

ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING MINUTES 23 SEPTEMBER 2020

Minutes of the 352nd meeting of the Academic Senate held at 9:30am on Wednesday, 23 September 2020, in 21.G08, the Early Start Building and via Webex.

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Prof Greg Rose (Chair)	Ms Theresa Hoynes	Prof Nina Reynolds
Prof Nan Seuffert (Deputy Chair)	Mr Damien Israel	Prof Christian Ritz
A/Prof Shirley Agostinho	Ms Margie Jantti	A/Prof Ann Rogerson
Prof Clive Baldock	Prof Zhengyi Jiang	A/Prof Montse Ros
Dr Stephen Beirne	A/Prof Peter Kelly	A/Prof Neaz Sheikh
Dr Kate Bowles	Prof Lisa Kervin	A/Prof Danielle Skropeta
Prof Annette Braunack-Mayer	A/Prof Tracey Kuit	Dr Marcelo Svirsky
Prof Peter Caputi	Mr Felix Lanceley	Dr Christopher Sykes
Dr Jane Carey	A/Prof Wanqing Li	Prof Lip Teh
Dr Paul Chad	Dr Xiaoping Lu	Prof Wilma Vialle
Prof Joe Chicharo	Prof Jennifer Martin	A/Prof Rodney Vickers
Mr Jackson Cocks	Prof Tracey Moroney	Prof Simon Ville
Dr Robyn Coman	Prof Allen Nutman	Dr Pawel Wagner
Prof Julia Coyle	A/Prof Germanas Peleckis	A/Prof Margaret Wallace
A/Prof Hoa Dam	Dr Dana Perlman	A/Prof Karen Walton
Prof Theo Farrell	Dr Oriana Price	Prof Paul Wellings
Dr Azdiar Gazder	Prof Fiona Probyn-Rapsey	A/Prof Ika Willis
Dr Michael Griffiths	Dr Sanja Pupovac	Dr Tracey Woolrych
Dr Luis Gomez Romero	Dr Ee Ling Quah	A/Prof Ping Yu
Dr Keith Horton	Prof Melanie Randle	Prof Shujun Zhang

APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Dr Anura De Zoysa	Prof Valerie Linton
Prof Alex Frino	Dr Claire Lowrie
Prof Alison Jones	Dr Catherine Mac Phail
A/Prof Julie Kiggins	Prof Will Price
A/Prof Konstantin Konstantinov	Prof Glenn Salkeld

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms Antoinette Faddoul, Academic Senate Executive Officer
Ms Tori Funnell, Senior Manager, Governance Unit
Mr Grant Jacobs, Portfolio Executive Manager, Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Health & Communities)
Mr Dominic Riordan, Director, Academic Quality and Standards

OBSERVERS:

Mr Luis Cuzen-Cardoso, Social Work Student
Mr Brandon McConnell, UOW Management Cadet
Mr Anjali Vinod Nair, Social Work Student

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*1.1 Welcome, Apologies and Leave of Absence

The Chair welcomed all members, attendees, observers and Professor Clive Baldock, Dean of Graduate Research to his first meeting.

As the meeting was running both virtually, via Webex Meetings and physically in a face-to-face capacity, the Chair explained how the meeting would run, then asked members to be patient with proceedings in the blended environment. He also provided instruction on how to use the technology in the case of a vote.

*1.2 Arrangement of Agenda

1.2.1 Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

1.2.2 Confidential Items

There were no confidential items.

1.2.3 Starring of Items

The following items were starred for discussion:

- 1.1 - Apologies and Leave of Absence
- 1.2 - Arrangement of Agenda
- 1.3 - Confirmation of Minutes
- 1.4 - Business Arising from the Minutes
- 1.5 - Chair's Report
- 1.6 - Vice-Chancellor's Report
- 1.7 - Membership Business
- 2.1 - Presentation – Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health
- 2.2 - University Strategies 2020-2025: Civic University Strategy
- 2.3 - Course Portfolio Principles Implementation Update
- 2.4 - Course Progress – Related Issues
- 2.5 - Mandatory Placement Performance – Exclusion provisions
- 3.1 - Bachelor of Technology – New Course
 - Industry 4.0 and Cyber Security Network – New Majors
 - Big Data Major – New Delivery Location UOW Dubai
 - Cyber Security Major – New Delivery Location UOW Dubai
 - Higher Education Certificate Courses Fast-Track Approval
- 3.8 - Screen Media Production – New Major
- 4.1 - Reports from the Senior Executive
- 4.2 - Members' reports
- 4.3 - Student Members' reports
- 5.1 - Business Arising from Academic Senate Committees
- 5.3 - Committee Minutes
- 6.2 - Other Business

RESOLVED 2020/54

that Academic Senate adopt the draft resolutions for the unstarred items.

