



ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING MINUTES 8 March 2023

Minutes of the 364th meeting of Academic Senate held at 9:30am on Wednesday, 8 March 2023, Building 20, room 20.5 and via WebEx.

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Prof Nina Reynolds (Chair)
A/Prof Julie Kiggins (Deputy Chair)
Prof Patricia Davidson
Ms Abbey Dawson
Mr Ahsan Anees
Mr Alan Corr
Prof Ann Rogerson
A/Prof Azdiar Gazder
Mr Baley Mathai
A/Prof Chris Hyland
Prof Colin Picker
Prof David Currow
Dr David Tan
Ms Durga Tandon
S/Prof Eileen McLaughlin
Dr Elena Vlahu-Gjorgievska
Prof Faisal Hai
Dr Germanas Peleckis
Prof Guang Shi
Dr Jane Carey
Ms Jaymee Beveridge
Dr Jenny Atchison
Mr John Littrich
Prof Karen Charlton
Dr Kate Bowles
Dr Kellie Buckley-Walker
Dr Kimberley McMahan-Coleman
A/Prof Konstantin Konstantinov
Prof Lee Moerman
Dr Lisa Slater
Prof Louise Hickman
Dr Marian Wong
Mr Michael Valceski
A/Prof Montse Ros
Ms Nadia Verrucci
A/Prof Niamh Kinchin
Prof Sean Brawley
A/Prof Stephen Beirne
Prof Theo Farrell
Prof Thomas Astell-Burt
Prof Wilma Vialle
A/Prof Yanguang Yu
Prof Zhengyi Jiang

APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Dr Belinda Gibbons
Prof Danielle Skropeta
Prof Gursel Alici
A/Prof Ika Willis
Prof Sue Bennett
A/Prof Tracey Kuit
A/Prof Wanqing Li

IN ATTENDANCE:

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alex Frino (Innovation, Enterprise and External Relations)
Mr Dominic Riordan, Director, Academic Quality and Standards
Ms Jan Sullivan, Manager, Academic Policy and Standards
Dr Kellie Ridges, Director, Students Administration Services
Dr Kylie Austin, Associate Director, Student Services
Ms Margie Jantti, Director, Library
Dr Nancy Huggett, Chief Governance Officer / Secretary to Council
Professor Simon Moss, Dean Graduate Research
Ms Theresa Hoynes, Director, Student Life
Ms Marcela Herrera, Academic Senate Executive Officer
Ms Paola Ciccarelli, Interim Senior Manager, Governance Unit

OBSERVERS:

Prof Trish Mundy, Chief Integrity Officer

***1.1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies and Leave of Absence**

As this is the first meeting of the year, the Chair delivered the long version Acknowledgement of Country.

The Chair welcomed all members to the first Academic Senate meeting for the year and extended a warm welcome to those attending their first meeting, including: Professor Simon Moss, Dean, Graduate Research; Mr Alan Corr, Chief Operating Officer; A/Professor Niamh Kinchin, Head of School, BAL; A/Professor Tracey Kuit, Associate Dean (Education) SMAH (an apology); Dr Kellie Ridges, Director, Student Administration Services and three recently appointed elected student representatives, Ms Abbey Dawson and Mr Bayley Mathai (Undergraduate Student Representatives) and Ms Durga Tandon (Postgraduate Student Representative).

The Chair thanked Ms Tiana Myers, who has vacated her Undergraduate Student Representative position on Academic Senate following appointment of full-time employment, for her contributions to Academic Senate. The position will be filled in accordance with the Academic Senate Electoral Rules.

In addition, the Chair announced the apologies to the meeting and asked members to please notify the Executive Officer of any additional apologies.

1.2 Arrangement of Agenda

1.2.1 Conflicts of Interest

The Chair called for conflicts of interest with any matters before the Academic Senate. None were received.

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 Welcome, Apologies and Leave of Absence
- 1.2 Arrangement of Agenda
- 1.3 Confirmation of Minutes
- 1.4 Business / Actions Arising from Minutes
- 1.5 Chair's Report
- 1.6 Vice-Chancellor's Report
- 1.7 Academic Senate Role and Function Review
- 1.8 Membership Business
- 2.1 Presentation – GIFT City Update
- 2.2 Artificial Intelligence and Academic Risk
- 2.3 Code of Practice – Work Integrated Learning (Professional Experience)
- 2.4 External Referencing: Peer Review of Assessment Procedures Review
- 2.5 Revised Student Academic Consideration Policy
- 3.1 Master of Computing and Graduate Certificate in Computing, New Delivery Location for UOW India
- 4.1 Reports from the Senior Executive
- 4.2 Members' Reports
- 4.3 Student Members' Reports
- 4.4 Questions on Notice
- 5.1 Business from Academic Senate Committees
- 5.2 UEC Chair's Report and Education Strategy Update
- 5.5 QARG Chair's Report
- 6.2 Other Business

No other items were starred for discussion.

