

# COUNCIL NON-CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES



Minutes of the 511<sup>th</sup> meeting of **COUNCIL** held at 2.00 pm on **Monday 12 October 2020** via Zoom.

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**PRESENT**

Mr David Gonski AC, Chancellor  
Mr Warwick Negus, Deputy Chancellor (departed at 3.00 pm)  
Professor Ian Jacobs, President and Vice-Chancellor  
Professor David Cohen, President of the Academic Board  
Dr Jennifer Alexander  
Dr Raji Ambikairajah  
Ms Maxine Brenner  
Mr Jack Campbell  
Mr Matthew Grounds AM  
Mr Mark Johnson  
Associate Professor Louise Lutze-Mann  
Professor Kristy Muir  
Mr James Rogers  
Mr Constantine Tsounis  
Ms Jennifer Westacott AO

**APOLOGIES** Nil

**IN ATTENDANCE** Professor Eliathamby Ambikairajah, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Enterprise  
Professor Eileen Baldry, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Equity Diversity & Inclusion  
Professor Merlin Crossley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic  
Ms Fiona Docherty, Vice-President, External Engagement  
Professor Nicholas Fisk AM, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research  
Ms Shahina Mohamed, Chief Operating Officer, President and Vice-Chancellor's Office  
Professor Anne Simmons AM, Provost (departed 3.30 pm / returned 4.20 pm)  
Mr Andrew Walters, Vice-President, Finance & Operations  
Mr David Ward, Vice-President, Human Resources  
Scientia Professor George Williams AO, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Planning & Assurance

Present for Item 10  
Mr Darren Goodsir, Chief Communications Officer

**SECRETARY** Mr James Fitzgibbon, Director of Governance  
Mr Mark Smith, Deputy Director of Governance

*For convenience, agenda items were taken out of order.*

## PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### 1. Welcome, apologies and leave of absence

The Chancellor expressed his respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and extended his respects and acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of all the lands from which members and attendees were joining the Council meeting.

Council noted there were no apologies for this meeting.

The Chancellor welcomed all members and attendees to the meeting and noted that Mr Jon Paparsenos, Vice-President, Philanthropy had left the University to take up a position as Vice-

President, Philanthropy at Seton Hall University in the United States and that this was the last meeting for Mr David Ward, Vice-President, Human Resources as he had applied for, and accepted, a voluntary redundancy from the University.

The Chancellor, on behalf of Council, took the opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding contributions to the University of Mr Paparsenos and Mr Ward and wished them well for their respective futures.

The Chancellor also acknowledged that Ms Elizabeth Grinston, General Counsel and University Secretary was unable to attend this meeting and had sent an apology.

## **2. Declarations of interest and conflicts of interest**

### **RESOLVED**

Council received and noted the declarations and conflicts of interest provided at this meeting.

### **Note for the record**

Council noted:

- the Chancellor declared an interest in Item 7.4 Bank Debt Raising Update given his position as Chairman of ANZ Bank;
- Dr Jennifer Alexander advised that she had ceased to be a non-executive director of Relationships Australia (NSW) from 30 September 2020;
- Dr Raji Ambikairajah advised of her appointment to a full-time role from mid-October 2020 to Amazon where she would lead digital innovation across Australia and NZ for the public sector, focusing on the use of cloud technology to tackle systemic and social challenges across the public sector; and
- Mr James Rogers declared that his partner was an employee with UNSW Global.

Council agreed to note the various interests and that there were no conflicts for the Chancellor, Dr Alexander, Dr Ambikairajah and Mr Rogers for this meeting and that they remain present for all items.

## **3. Minutes of previous meetings and business arising (other than business in this agenda)**

### **3.1 Minutes of Council meeting held on 17 August 2020**

#### **RESOLVED**

Council confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 17 August 2020 as an accurate record and authorised the Chancellor to sign them.

### **3.2 Matters arising and business carried forward**

Council noted that all matters arising and business carried forward were either completed or in progress.