*1.3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED 2020/55

that the minutes of the previous Academic Senate meeting held on Wednesday 8 July 2020, as attached to the agenda papers, be confirmed and signed as a true record.

*1.4 Business Arising from the Minutes

A member stated that due to technical issues with Webex, the points she had raised under agenda item 2.1 2020-2025 Draft Education were not heard and therefore not included in the minutes. The comments for consideration are:

- Consider linking in UOW Strategic Plan KPI 11 ‘People and Culture’ into the draft Education Strategy as people and culture are essential to the success of the Education Strategy and UOW Strategic Plan. KPI 11 also relates specifically to Goal 1.5 of the draft Education Strategy, regarding promoting and rewarding teaching excellence;
- Capacity building and CPD in the digital learning, work integrated learning and assessment spaces will continue to build capacity and connections; and
- Outcome metrics may include CPD events and engagement on strategic topics, internal and external recognition of learning and teaching excellence and future promotions with an emphasis on high quality learning and teaching.

Another member asked about the timeframe for the Academic Senate membership review. The Chair stated that the Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor (SDVC) will respond to the query in the Senior Executive Reports, agenda item 4.1.

*1.5 Chair’s Report

The Chair reported that University Council adopted the recommendation for Academic senate to maintain its existing membership. Faculty representatives will continue in their elected terms until 30 June 2021.

The Chair reported that he, the previous Chair of Academic Senate, a faculty representative member of Academic Senate and Director of Academic Quality and Standards met to discuss the nature, expectation and standards of consultation in policies and processes across the University. This is still progressing.

The September 2019 meeting of Academic Senate resolved to publish a resolution pertaining to a confidential discussion held at its July 2019 meeting. This was raised by a member and publication has now occurred.

The Chair and members of the Governance Unit held a meeting with the Undergraduate student representatives regarding their concerns regarding induction processes and participation in the online environment of Academic Senate.

*1.6 Vice-Chancellor’s Report

The Vice Chancellor (VC) reported that:

- As previously reported, UOW along with all other universities submitted a response regarding the French Review on freedom of speech. Emeritus Professor Sally Walker has been tasked with providing a light touch review and universities will receive feedback by the end of the year.
- Universities Australia (UA) has been working to build a position on federal legislation relating to foreign interference and how that will be interpreted with regard to educational facilities, particularly those with linkages to overseas bodies.
- The Senate enquiry which reports on the draft legislation job ready package is due on 25 September, the outcome of which will inform students who wish to study in the next few years.
- The Commonwealth budget is due out in October which will link back to the job ready package, and consider other matters that relate to research funding.
- The NSW Vice-Chancellors’ Committee is doing a large body of work with the NSW Treasury regarding the return of international students to Australian campuses. This is not likely until quarter 4, 2021, though Charles Darwin University has taken small number of international students flying from Kuala Lumpur and Singapore.
- The official opening of the Social Sciences Building 29 is scheduled today, Wednesday 23 September.

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- There is a lot of ongoing work being done on the University budget including the offer of early retirement to staff.
- It is the last official week of Chancellor Jillian Broadbent AC with the incoming Chancellor elect Christine McLoughlin to commence officially in the role 1 October 2020.
- Sincere thanks to all staff who were involved in a very successful virtual Open Day, which has generated a lot of interest from prospective domestic students.

A member referred to the recent federal Senate enquiry about how Education Minister Tehan's reforms affect funding for university courses and noted the VC's response to Senator O'Neil's comments about the differentiation between some graduates being job ready, and some not, in particular HASS graduates. The member asked if the VC disagreed with Senator O'Neil's view and if so, did he consult with staff and students at UOW or with professional association such as FASSA to reach this view. In reply concerning the job readiness of HASS students, the VC noted that the curriculum at UOW aims to set out a range of graduate attributes across all of its subjects and courses to ensure students are job ready when they graduate from the University. Further, he replied that the Government is trying to anticipate job needs for the future.