RESOLVED 2023/01

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

***1.3 Confirmation of Minutes**

RESOLVED 2023/02

that the minutes of the previous meeting of Academic Senate held on 9 November 2022, as attached to the agenda paper, be confirmed and signed as a true record.

***1.4 Business/Actions Arising from the Minutes**

The Chair reported that action item 1.7 Members Business from Academic Senate meeting on 9 November 2022 remains in progress. An update on the progress on Member Business will be provided, under agenda item *1.8.

***1.5 Chair's Report**

The Chair and Deputy Chair reported as follows:

- **NSW OzCabs**

The Deputy Chair attended the Australian Committee of Chairs of Academic Boards/Senates (OzCabs) at ANU Canberra on Friday, 24 February 2023, on behalf of the Chair.

The Deputy Chair reported that the main items discussed at OzCabs were Artificial Intelligence and ChatGPT. Another item discussed was the Australian Universities Accord. The Chair of OzCABS will be meeting with the Chair of Australian Universities Accord to discuss the role of Academic Boards and Senate in higher education. The Australian Universities Accord was identified as an opportunity to discuss what Australia needs heading into the future. It highlighted that university academic governance is often overlooked and that a systematic voice is required for university governance. TEQSA Guidance Note was also discussed as was the relationship between Academic Boards and the University Council.

In closing the Deputy Chair noted that the Chair of OzCABS has submitted a response to TEQSA regarding the revised guidance note related to academic governance. A key issue is that the guidance does not seem to recognise the essential nature of academic governance in self-accrediting providers.

- **Academic Senate facilitating the Academic Voice Workshops**

The Chair provided an update on the first Academic Voice workshop, which is being held at UOW Moss Vale Campus on Monday 17 April 2023. She advised that invitations have been issued to elected members, who are not part of Senate by virtue of their position, and other invited stakeholders.

The Chair requested that if any elected members are not able to attend, to nominate a colleague of equal classification to attend in their stead, allowing for as many academics to be involved as possible.

The Chair advised if other members have a question they wish to be discussed at the workshop, to submit the question in writing and send it via email to the Chair directly for further discussion and consideration.

RESOLVED 2023/03

that Academic Senate note the verbal update as provided by the Chair and Deputy Chair of Academic Senate at the meeting.

***1.6 Vice-Chancellor’s Report**

The VC welcomed all members back to the academic year expressing optimism for 2023 and the progressive return of more people on campus. She noted that it was pleasing to move forward following the effects of the pandemic but that the University also must focus on how to future-proof for the years to come.

The VC highlighted the following matters:

- The results from the recent Student Engagement Survey are very pleasing and are a testament to how hard staff are working.
- It was very gratifying to see ten alumni and community members be named on the Australian Honours List.
- The support from the community on the University’s stance on Australia Day was gratifying and the response from the community was respectful. It was reassuring to see that people were able to respond as per their own preferences and encouraged to continue debate and dialogue on the referendum.
- The International Woman’s Day event held was a wonderful reminder of why we celebrate women.
- Whilst the University is moving forward, and the financial situation is improving, the University must remain cautious as it is still in the process of recovery from the pandemic. The improvement is greatly due to staff taking annual leave which positively impacted the bottom line. Staff are encouraged to take Long Service Leave entitlements, and make arrangements to schedule the leave. Student loads continues to impact the University financially.
- The University has been fortunate to have a close engagement with the [Australian Universities Accord](#), especially with the appointment of the Chancellor to the NSW Chancellor and Vice Chancellor Working Group. The Accord Discussion Paper is available for comment and staff are highly encouraged to submit their feedback. One of the key areas the VC is investigating, is how the University remains an anchor institution in the community in addition to research funding, which is always a challenge.
- The University continues to offer scholarships to students that would otherwise not attend UOW. In addition, the University is looking at increasing opportunities for PhD scholarships.
- The Student Advisory Council has a new focus this year in acknowledging and working in greater collaboration with the student voice and the positive impact on UOW’s sustainability.

