



UOW COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

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 18 August 2023.

Council welcomed the new Chief Operating Officer and Vice-President Operations, Mr Adam Malouf, and the new Chief of Staff, Mr Jordan Mathews to their first meeting of Council.

Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Report

The Vice-Chancellor highlighted the following items:

- Spring semester is in full swing with lots of activities and events being held. These include the National Science Week, and the Illawarra Clean Energy Expo. Council members were thanked for their support of the recent Vice-Chancellor's Staff Awards.
- Student enrolments remain strong for Spring Session. This was supported by short presentations from both the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) and the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor. Council noted that Census date for Spring Session is on 31 August 2023.
- An interim report of the Australian Universities Accord has been provided. An online briefing session which provided an overview of key insights, priority actions and highlighted larger issues for consideration was made available to Council members. UOW's response to the interim report is due on 1 September 2023. Feedback can be provided to the Strategy Division. The Accord is a major milestone for the sector and UOW's continuing engagement with the process remains very important as outcomes will strongly shape the future directions of higher education.
- Sexual violence at universities has also been the subject of considerable national media attention and the Federal Education Minister, Jason Clare MP, has called on universities to do better in responding to this issue. UOW is making progress in this area as demonstrated in the SARC Annual Report.
- With regards to addressing the 2023 Budget trajectory, measures are being actively pursued to address expenditure including recruitment management, leave balances, procurement, and other discretionary expenses.
- Staff Payments Remediation has been a major focus and all aspects are being examined. The University is working with the Fair Work Ombudsmen's Office on this issue.
- The sad passing of Professor Justin Yerbury and a celebration of his life was recently held at the University Hall. A fund-raising initiative towards an Endowed Chair in Neurodegenerative Diseases to honour his legacy and carry forward his important work has been established.

UOW Multicampus Vision Statement and Guiding Principles

The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) presented on the UOW Multicampus Future Vision and Guiding Principles noting that there is a greater focus on digital learning, services and systems with a less focus on new buildings.

Liverpool Growth Strategy

The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (SDVC), the Chief Operating Officer (COO), the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Health) (PVC Health) presented on the Liverpool Growth Strategy. The refreshed strategy focuses on taking the University forward for the next 5-10 years, speaks to the wider footprint of UOW and seeks whole of institution engagement to harness growth opportunities.

GIFT City in India

The UOWGE Chief Executive Officer and UOW Chief Operating Officer provided an update on the GIFT City in India initiative, outlining the key responsibilities of UOW and of UOWGE and next steps.

Council Committee Business

The Chancellor advised Council that after much consideration that she had decided to step down from her role as Chancellor later this year due to increasing challenges in balancing her role as Chancellor with her other professional business and not-for-profit responsibilities. While a difficult decision to make, the Chancellor wanted

to ensure that University could move forward appropriately.

The Deputy Chancellor stated that the stepping down of Chancellor McLoughlin AM will be a loss to the University but that her circumstances and reasoning are well appreciated. He thanked the Chancellor for her outstanding efforts on behalf of the University. A media release can be found [here](#).

Council Committee Meeting dates for 2024 were approved.

Council noted the Academic Senate 2023 Mid-Year Chair's Report and the unratified minutes of

- (i) Risk, Audit and Compliance Committee meeting held on 16 May 2023;
 - (ii) Cybersecurity Committee meeting held on 19 July 2023
 - (iii) Academic Senate meeting held on 26 July 2023;
 - (iv) Finance and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 26 July 2023;
- and the ratified minutes of the:
- (v) Academic Senate meeting held on 17 May 2023 and 31 May 2023;
 - (vi) Finance and Infrastructure Committee meeting held 10 May 2023;
 - (vii) Cybersecurity Committee meeting held on 4 May 2023;
 - (viii) People and Culture Committee meeting held on 1 June 2023.

Click [here](#) for more information about Council Committees.

UOW Policy approvals:

Council approved:

- The new Complaints Management Policy
- the rescission of the UOW Grievance Policy
- amendments to the Delegations of Authority Policy and
- amendments to the Alcohol and Drugs in the Workplace Policy.

Click [here](#) for more information about UOW Policies

Reports to Council

Council approved the final report of Academic Senate Role and Function Review.

Council also received the following reports and updates:

- SARC Annual Report: Sexual Harm and Prevention.
- Financial Update June 2023
- Financial Benchmarking Year Ended 31 December 2022
- Workplace Health and Safety Report
- Workforce Diversity Update
- Voice Survey Update
- Key Performance Indicators Report
- Academic Integrity Report 2022
- Student Complaints and Appeals Report 2022
- UOW Global Enterprises Progress Report
- UOW Pulse Report Ltd Progress Report.

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for Friday, 13 October 2023. Click [here](#) for further information about Council.