Another member noted that the VC stated at the federal Senate Enquiry that he 'consulted' with the Academic Senate concerning the reforms. The member alleged that this was not the case and added that VC shouldn't state that Academic Senate has been consulted on matters, when it has not. The member proposed to move a motion to note members' dissent from this notion.

The VC stated that there is a distinction between instructing, consulting and informing. UOW does not have a bicameral structure and Academic Senate is an advisory board to Council and the Vice-Chancellor. A part of the Vice-Chancellor role is to deal with engagement with Government. The VC stated that the fee structures and shift in Commonwealth funding and student contributions is a complex space. There is little choice other than to be pragmatic and work with the proposals. He added that adoption of the draft legislation will provide certainty to students about their fee structure.

The Chair stated that funding and Federal education administration matters are operational and not within the academic mandate of UOW Senate. Further, Academic Senate is not the forum to comment on the VC's contribution at a federal level. To clarify understanding of the allegation made by the member, the Chair also asked the member to read the relevant passage referred to in Hansard. The member read the Hansard, which recorded that the VC said that he had 'discussed' the matter with Academic Senate. The Chair noted that the VC's statement in federal Senate was correct, as the VC had described the reforms at the previous meeting and questions had been invited from Senate members. The proposed motion was not put to the meeting.

*1.7 Membership Business

There was no membership business.

PART 2: COMMITTEE BUSINESS

*2.1 Presentation – Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

Professor Tracey Moroney, Deputy Dean and Associate Professor Karen Walton, Associate Dean (Education) from the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health opened the faculty presentation with an Acknowledgement of Country. They reported the following:

- There is a high demand for SMAH subjects with an increase of enrolments which have increased by 18% from last year.
- Geology is ranked in the top 100 of the SEALS World Rankings by subject.
- The faculty has had a successful uptake of its short course offerings.
- There is an invigorated interest in the study of Indigenous Health.

- There is increased growth in enrolments for the Bachelor of Nursing at South Western Sydney.
- The Faculty is in a unique position with the Titan Krios cryoEM microscope in the Molecular Horizons Building, which will enable world leading research.
- Under the leadership of Prof Jenny Beck the Faculty is producing great research outcomes with around \$25 million in external grant success.
- The faculty has a strategic approach to course development which includes looking at the financial viability and feasibility of a course; and what courses would lead to jobs in the future. This has included looking at all end on Honours programs, and the pathway from end on Honours onto PhD.
- There has been a high enrolment numbers in the Faculty's micro-credential offerings.
- There is an increase of enrolments in the Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Trauma Recovery practice. The course usually runs every three years and at its last offering there were 28 students, there are 53 students currently enrolled and studying the course. The Faculty is looking to revitalise the Masters programs due to the increase of interest in working in remote communities.
- The International team is looking at ways to diversify offerings and ensure the Faculty is moving forward in the "post COVID-19" world, which include potentially building on baccalaureate programs and looking to co-badge subjects.
- There are a number of joint research and teaching centres occurring in China.
- Strengthening the offer of Bachelors and Masters of Nursing in UOWD.
- Work is underway to building clear pathways to SMAH courses.
- Masters programs offerings for Nursing, Occupational Therapy, and Physiotherapy; to ensure students remain at UOW rather than study elsewhere.
- The Faculty is excited to leverage opportunities and develop innovative teams of integrated medicine in the Health and Wellbeing precinct.
- Successful engagement and interaction with the Shoalhaven with "Mind the Gap" located at the Shoalhaven campus.

RESOLVED 2020/56

that Academic Senate note the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health presentation provided by Deputy Dean, Professor Tracey Moroney and Associate Dean (Education), Associate Professor Karen Walton.

***2.2 University Strategies 2020-2025: Civic University Strategy**

The Portfolio Executive Manager (PEM), Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Health and Communities) reported that there is a strong history of civic engagement and partnerships with the university. The Civic University Strategy takes civic engagement to the next level. The Strategy strengthens UOW's commitment to equity under goal 3 and stronger connections with the United Nations (UN) sustainable goals.