In closing, the VC thanked the recruitment teams and the faculties recognising the significant work undertaken over the past few months, noting that their efforts have resulted in a strong sense of optimism for the University.

RESOLVED 2023/04

that Academic Senate note the verbal update as provided by the Vice-Chancellor at the meeting.

***1.7 Academic Senate Role and Function Review**

The Deputy Vice- Chancellor (Strategic & Assurance) (DVC (S&A)) provided the following update:

- The Academic Senate Role and Function Review working group has met twice (in December and in February).
- The benchmarking undertaken showed that Academic Senate is closely aligned with academic governance requirements as set out in the Higher Education Standards Framework.
- Early results from the Academic Senate Survey indicates that respondents are broadly satisfied with Academic Senate’s role and function.
- The working group has also been discussing the composition of subcommittees and the potential to increase focus on areas where information to Senate could be more robust by applying the risk lens on how sub-committees best represent the use and views of Senate.
- The next steps include.
 - The next meeting of the working group is to be scheduled in late March/early April.
 - A draft report will be presented to the Council meeting on 14 April 2023.
 - An extraordinary meeting of Academic Senate be scheduled for mid May to discuss the draft report.
 - A draft report on the findings will be provided at the Academic Senate meeting on 31 May 2023.

In closing, the DVC (S&A) advised that a requirement as per the TEQSA guidelines strongly advocates for an internal review to be completed prior to an external review. The results from both the internal and external reviews will be informative to Senate and extremely important towards UOW’s re-registration in March 2025.

RESOLVED 2023/05

that Academic Senate note the verbal update on the Academic Senate Role and Function Review as provided at the meeting.

***1.8 Membership Business**

The Chair warmly thanked Professor Trish Mundy who was a previous elected member of Academic Senate as a Head of School, representing BAL, for her contributions to Senate. As Professor Mundy has taken up the position of Chief Integrity Officer, she is no longer an elected member of Senate. Her term, which ends on 30 June 2023, has been filled casually by A/Professor Niamh Kinchin as nominated by Executive Dean of BAL.

Several amendments are proposed to the Academic Senate membership list which include amendments to position and portfolio titles of ex-officio members and the removal of one ex-officio member, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students). As a result, the changes will decrease Academic Senate by one member.

Student Vacancies

There are currently two undergraduate student vacancies on Academic Senate. Both vacant positions will be filled via an Expression of Interest process. To ensure we reach the broader student cohort, student communications will be sent out on Monday 13 March on the MYUOW app and Current Students Socials and will run for one week, until 21 March 2023. The EOIs will be reviewed by a panel of staff and consideration will be given to optimising representation across various student cohorts and interests.

RESOLVED 2023/06

that Academic Senate:

- (i) note that a vacant position on Academic Senate for a Faculty Academic Staff Member (Head of School) in the Faculty of Business and Law has been filled by Associate Professor Niamh Kinchin for the term 24 February 2023 to 30 June 2023;
- (ii) note the verbal update on the student casual vacancies; and
- (iii) note the administrative amendments to the Academic Senate Membership listing, as provided at the meeting and in the agenda paper.

PART 2: GENERAL BUSINESS

*2.1 Presentation – An update on the GIFT City Initiative and Progress

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Innovation, Enterprise and External Relations) (SDVC (IE/ER)) spoke to the presentation and highlighted the following key points:

- This presentation has been presented to the University Council.
- This initiative in GIFT City India has not been without challenges as India is a complicated place to do business.
- GIFT City stands for Gujarat International Finance-Tec City.
- The reason this initiative is a positive way forward for UOW is because of the potential in India, as it is the largest student market globally. In comparison to China, India's population is younger with the largest number of people between the ages of 18 and 22 years which is set to peak at 126 million in 2026.
- Currently, UOW and UOWD's enrolment records show that one-third of all enrolments are from India, proving the extensive demand from the Indian community for an education from UOW.
- The changes brought about by the major higher education regulatory reform in 2022 now permits collaboration with Indian universities. And, regulation opened the opportunity permitting foreign universities to establish within GIFT City on a stand alone basis.
- This is a welcome opportunity for UOW to create a campus in India for students that may otherwise have great difficulties studying at UOW.
- It is expected that on commencement, in September 2023, there will be a minimum of 30 enrolled students, initially teaching will include UOWD staff on a fly-in/fly-out basis, with Master of Computing, being the initial program, followed by a Master of finance and master of FinTech. All going well, Undergraduate programs will be later offered.

