



UOW COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The following non-confidential matters, which may be of interest to the staff and students of the University, were considered by the University Council at its meeting of 21 June 2019.

Vice-Chancellor's Report

The Vice-Chancellor provided an update on the following Higher Education sector matters:

- The outcome of the Federal Election is now known, and with no change in Government, a certain amount of continuity is provided for the sector.
- A number of reviews remain on foot, including the Performance Standards review which is being led by the Vice-Chancellor.
- The French Report on Freedom of Speech continues to be a material issue for universities [a separate update was provided within the agenda papers].

The Vice-Chancellor briefly highlighted the following items:

- Enterprise Bargaining has seen positive progress, with the Professional Services Staff Enterprise Agreement put to a staff vote and supported by 96% of voters. The Agreement is now with the Fair Work Commission for final sign-off. The Academic Staff Enterprise Agreement is close to finalisation with the NTEU. It is hoped that it will have been put to a staff vote before the next Council meeting.
- The University of Wollongong was named among the nation's most inclusive employers at the Australian LGBTI Inclusion Awards on Friday, 24 May. Along with this award, UOW has also been recognised through the Athena Swan program's Bronze Award, and the Workplace Gender Equity Employer of Choice Award, and is one of only three Australian universities to be triple-badged in this space. These recognitions highlight the positive changes being implemented across UOW to foster the equity, diversity and inclusion strategy.
- The UOW Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) will be launched in July. The Vice-Chancellor commended the work of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Health & Communities) and the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Inclusion and Outreach) and described the RAP as an outstanding plan which is expected to transform Aboriginal education and Aboriginal affairs at UOW.

The Vice-Chancellor noted a number of collaborations that UOW is currently involved in with other institutions, including:

- The 2019 University Global Partnership Network (UGPN) annual conference was held at North Carolina State University from 1-3 April. The conference was attended by over 80 researchers from the University of Surrey, University of Sao Paulo, North Carolina State University and UOW. Professors Jennifer Martin and Tim Marchant led the UOW delegation, which included 10 UOW researchers. The 2020 UGPN Conference will be hosted by UOW, and is scheduled to be held from Monday, 30 March to Wednesday, 1 April 2020 at the Innovation Campus.
- The Vice-Chancellor and UOW Alumni Relations Team will host a UOW networking event to showcase research impact in London on Friday 28 June, following the THE Young Universities Summit which is being co-hosted by UOW and the University of Surrey from 26-28 June.
- The NUW Alliance is continuing its work, with a board meeting held earlier in the week at which the Alliance approved an energy cluster project involving researchers from across the three institutions which will provide an integrated framework to explore energy-related innovations.

2020-2025 Strategic Plan Refresh – White Paper

Council received a White Paper on the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan Refresh. The Vice-Chancellor spoke to the item, which had been developed following the earlier creation of a Green Paper, and which had involved significant consultation with key stakeholders from across the University. Council were advised that the aspirational paper will now be presented to staff as an information tool during the development of the next Strategic Plan. The strategic planning process will follow a similar process to that previously used, including sessions attended by staff across differing parts of the University to promote cross-fertilisation of ideas.

Presentations to Council

Council received two presentations:

- A presentation from Ms Melva Crouch, Chief Finance Officer, which covered the achievements and upcoming priorities within her portfolio.
- A presentation from Professor Charles Areni, the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Business, on the activities and goals of the Faculty of Business.

Reports to Council

Council received updates on the following matters:

- University Annual Report and Annual Review 2018;
- Operational Plan Mapping to 2016-2020 Strategic Plan;
- UOW Key Performance Indicators Report;
- UOW Finance Report for February 2019;
- 2018 'Voice' Survey Report Update;
- WHS Report for January and February 2019;
- Independent Review of Freedom of Speech in the Australian HE Sector;
- Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct Report 2018;
- Student Complaints and Advocacy Reports 2018; and
- The use of the UOW Common Seal.

UOW Policy Amendments

Council approved amendments to the General Course Rules and the Delegations of Authority Policy. Both policies can be found on the UOW Policy Directory:

<https://www.uow.edu.au/about/policy/alphalisting/index.html>

Academic Senate

Council received the unratified minutes of the 15 May 2019 meeting for noting. More information about Academic Senate is found here: <https://www.uow.edu.au/about/governance/governance-structure/academic-senate/>

Committee Business

Council received unratified minutes from the 15 May 2019 meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee for noting. For more information about Council Committees see:

<https://www.uow.edu.au/about/governance/governance-structure/university-council/finance-and-resources-committee/>

Controlled Entities Business

Council received the following reports from Controlled Entities:

- UOW Global Enterprises 2018 Annual Report and Progress Report; and
- UOW Pulse Ltd 2018 Annual Report and Progress Report.

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for Friday, 9 August 2019.