## **4. Adoption of items for noting and approval, and starring of items**

Council received and carried a motion for the adoption of the non-confidential and confidential items for noting.

Given Mr Negus needed to depart the meeting at 3.00 pm the Chancellor moved to Item 7 Finance and Business Committee Report.

## MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY

### 5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor to Council

- 5.1 Update on Organisational Change
- 5.2 Educational Delivery and Student Load
- 5.3 Return to Campus

### 6. Report on the proceedings of the Academic Board

Professor Cohen spoke to this item.

Professor Cohen highlighted for Council:

- the election of Dr Ann Kayis-Kumar as the new Deputy President of the Academic Board given the voluntary redundancy taken by Associate Professor Graham Forsyth;
- the need to postpone Academic Board and Faculty Board elections until the beginning of 2021 – Council noted that the Director of Governance and the President of the Board would provide a paper to the December 2020 meeting on this matter; and
- the Board's review of General Education.

Council discussed with Professor Cohen the PhD Program Review. Professor Cohen advised Council that the Dean of Graduate Research presented the findings from the Review and that the next stage would involve identifying achievable actions and establishing working groups to assess the direction of the PhD. This would address both the traditional route of PhD students moving into academia as well as developing an entrepreneurial route for PhD students.

The Chancellor thanked Professor Cohen for his report.

#### 6.1 Report to Council by President of the Academic Board

**RESOLVED**

Council received and noted the report to Council by the President of the Academic Board.

#### 6.2 Unconfirmed Minutes of Academic Board meeting held on 15 September 2020

**RESOLVED**

Council received and noted the unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Board meeting held on 15 September 2020.

#### 6.3 Report on the establishment of a Degree, Diploma, Certificate or Other Award Program by Academic Board

**RESOLVED**

Council received and noted the report on the establishment of a Degree, Diploma, Certificate or Other Award Program by Academic Board.

#### 6.4 Academic Board Nominee for Honorary Degrees Committee

**RESOLVED**

Council:

1. received and noted the recommendation from the Academic Board on a nominee for the Honorary Degrees Committee; and
2. approved the reappointment of Emeritus Professor Richard Henry AM to the Honorary Degrees Committee in the position of Academic Board Nominee for a term of office from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2022.

## **7. Finance and Business Committee Report**

- 7.1 Unconfirmed Confidential Minutes of Finance and Business Committee Meeting held on 29 September 2020**
- 7.2 August 2020 Group Financial Summary**
- 7.3 Q3 Forecast 2020-22**
- 7.4 Bank Debt Raising Update**
- 7.5 A\$ Medium Term Note Programme**

## **8. Audit Committee Report**

- 8.1 Unconfirmed Confidential Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2020**
- 8.2 Report on red-rated Internal Audit Actions**

## **9. 2025 Council Sub-Committee Report**

- 9.1 Unconfirmed Confidential Minutes of 2025 Council Sub-Committee Meeting held on 29 September 2020**

## **10. Presentation – Foreign Interference**

### **ITEMS FOR APPROVAL AND NOTING**

#### **11. Register of Use of Seal and University Name and Arms**

#### **12. Report of Approved Policy Documents**

##### **RESOLVED**

Council received and noted the report of Approved Policy Documents.

#### **13. Business without notice**

##### *Item 1: Council Strategy Session 9 November 2020*

The Chancellor requested the University investigate whether it was possible to hold the Council Strategy Session scheduled for Monday 9 November 2020 safely on campus as a face-to-face or hybrid meeting.

Senior management acknowledged the request and would update Council members in due course.

### **14. COUNCIL MEMBERS ONLY SESSION**

Management left the room before the start of the Council members only session.

There being no other business, the Chancellor declared the meeting closed at 4.45 pm and moved into the Council Members Only Session.

The next Council Strategy meeting will be held on 9 November 2020 and the next Council meeting will be held on 14 December 2020.

SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD  
Presiding Member

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Mr David Gonski AC  
Chancellor  
14/12/2020