In closing Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Innovation, Enterprise and External Relations) advised Senate members that a submission of a formal Application to GIFT City will be submitted on Friday 10 March 2023 and expects activity thereafter to progress quickly.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global) affirmed that all students of UOWD and GIFT City receive the same degree following a question asked from a Senate member, if the degree achieved at GIFT City would equal that to UOW.

RESOLVED 2023/07

that Academic Senate note the presentation on the GIFT City India initiative as presented at the meeting.

*2.2 Artificial Intelligence and Academic Risk

The Chair advised Academic Senate members that she wished to introduce a new initiative at Academic Senate meetings, allowing for open discussion on set agenda topic/item and that the item at this meeting would be Artificial Intelligence and Academic Risk.

The Chair mentioned that with the rise of applications such as ChatGPT, there has been much discussion within UOW, OzCabs and in popular media regarding the potential impact of artificial intelligence on academia. As these changes are fast moving and, although separate discussions are happening locally

in various faculties and portfolios, the University has not had the opportunity to reflect on how best to respond, nor have all the areas of potential impact or how to respond collectively as an institution. The Chair suggests, that ideally, UOW should be considering changes such as these through the lens of risk and has included this item to be an attempt for this.

The Chair invited Director, Academic Quality and Assurance (D/AQS) to provide a brief overview of UOW's risk appetite as it relates to academic accountabilities. The D/AQS shared the following:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology is a significant technology with broad implications for the education sector but is also causing risk in higher education due to the potential of misuse therefore the University needs to identify and manage the risks.
- The University must adhere to the National Higher Education Standards and is expected to comply, making management of risk a matter of compliance to the Standards.
- The Higher Education Standards Framework speaks of risks; in students using AI to prepare assessments and the possibilities of plagiarism; the risk to University Council and academic governance and their obligations to ensure that risks must be monitored, so this is a concern allocated to Academic Senate to monitor; and
- The University has a Risk Management Framework and a Risk Appetite Statement that states the University has no appetite for non-compliance with Standards, but it has an appetite for educational innovation. This is an opportunity for change and must be ongoingly wary to detect and manage foreseeable risks.

The Chair invited the following members to provide a brief overview of the opportunities/risks in their portfolios.

- Professor Farrell for Teaching and Learning,
- Professor Rogerson in relation to Academic Integrity,
- Professor Currow in relation to Research,
- Professor Moss in relation to the HDR space, and
- Associate Professor Kiggins will also give us an update on the discussion in the area from the OzCabs meeting.

A summary of the comments follows:

- Risk and opportunity coexist. Careful consideration is being given to generative AI tools such as ChatGPT. We need to undertake measures to enhance academic integrity and assessment and research security whilst also seizing opportunities to harness the opportunities genAI tools present to innovate our learning, teaching, assessment and research.
- Teaching students to understand the University's values will mitigate inappropriate use of AI as most students chose to do the right thing. We need to experiment with genAI tools and innovate our learning, teaching and assessment if we are to empower our students for their future while our staff are supported in leveraging the opportunities afforded by artificial intelligence in teaching, research and governance.
- We also need to have an ethical lens, identify biases and distribution of data. Other concerns are from an institutional perspective, for example, the University's data storage and where artificial intelligence data sits, if not in the Cloud.
- Universities across NSW, Australia and the world are all on a learning journey, to understand genAI and the capabilities of tools that can detect use of genAI. UOW will be following this sector-wide discussion closely and collaborating with our university partners to identify and diffuse best practice.

Following the above comments from selected speakers, the Chair opened the floor for discussion.

A summary of the comments and observations follow:

- At a conference recently attended, a Microsoft employee had announced that AI would be included in Microsoft 365 within months.
- ChatGPT is a good tool to provide consultation and more awareness needs to be communicated as some areas of the University are familiar with it while others are not.
- AI introduces significant challenges and the University needs to investigate what initiatives are currently available in the sector.
- At present it is impossible to provide set guidelines to students on how and when ChatGPT can be used due to the fast-paced changes.
- The University can take this opportunity to work with industry and be leaders in this space.

The Chair thanked members for their contributions and noted that this is a great opportunity for UOW to be leaders in working with artificial intelligence.

