025 Civic University Strategy. These strategies form part of the implementation and activation of the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan through the first five years of the University's transformative 2030 and Beyond strategic direction.

One common feature in all three Strategies is the recognition of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the specific objectives and measures of success. Council also approved the 2020-2025 Strategic

Plan Key Performance Indicators metrics and reporting schedule. For further information regarding the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan: <https://www.uow.edu.au/about/our-vision-strategy/2020-2025-strategic-plan/>

### **Reports to Council**

Council received the following reports and updates:

- UOW Key Performance Indicators Report
- UOW Finance Report for June 2020
- Financial Benchmarking Report
- Annual Strategic and Operational Risk Update
- Workplace Health and Safety Report for May and June 2020
- The use of the UOW Common Seal

### **Academic Senate Membership**

The Chancellor welcomed Professor Greg Rose to his first meeting of the University Council as Chair of Academic Senate.

Council approved the revised Academic Senate membership, the corresponding Academic Senate Terms of Reference and the revised Academic Senate Electoral Rules to be effective immediately, and the transitional arrangements for current elected faculty academic representative members. For more information about Academic Senate: <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/representatives/senate/>

### **Council Committee Business**

Council received the unratified minutes of the 8 July 2020 Academic Senate meeting and the unratified minutes of the 2 June 2020 meeting of the Risk, Audit and Compliance Committee. For more information about Council Committees: <http://www.uow.edu.au/governance/committees/council/committees/index.html>

### **UOW Policy Amendments**

Council approved amendments to the Coursework Rules including the Appendices and Appendix 1 of the Higher Degree Research Rules. These can be found on the UOW Policy Directory: <https://documents.uow.edu.au/about/policy/index.html>

For further information about Council: <https://www.uow.edu.au/about/governance/governance-structure/university-council/>

*The next meeting of Council is scheduled for Friday, 9 October 2020.*