Members provided the following comments:

- A number of members voiced concern about the Acknowledgement of Country in the Strategy. The UOW Aboriginal Advisory Council consulted with community elders to provide a new Acknowledgement of Country which was rejected. It has caused angst for some staff and members of the community.
- The wording about reconciliation with Indigenous people of the country can be tweaked to be clearer.
- The footnote reference to "Aboriginal People's" noting that it includes people of the Torres Straight may not be appropriate.
- Regarding the implementation of the UN sustainable development goals, the notion of climate change is not mentioned in the Strategy, except as part of a circular economy. It would be preferable to be more explicit in the strategy document and aim to be carbon neutral by 2025.

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- Under 3.1.3 there is an emphasis on equity, diversity and inclusion with regards to the evolution of governance. There is a need to include transparency and dissenting views.
- The strategy talks to the importance of staff volunteering in the community, and noted that it was difficult to ask staff to do more when they feel they are doing more work for less, given the lack of casual staff employed and the Enterprise Agreement amendments.
- Although Associate Deans Equity Diversity and Inclusion were appointed in the faculties there is inadequate representation of minorities within these appointments.

The PEM stated that a new Acknowledgement of Country has been developed and the new draft protocols require further consultation. He added that the Strategy was produced during the intense period of COVID-19; it is aspirational and will require significant work to implement. He acknowledged that items raised can be re-phrased and will liaise with the SDVC and Strategic Planning Unit as to when this can occur. He added that the five strategic priorities are taken from UOW's overarching strategy; and 3.5 is around the circular economy goes beyond climate change. Additionally, the PEM thanked members for their feedback and will take those matters into the future.

RESOLVED 2020/57

that Academic Senate note the 2020-2025 Civic University Strategy, as provided in the agenda paper.

***2.3 Course Portfolio Principles Implementation Update**

The Director, Academic Quality and Standards (D/AQS) reported that the Course Portfolio Principles Implementation Update follows on from the Course Portfolio White Paper endorsed by Academic Senate in 2019. The Principles look at opportunities to develop more comprehensive and cohesive courses to students and to provide clarity and shape around the portfolio and how it is developed. The update provides accountability to Academic Senate and the University Education Committee (UEC) with regards to its progress relating to; changes in course approval processes, policy changes, subject rationalisation progress and recommendations around honours programs. The update also details COVID-19 related priorities which has resulted in delays in some areas. Changes to the course approval process will come to the next meeting of Academic Senate.

A member asked about the introduction of course development in particular the new "Go/No Go step" for new courses and asked if the decision should rest with academic staff. The D/AQS replied that there has always been a set of criteria for the assessment of courses which includes consideration of academic staff views on quality and viability of courses.

A student member asked for a summary of the student consultation, involvement and input to date with regards to the Work Integrated Learning, Scholars and Deans Scholars, and advanced courses. The D/AQS noted that the overall project has put forward sub-projects which are where student involvement and consultation will occur. The recommendations are to involve stronger engagement with students. Therefore the next step is to engage students, in particular prospective students to ascertain what their expectations are.

The Chair noted Academic Senate would continue to receive updates as the implementation progresses, for its consideration.

RESOLVED 2020/58

that Academic Senate note the update on the implementation of the Course Portfolio Principles as set out in the agenda paper.

***2.4 Course Progress – Related Issues**

The D/AQS reported that some COVID-related changes made to the General Course Rules earlier this year are slightly ambiguous and could give the wrong impression that a student is making satisfactory course progress when that is not the case, due to allowed course late withdrawals without academic

penalty. The new amendment proposal would add a provision that makes it clear that course progress is to be evaluated in relation to the students' progress prior to any late withdrawal without academic penalty.

RESOLVED 2020/59

that Academic Senate:

- i. endorse the proposed changes to the Coursework Rules and Course Progress Policy to address issues arising from the COVID 19 health crisis in relation to the application of the Course Progress Policy;*
- ii. forward the proposed changes to the Course Progress Policy to the Vice-Chancellor for approval, to become effective on approval of related changes to the Coursework Rules; and*
- iii. forward the proposed changes to the Coursework Rules to the University Council for approval, to become effective on approval.*

***2.5 Mandatory Placement Performance – Exclusion Provisions**

The D/AQS stated that amendments to the Coursework Rules to address some ambiguity under section 4. *Mandatory Placement Program Component* in relation to students who cannot continue their placement when undertaking a course for professional accreditation. The proposed change provides clarity about how the decision-making occurs on student performance in the context of course complaint and appeal processes.