The VC congratulated the Chair for this initiative and for providing the opportunity for an open and robust discussion on a critical topic.

RESOLVED 2023/08

that Academic Senate note the issues raised in the members' discussion on Artificial Intelligence and Academic Risk as provided in the agenda paper.

***2.3 Code of Practice – Work Integrated Learning (Professional Experience)**

The Director, Academic Quality and Standards (D/AQS), spoke on the Code of Practice – Work Integrated Learning (Professional Experience) and highlighted that a review and changes to the Code of Practice are required to ensure it aligns with the Fair Work Act 2009.

The Fair Work Act 2009 (the Act) provides that unpaid work is unlawful except for requirements where students must undertake unpaid work as part of a course or subject requirement. The Act stipulates that students can do placements not connected with a subject or course requirement provided that:

- (1) they are paid the correct wage,
- (2) in a volunteering capacity for a body with charitable objects with not set expectations on hours or days of work by the organisation, or
- (3) it involves observation activities and not carrying out work that adds value to the organisation.

The D/AQS advised members that some students seek support/permission from the University to undertake unpaid work that is not aligned with their field of study and the University must be cautious in these circumstances to not breach the Act.

The Code of Practice – Work Integrated Learning has been updated to instruct that the University will only support students where the above requirements can be met. Additionally, the Student Engagement and Employability Unit have created FAQs surrounding work integrated learning across the University.

In closing, the D/AQS stated that all offshore campuses must adhere to the guidelines set by their local jurisdiction and ensure that any placements are safe.

RESOLVED 2023/09

that Academic Senate:

- (i) *endorse the amendments to the Code of Practice – Work Integrated Learning (Professional Experience) as detailed in the agenda papers; and*
- (ii) *note that these provisions will be submitted to the Vice Chancellor for approval, to become effective on approval.*

***2.4 External Referencing: Peer Review of Assessment Procedures Review**

The Director, Academic Quality and Standards (D/AQS) spoke to External Referencing: Peer Review of Assessment Procedures Review and highlighted that the following matters.

External referencing is an important activity described in The Higher Education Standards Framework, to set standards of units of study and courses across the education sector. UOW, as well as most institutions, are finding external referencing a challenging requirement due to the additional obligations on subject coordinators to benchmark subjects at other institutions and to find the time required to carry out these additional activities.

The amendment sought to the External Referencing: Peer Review of Assessment Procedure is for the Academic Quality and Standards Division to take on the responsibility to facilitate the process and do more planning with faculties as, with the current process, a course enters the second cycle of approved for delivery, without having undergone external referencing.

The D/AQS informed Academic Senate that the Academic Quality Standards Division is working on other initiatives and collaborating closely with Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) and partnering with external institutions with the intent to find a sector wide solution and a broader nationwide solution on how best to comply with this requirement.

RESOLVED 2023/10

that Academic Senate endorse the revised External Referencing: Peer Review of Assessment Procedures as provided in the agenda paper and forward it to the Delegated Authority for approval.

***2.5 Revised Student Academic Consideration Policy**

The Associate Director, Student Services spoke to the revised Student Academic Consideration Policy.

The Student Academic Consideration Policy oversees how the University supports students in coping with unforeseen circumstances that may negatively influence their academic progress or their ability to finish an assessment by the due date. This Policy, which was due for review, required a review on processes and streamlining, brought about by the changes identified during the period of online learning, the changes to the student cohort and the changes to the academic workload.

A working group of students, professional and academic staff was established to ensure a methodical review. Consultation was undertaken with 180 staff, 80 students in addition to the Student Advisory Council. The changes will come into effect in Spring / Trimester 3 2023.

Some of the recommendations sought in the changes to the Policy include that academic consideration will apply only to assessment tasks worth 5% or more and the management of work placement, for students to have a single place to lodge their workplace considerations. An Academic consideration support team will review the documentation provided by students and ensure it complies with the policy which will alleviate some of the workload from academic staff, however academic staff will still need to approve the consideration. Additionally, system changes are also being sought for Spring with the assistance of an implementation group.

For Autumn, a minor change has been the implementation of a team which is monitoring students who have submitted three or more considerations and how the University best supports those students.

In response to a question raised by a member, the Associate Director, Student Services clarified that when a student submits an academic consideration, the central team will advise all subject coordinators, of the subjects the student is enrolled in, taking the responsibility from subject coordinators to a central system.

