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 17 August 2007.

Vice-Chancellor’s Report

- The University of Wollongong has for the first time been included in the Academic Ranking of World Universities index produced by Shanghai Jiao Tong University. Significantly, this places UOW in the top 2-3% of research universities worldwide.
- In the 2008 Good Universities Guide the University has received the maximum five stars in four key student satisfaction categories, as well as five stars for research intensity.
- The Federal Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer Peter Dutton officially opened the new Accenture premises on the Wollongong campus on 23 July. The event was also attended by the Second Commissioners of the Australian Taxation Office and the CEO of Accenture. The company currently employs 80 people, but will expand its workforce to 150. The intention is that Accenture will move to premises at the Innovation Campus in the future.
- Professor Glenn Withers has been appointed CEO of Universities Australia. Professor Withers has extensive experience working for government, including a previous position at Deputy Secretary level in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Professor Withers has a good understanding of the sector, government and policy, and will be a strong advocate for universities.
- Spring session enrolments remain well above the DEST agreed target. There has been a 10% increase on the 2006 onshore international enrolments, a positive result which includes a significant growth in the Faculty of Informatics enrolments.
- The winter graduation ceremonies attracted around 6000 people to the campus. The Vice-Chancellor acknowledged the work of staff in the Academic Registrar’s Division and faculties in making the ceremonies a success.
- Associate Professor Sue Stanton, a historian from the Faculty of Arts, together with the Hon Fred Chaney, was invited to give the Vincent Lingiari Memorial lecture at Charles Darwin University earlier this month. Previous speakers have included Sir William Deane, Gough Whitlam and Linda Burney.
- Mr Ray Stace of the University’s Centre for Educational Development and Interactive Resources received the Australian College of Educators Award for Outstanding Achievement in Education, one of the Education sector’s most prestigious awards.
- Following the departure of Chris Edmondson in April, the University has undertaken an extensive market search for a Director of ITS, but a suitably qualified and experienced candidate was not found. As an alternative strategy, responsibility for ITS will now be taken by Damien Israel who will be responsible for both Financial Services and ITS.
- Professor Margaret Sheil has taken up her position as CEO of the Australian Research Council (ARC). While the University has produced a large number of university senior executives, including vice-chancellors, this is the first time a staff member has been appointed as CEO of the ARC, a position which is normally filled by appointments from major city institutions. Professor Sheil is a perfect appointment to the role. KPMG Executive Search has been engaged to conduct a search for suitable candidates, and Professor Lee Astheimer will act as Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

Council Membership

In accordance with clauses 17 and 18 of the University By-Law, Council appointed Ms Elizabeth Larbalestier (current WUSA President) to the casual vacancy (undergraduate student position) in the membership of the University Council until 31 December 2007.
Business from the Administrative Committee
Council received the minutes of the 24 July 2007 Administrative Committee Meeting. For further information about the Administrative Committee:

New and revised policies
The following new and amended UOW policies were approved:
- Revised Code of Practice - Honours: effective autumn session 2008
- Student Conduct Rules: effective 1 January 2008
- UOW Graduate Qualities Policy: effective 1 January 2008
- Grievance Policy and Procedures for Investigating Grievances:

Amendments were approved to the following policies in line with the revised National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students, effective immediately:
- Rules for Student Conduct and Discipline:
- Academic Grievance Policy (Coursework and Honours Students):
- Academic Grievance Policy (Higher Degree Research Students):
- Appeals against Higher Degree Research Thesis Examination Outcomes Policy:

For more information about policy at UOW go to: http://www.uow.edu.au/about/policy/

Philanthropy Presentation
The Manager Community and Partnerships made a presentation to Council on philanthropy and the various ways in which University scholarships, research and development are funded through donations and bequests. For more information about philanthropy: http://www.uow.edu.au/donations/

Occupational Health & Safety
The July 2007 Occupational Health and Safety Report was noted by Council. For further information on OH&S: http://staff.uow.edu.au/ohs/

Review of Student Associations
Council received a report and a series of recommendations resulting from a submissions process and discussion forums with student representatives on the future of the Wollongong Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and the Wollongong University Postgraduate Association (WUPA). For more information about WUSA and WUPA go to: http://wusa.uow.edu.au/ and http://www.uow.edu.au/wupa/

2008 Council and Administrative Committee dates
Council approved the following dates for Council and Administrative Committee meetings in 2008:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Meetings</th>
<th>Administrative Committee Meetings</th>
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<td>4 March</td>
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<td>18 April</td>
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<td>27 June</td>
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The next University Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday, 12 October 2007.