A student member noted that the provision in the course progress policy is retrospective and occurs before the exclusions, which theoretically creates two appeals processes.

Another student member noted ambiguity in wording of the provisions at Rule 16 regarding the notice period for students to comment within 10 working days. Not all the comments were heard by the meeting due to technical issues with the Webex technology and the Chair asked the member to email the D/AQS directly. Once the amendments have been considered, the resolution will be dealt with via circular resolution. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students) stated that she would be involved in the process.

The proposed motion was not moved.

PART 3: GENERAL BUSINESS

**3.1 Bachelor of Technology – New Course
Industry 4.0 and Cyber Security Network – New Majors
Big Data Major – New Delivery Location UOW Dubai
Cyber Security Major – New Delivery Location UOW Dubai**

**Higher Education Certificate Courses
Fast-Track Approval**

A member stated that at its March 2019 meeting Academic Senate agreed the fast track process was to be reviewed and the review reported back to Senate. The D/AQS replied that work is underway along with the review of course governance processes and will be reported back at the next meeting of Senate.

RESOLVED 2020/60

that Academic Senate note the use of the Fast-Track Approval Process to:

- i. introduce the new course, the Bachelor of Technology, and new majors, Industry 4.0 and Cyber Security Network, at the Wollongong and South Sydney Campuses, as outlined in the agenda papers, from Autumn session, 2021;*

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- ii. *introduce the Big Data and Cyber Security majors in the Bachelor of Computer Science (1766) at the University of Wollongong Dubai, as outlined in the agenda papers, from September 2020; and*
- iii. *introduce the following Higher Education Courses, as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective from Spring Session, 2020:*
 - a. *Undergraduate Certificate in Engineering (3080)*
 - b. *Undergraduate Certificate in Information Technology (3084)*
 - c. *Undergraduate Certificate in Critical Reading & Writing Skills (3077)*
 - d. *Undergraduate Certificate in Communication and Cultures (3078)*
 - e. *Undergraduate Certificate in Medical and Health Sciences (3081)*
 - f. *Undergraduate Certificate in Science (3087)*
 - g. *Undergraduate Certificate in Public Health (3085)*
 - h. *Undergraduate Certificate in Educational Studies (3079)*
 - i. *Undergraduate Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety (3086)*
 - j. *Undergraduate Certificate in Human Services (3088)*
 - k. *Undergraduate Certificate in Environmental Studies (3082)*
 - l. *Undergraduate Certificate in Advanced Social Welfare Skills (3089)*

3.2 Course Review and Re-Approval Professional Accounting Cluster

RESOLVED 2020/61

that consequent upon the review of the Professional Accounting Cluster, Academic Senate re-approve the course and specialisation within the Professional Accounting Cluster, as outlined in the agenda papers, to be offered for an additional five year period until 2025.

3.3 Course Review and Re-Approval Undergraduate Social Work Cluster

RESOLVED 2020/62

that consequent upon the review of the Undergraduate Social Work Cluster, Academic Senate re-approve the course and specialisation within the Undergraduate Social Work Cluster, as outlined in the agenda papers, to be offered for an additional five year period until 2025.

3.4 Course Review and Re-Approval Master of Teaching (Primary and Secondary) Cluster

RESOLVED 2020/63

that consequent upon the review of the Master of Teaching (Primary and Secondary) Cluster, Academic Senate re-approve the courses within the Master of Teaching (Primary and Secondary) Cluster, as outlined in the agenda papers, to be offered for an additional five year period until 2025

3.5 Bachelor of Neuroscience (3057) New Course

RESOLVED 2020/64

that Academic Senate approve the proposal to introduce the Bachelor of Neuroscience at the Wollongong Campus, as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective from Autumn Session, 2021.

3.6 Bachelor of Psychological Science – Bachelor of Neuroscience (3058) New Course

RESOLVED 2020/65

that Academic Senate approve the proposal to introduce the Bachelor of Psychological Science - Bachelor of Neuroscience at the Wollongong Campus, as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective from Autumn Session, 2021.

**3.7 Master of Public Health Practice
New Course**

RESOLVED 2020/66

that Academic Senate approve the proposal to introduce the Master of Public Health Practice (3069) at the Wollongong and South West Sydney Campuses, as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective from Autumn Session, 2021.