RESOLVED 2023/11

that Academic Senate:

- (i) *endorse the amendments to the Student Academic Consideration Policy as detailed in the agenda papers for Spring / Trimester 3, 2023 implementation;*
- (ii) *note the interim arrangements for implementation in Autumn / Trimester 2, 2023, and*
- (iii) *note that these provisions and consequential amendments will be submitted to the Vice-Chancellor for approval, effective immediately.*

2.6 Library Collections Policy and Copyright Policy Amendments

RESOLVED 2023/12

that Academic Senate endorse the amendments to the Library Collections Policy and Copyright Policy, as provided in the agenda papers, and forwards them to the Vice-Chancellor for approval.

2.7 ESOS National Code Audit Report 2022

RESOLVED 2023/13

that Academic Senate:

- (i) *note the ESOS National Code Audit Report 2022 as provided in the agenda paper; and*
- (ii) *endorse the recommendations within the report.*

2.8 Model Terms of Reference: Faculty Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

RESOLVED 2023/14

that Academic Senate endorse the inclusion of the Model Terms of Reference – Faculty Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee as an Appendix to the Faculty Academic Governance Policy as provided in the agenda paper.

2.9 TEQSA Re-Registration Update

RESOLVED 2023/15

that Academic Senate note the TEQSA Re-registration Update as provided in the agenda paper.

2.10 Academic Freedom Annual Attestation for 2022 Annual Report

RESOLVED 2023/16

that Academic Senate note the Academic Freedom Annual Attestation for 2022 Annual Report as provided in the agenda paper.

PART 3: COURSE APPROVALS

***3.1 Master of Computing and Graduate Certificate in Computing
New Delivery Location for UOW India**

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global) (PVC (G)) requested the agenda paper be taken as read and spoke to the Master of Computing and Graduate Certificate in Computing, to be delivered at GIFT City India.

The PVC(G) advised these course approvals align with the earlier GIFT City presentation by Senior DVC (IE/ER)) and noted that there has been extensive work carried out, since July 2022, to progress it

to the current stage. The process has seen close collaboration with the relevant school, faculties and offshore staff and every unit across the university has been involved in working parties related to the academic approval. She also highlighted that, although it is not procedurally necessary to bring course approvals to Academic Senate, it was considered important to do so to ensure an academic voice is given to students and other colleagues who are not aware of this nor had the opportunity to provide feedback.

A special thank you was expressed to the Chair of QARG and the Academic and Student Life staff for their cooperation to hold an extraordinary meeting at short notice, to ensure this could be presented at today's Academic Senate meeting.

The PVC (G) advised that one concern was raised by the Course Portfolio Development Group regarding the delivery and the regulations of the courses in comparison to main campus. The PVD(G) advised that it was published on the Indian Government's website that the courses will be 'identical or very similar' to what is delivered at main campus. This will be confirmed to UOW following the University's presentation to International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), the regulator within GIFT City that provided the licence to operate.

RESOLVED 2023/17

that Academic Senate approve the proposal to introduce the Master of Computing (3182) and the Graduate Certificate in Computing (2125) at UOW India, Gift City from September 2023, as outlined in the agenda papers, subject to the satisfaction of conditions imposed by the Course Portfolio Development Group and endorsed by the Quality Assurance Review Group, and any additional conditions imposed by the Senate, to become effective from 1 September 2023.

3.2 Fast Track Course Approvals

RESOLVED 2023/18

that Academic Senate note the use of the Fast-Track Approval Process for the new delivery location for three majors offered in the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) to be delivered at UOW Dubai, as provided in the agenda paper.

PART 4: MEMBERS' REPORTS

***4.1 Reports from Senior Executive**

The Chair invited Senior Executive members to provide portfolio reports to Academic Senate.

- ❖ The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Sustainability Futures) (DVC (R&SF)), provided the following update:
 - The Entities Review continues, with interviews, presentations, and written submissions almost complete. The review has involved people from across the university as well as two external people, who are assisting in the review of best practice and the value-add each of these groups have in addition to the people that are involve in the external reviews. A further update on the findings will be provided at the next Academic Senate meeting in May.
 - Work also continues on the new research institute guidelines that will become Research Entities Guidelines. The changes to the guidelines have been circulated to Executives and Executive Deans and to each of the entities for their comments, with closing date for feedback by Friday, 10 March 2023. In the meantime, there will be close collaboration with the Strategy and Assurance team to create a new policy in addition to the guidelines.