**3.8 Screen Media Production
New Major**

The Associate Dean (Education), Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities stated that three programs of study have been added in error and requested that the motion be amended to remove sub paragraphs 15, 16 and 17. The proposal was moved and seconded.

RESOLVED 2020/67

that Academic Senate approve the proposal to introduce the Screen Media Production major at the Wollongong Campus, in the following courses, as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective from Autumn Session, 2021:

- i. Bachelor of Communication and Media (1706)*
- ii. Bachelor of Communication and Media (Dean's Scholar) (1707)*
- iii. Bachelor of Arts - Bachelor of Communication and Media (1788)*
- iv. Bachelor of Arts - Bachelor of Communication and Media (Dean's Scholar) (1789)*
- v. Bachelor of Communication and Media - Bachelor of Commerce (1790)*
- vi. Bachelor of Communication and Media - Bachelor of International Studies (1791)*
- vii. Bachelor of Communication and Media - Bachelor of International Studies (Dean's Scholar) (1792)*
- viii. Bachelor of Communication and Media - Bachelor of Laws (1887)*
- ix. Bachelor of Communication and Media - Bachelor of Science (1793)*
- x. Bachelor of Communication and Media - Bachelor of Economics and Finance (1794)*
- xi. Bachelor of Creative Arts - Bachelor of Communication and Media (1795)*
- xii. Bachelor of Communication and Media - Bachelor of Laws (Honours) (1797)*
- xiii. Bachelor of Communication and Media - Bachelor of Computer Science (1798)*
- xiv. Bachelor of Journalism - Bachelor of Communication and Media (1796)*

**3.9 Bachelor of Computer Science Global (Honours)
Course Discontinuation**

RESOLVED 2020/68

that Academic Senate approve the proposal to discontinue the Bachelor of Computer Science Global (Honours) (385) at the Wollongong Campus, as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective from Autumn Session, 2021.

**3.10 Graduate Certificate in Public Relations
Course Discontinuation**

RESOLVED 2020/69

that Academic Senate approve the proposal to discontinue the Graduate Certificate in Public Relations (1166), as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective from Trimester 1, 2021.

**3.11 Master of Public Health Advanced
Course Discontinuation**

**Work Health and Safety
Discontinuation of Specialisation**

RESOLVED 2020/70

that Academic Senate approve the proposal to discontinue the Master of Public Health Advanced (439), and the Work Health and Safety Specialisation available in the Master of Public Health Advanced (439), as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective from Autumn Session, 2021.

**3.12 Postgraduate Work Health and Safety
Suite of Discontinuations**

RESOLVED 2020/71

that the Academic Senate approve the proposal to discontinue the following courses and specialisations, as outlined in the agenda paper, to become effective from Autumn Session, 2021:

- i. Graduate Certificate in Work Health and Safety (1198);*
- ii. Graduate Diploma in Work Health and Safety (627);*
- iii. Master of Work Health and Safety (1645);*
- iv. Master of Work Health and Safety Advanced (455);*
- v. Risk Management (MAJ41462), Ergonomics (MAJ40463); and Occupational Hygiene (MAJ40466) specialisations available in the Master of Work Health and Safety and Master of Work Health and Safety Advanced; and*
- vi. WHS Research Specialisation, available in the Master of Work Health and Safety Advanced.*

PART 4: MEMBERS' REPORTS AND QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

***4.1 Reports from Senior Executive**

The SDVC reported:

- In response to a question raised earlier in the meeting regarding the timeline of the review of Academic Senate membership and composition: This is a Council initiated review which was discussed at its August meeting; the plan is to commence the review in quarter four.
- A paper outlining targets and KPIs for next year will go to the October meeting of Council seeking approval which will come back to Senate for noting.
- AQS is now reporting to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) (DVCE) for all matters other than quality assurance.
- The SDVC made a final point in relation to agenda item 2.2, the Civic Strategy in relation to the United Nations Sustainable goals and noted that UOW will focus on aspects of those UN Sustainable goals that are in the sphere of our influence.

The DVCE reported:

- Work is underway to plan for the 2021 academic year, with the plan to return as many subjects as possible to on-campus teaching and continue to provide a large number of classes in remote delivery to meet the needs of students unable to return to campus. At this stage not expecting to return large lecture classes back to campus.
- AQS and Future Education are developing new course governance processes with a stronger focus on early assessment of viability and strategic alignment. These new processes will span UOW's full course portfolio, including microcredentials and other lifelong learning offerings.
- The annual Comparative Student Outcomes reviews have been completed.
- Work is also progressing on a new Subject and Teacher Evaluation Platform.
- UOW has committed to launching a suite of online Cyber Security postgraduate courses in early 2021 in response to the significant market demand in this area.
- Work is progressing on the procurement of an online examinations platform.
- The portfolio's priority of enabling lifelong learning continues to move towards implementation.
- As part of UOW's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), a portfolio of subjects aligned with the SDGs is being curated. An SDG Portfolio

Steering Committee has been established and Senior Professor Sharon Robinson appointed as committee chair.

- LTC Preparing to Teach Online Program which provides staff training via webinars to support Spring Session and Trimester 3 as part of the LTC Preparing to Teach Online program, bringing the staff participant total to almost 2,500.
- The LTC team joined IMTS and SASD to facilitate a new online exam help desk during August exams which will continue in Spring.
- LTC are currently working on a major project to improve the quality of our online Remote Delivery. Key initiatives of the project include: Digital health checks, Moodle site subject template pilot and learning analytics.

A member asked what constitutes a large class. The DVCE will confirm the details and email the member directly. Another member asked if there is an expectation that staff will deliver dual online and face-to-face teaching. The DVCE replied that work is underway with IMTS and Heads of School's to explore the best possible outcomes for students.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation) (DVCR&I) acknowledged the exceptional research staff; academic and professional services staff in the portfolio who work under strenuous circumstances.

- The Dean of Graduate Research, Professor Clive Baldock has commenced and is tasked with implementing the recommendations of the review of the Graduate Research School.
- The Research Strategy was approved by Council at its August meeting. A review of the Research Services Office and the Innovation and Commercial Research Unit is currently underway. Thanks to all for their submissions and input to date.
- Implemented a self-assessment and Faculty review process for external Fellowships e.g. ARC, DECRA's, Futures, and Laureates and NHMRC Investigator grants.
- The NSW DVCs are working together to develop new strategies which will benefit all NSW universities in their approach to LEAF equipment, infrastructure and grants.

***4.2 Members' Reports**

There was no business to report.

***4.3 Student Members' Report**

There was no business to report.

4.4 Questions on Notice

There were no Questions on Notice.

PART 5: FINAL BUSINESS

***5.1 Business from Academic Senate Committees**

There was no business from Academic Senate Committees.

5.2 University Education Committee (UEC) Terms of Reference

RESOLVED 2020/72

that Academic Senate review and approve the proposed changes to the UEC Terms of Reference and membership, as provided in the agenda papers.

5.3 Committee Minutes

A member asked about the survey findings reported in the University Education Committee (UEC) minutes of 10 June 2020 and asked if the surveys were pre-COVID. If so, is there a plan to conduct surveys at this stage, as it would be interesting to know how students are feeling in the current environment? The D/AQS replied that the survey was conducted during weeks, 8, 9 and 10 in relation to the transition to remote learning. The survey was jointly administered by AQS and LTC which included questions from academics about the transition processes, communication and information about the transition. The results were pleasing with a 12% overall response rate.

RESOLVED 2020/73

that Academic Senate note the minutes from the following Academic Senate Committee meetings, as attached to the agenda papers:

- i. UEC Minutes 20 June 2020 – ratified;*
- ii. URC Minutes 14 May 2020 – ratified;*
- iii. URC Minutes 3 March 2020 – ratified;*
- iv. URC Minutes 4 November 2019 – ratified;*
- v. SCDC Minutes 5 August 2020 – unratified; and*
- vi. SCDC Minutes 24 June 2020 – ratified.*

PART 6: FUTURE MEETINGS AND OTHER BUSINESS

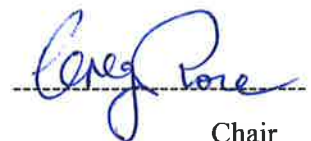
6.1 2020/21 Meeting Dates

Wednesday, 18 November 2020
Wednesday 3 March 2021
Wednesday 26 May 2021
Wednesday, 21 July 2021
Wednesday, 15 September 2021
Wednesday, 17 November 2021

***6.2 Other Business**

The meeting closed at 11.40am.

Signed as a true record:


Chair

18 November 2020
Date