- A special welcome to the new Dean, Graduate Research who has already made a positive difference to the University.
- The Research Division held a planning day in February, attended by approximately 50 staff from across the University, with a focus on internal planning within the division, and reviewing the key research themes the University should take into the next decade. There is consideration to minimise the University's research themes and to align with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals and how we can best be represented on a national and international platform.

In closing, the DVC (R&SF) described the current conversations as exciting and they tie in nicely with the relaunch of Global Challenges 2.0, which will be announced in the near future. He thanked the Chair for the opportunity to deliver an update on his portfolio.

- ❖ The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) (DVC(A&SL)) highlighted the following key points:
 - In January 2023, the Student Experience Survey (SES) results for 2022 were received which showed:
 - For undergraduate overall satisfaction, our results decreased by 2.9% lower than 2019 results.
 - For postgraduate overall satisfaction, our results increased by 1.9% above 2019 results.
 - Improvements in all undergraduate scales and almost all postgraduate scales (except in Skills Development)

These results indicate good progress and a great effort by all staff across the University. However, there is much progress to be made to reach our goal of being a leading University in NSW for the student experience. Student Life has been implementing multiple work streams to improve the student life experience and working in partnership with the Student Advisory Council to improve our results for the 2023 SES.

The DVC (A&SL) thanked the Associate Director, Student Services and her team for the successful orientation program, 'It's Go Time'.

- In February 2023, the Graduate Outcomes Survey (GOS) 2022 reports were published, which specifically named UOW as one of four universities nationally that saw the largest increase in full-time employment of domestic graduates.
 - UOW full-time employment rate jumped to 80.2%. In NSW, this puts UOW ahead of UTS and WSU, but still behind UON, UNSW and USyd.
 - Nationally UOW now ranks 19/42 in UG full time employment, and UOW graduate salaries are above the national average.
 - UOW's overall employment rate increased in line with national average, and UOW now ranks 28/42 with our graduates slightly below the national average.
- In terms of the GOS, there are positive changes nationally, regarding the increase in the rate of employment and median salary of international graduates. UOW is placed below the national rates for full-time and overall employment but above the national median salary.
- Exams will continue to be offered as hybrid end of session for 2023, in four modes: non invigilated online exam, proctored online exam, centrally timetabled paper exam and school organised exams. This is not dissimilar to the model offered in Spring 2022. Eligibility criterion will continue to be applied for proctored online and centrally timetabled exams in 2023. A survey of subject coordinators earlier this year on planned exam modes for Autumn 2023, applying eligibility criteria, showed a reduction of non-invigilated online and proctored

exams, and an increase in centrally timetabled and school based exams, producing a more equal result.

- The exams portal will be opened shortly. The distribution of exam modes may change depending on the correct application of the eligibility criteria.

In closing, the DVC (A&SL) mentioned he expects an increase in centrally timetabled paper exams in 2023 to be time-bound due to the development of course-level assessment designs and the University's capabilities and practices for online assessment. It is anticipated that paper exams will decline into 2024 onwards.

- ❖ The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategy and Assurance) DVC(S&A) noted that since the last Academic Senate meeting, the Strategy and Assurance Portfolio is up and running with the new divisions now working congruently with existing divisions. He expressed great satisfaction with the calibre of the new division leaders, Chief Data and Analytics Officer, Mr Brad Dixon; Chief Risk and Assurance Officer, Mr Robert Oldfield in addition to Chief Integrity Officer, Professor Trish Mundy.

The DVC (S&A) mentioned that, as previously advised, updates on the Portfolio will be provided in Universe, with this edition containing information on the reconfiguration of the Strategy Division (previously named Strategic Planning Division).

In regard to the Australian University's Accord, the DVC (S&A) and the Chief Strategy Officer have been working on the feedback, which is due for submission by 11 April 2023. This is being managed at Executive level as per the Vice-Chancellor's direction. The work entails addressing 49 questions which contain detail as the aim is to create changes that will provide positive results for the future.

Lastly, the DVC (S&A) drew attention to the papers submitted to Academic Senate in items 2.9 *TEQSA Re-Registration Update* and thanked the Director and Manager of AQS for the work completed. He affirms the University is progressing well with the process and positive an excellent submission will be ready for September 2024. In addition, there has been good progress towards the upcoming external audit regarding ESOS in Q4 2023.

- ❖ Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global) (PVC (G)) provided the following.
 - That the University of Wollongong is a global institution with campuses in Dubai (for 30 years), newly acquired campuses in Malaysia, both in Kuala Lumpur and Penang and in Hong Kong, all which are controlled by UOW Global Enterprises. The PVC (G) position is to facilitate conversations to ensure alignment with policies and practices and the delivery of UOW awards.
 - In Malaysia, dual awards are being introduced with the Faculty of Business and Law, allowing for students in Malaysia to complete their Malaysian degree then come to Australia to complete the UOW component with recognition of prior learning resulting in two qualifications in a shorter time frame. There is also a double degree in Bachelor of Computer Science that will be commencing soon. The quality assurance agreements and financial arrangements are currently being finalised. For this, the Director, AQS, or his nominee, will be asked to join the UOW Malaysia Academic Senate to ensure adequate oversight and, in line with UOWGE practice for its entities Academic Boards, a UOW Associate Dean (International) or Associate Dean (Education) will also be sought for the UOW Malaysia Academic Senate.
 - All Academic Boards and Senates of UOW's offshore campuses report to the UOW Global Enterprises Board of Academic Governance, chaired by Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor

(Innovation, Enterprise and External Relations) and has representation from UOW members enabling lines of communication to foster success.

- In Hong Kong, the University is looking at implementing a validation model and receiving welcomed cooperation from faculties in identifying the most suitable model and what that would represent. In addition, an announcement will be made shortly on the appointment of a President at the Hong Kong campus, pending final approvals.
- In Dubai, there is current work underway to introduce additional courses in psychological science, public health and exercise science in the near future, which will be tying in with the Sports Strategy.

RESOLVED 2023/19

that Academic Senate note the verbal updates as provided by the Senior Executives at the meeting.

***4.2 Members' Reports**

There were no reports.

***4.3 Student Members' Report**

A postgraduate student representative wanted to express his gratitude to Jackson Cocks for the incredible work he carried out, especially as he served on Senate and Council at the same time. The postgraduate student representative informed Senate that he has been elected as the new Chair of SAC, and is looking forward to working with everyone, building relationships with partners and build a framework this year to facilitate the student body, where students can come together.

***4.4 Questions on Notice**

There were no questions on notice.

PART 5: ACADEMIC SENATE COMMITTEE BUSINESS

***5.1 Business from Academic Senate Committees**

RESOLVED 2023/20

that Academic Senate committee members and chairs are invited to provide verbal updates on their committees at this point.

***5.2 UEC Chair's Report and Education Strategy Update**

RESOLVED 2023/21

that Academic Senate note the University Education's Chair's Report as provided in the agenda paper.

5.3 UEC Terms of Reference

RESOLVED 2023/22

that Academic Senate approve the University Education Committee Terms of Reference as provided in the agenda paper.

5.4 UEC Work Plan 2023

RESOLVED 2023/23

that Academic Senate note the University Education Committee 2023 Work Plan as provided in the agenda paper.

***5.5 QARG Chair's Report**

RESOLVED 2023/24

that Academic Senate note the Quality Assurance Review Group Chair's Report as outlined in the agenda paper.

5.6 QARG Terms of Reference Proposed Amendment

RESOLVED 2023/25

that Academic Senate approve the proposed amendments to the QARG Terms of Reference as provided in the agenda paper.

5.7 Committee Minutes

RESOLVED 2023/26

that Academic Senate note the minutes from the following Academic Senate Committees and affiliate UOW entity meetings, as set out in the agenda paper:

- (i) Minutes of QARG meeting – 13 October 2022 (ratified) and 17 November 2022 (unratified).*
- (ii) Minutes of UEC meeting – 22 October 2022 (ratified); and*
- (iii) Minutes of the UOWGE Board of Academic Governance meeting – 29 November 2022 (unratified).*

PART 6: FUTURE MEETINGS AND OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Next Meetings


Wednesday 31 May 2023
Wednesday 26 July 2023
Wednesday 20 September 2023
Wednesday 8 November 2023

***6.2 Other Business**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) noted that consideration be given to rearrange Part 4 of the agenda to include Student Member's Report to be reallocated to 4.1 (instead of 4.3). This would give student members ample time to provide an update/report prior to Senior Executives, as this item is regularly rushed due to time constraints. The Chair advised this has been noted and will be considered.

The meeting closed at 11:58am

Signed as a true record:



Chair, Academic Senate

Date: 1 / 6 / 2023