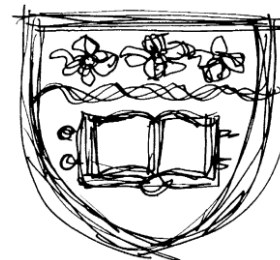


**University of Wollongong
COUNCIL SUMMARY**

222nd Council Meeting: 14 October 2011



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 14 October 2011.

Vice-Chancellor's Report

The Vice-Chancellor reported as follows:

Chancellor to Chair Government's Clean Energy Panel

The Chancellor has been asked to Chair the Federal Government's review of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation. The Corporation will provide finance to renewable energy, energy efficiency and low-emissions technologies. Further information:

<http://media.uow.edu.au/news/UOW109537.html>

Paul Wellings Visit

The Vice-Chancellor Designate will visit the University for a week from Monday 17 October and will be meeting senior staff and finding out about key initiatives during what will be a very busy schedule.

Prime Minister and Minister for Research visit the iC

The Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, and the Federal Minister for Innovation, Industry and Research, Kim Carr visited the iC on 30 August. The Prime Minister announced at the time that she would be the regional advocate for the Illawarra. The Prime Minister will be visiting the region again on Tuesday 18 October for the Regional Leadership Summit. The visit was a good opportunity to showcase the Innovation Campus to the PM.

Launch of iC Enterprise 1 by NSW Premier

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell has also visited the Innovation Campus to open the campus' \$40 million commercial building, iC Enterprise 1. For further information:

<http://media.uow.edu.au/news/UOW109754.html>

Good Universities Guide

The Good Universities Guide for 2012 was released in August. The University of Wollongong continued its outstanding performance record achieving five stars categories of "getting a job", "positive graduate outcomes", "generic skills", "graduate satisfaction / overall satisfaction" and "staff qualifications".

Times Higher World University ranking for 2011.

The Times Higher university rankings have been announced with UOW in 10th place nationally. The University still easily sits within the top 2% of universities worldwide.

Student Services and Amenities Bill

The Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities) Bill 2010 was passed with no amendments by the Senate on 11 October. The legislation enables higher education providers to impose an annual capped compulsory student fee of up to \$263 per student (with eligible students able to access a loan for the fee) to be used for student services and amenities. The amount charged is less than the previous compulsory service charge that was rescinded by the previous government but is welcomed by universities in order to restore crucial student services. More info: www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Evans/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_111011_145807.aspx

Government Response to the Knight Review

The Government has responded to the recommendations of a report into international student visas conducted by former minister, Michael Knight. Most of the report recommendations have been adopted by the Government which will be of great benefit to international student recruitment. Recommendations include provisions for post study work visas and a relaxation of the tight financial requirements applicants needed to demonstrate before receiving a student visa.

NSW Proposed Governance Amendments to University Legislation

The NSW Education Minister this week introduced changes to NSW university acts into the Parliament. The Bill includes amendments requested by chancellors and vice-chancellors to enable more flexible governance models in universities. The amendments include the capacity for universities to remunerate members of Council if they wish to do so; to provide for the removal of the Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of a university by a two-thirds majority of Council; and, more flexible Council membership provisions allowing University Councils to set their membership between 11-22 members (still including, elected, appointed and ex officio members). The Bill also allows Councils to approve the use of videoconferencing technology if they so decide. NSW universities will be able to opt-in to the new legislative provisions.

Voluntary Code of Best Practice Governance for Australian Universities

The Commonwealth and State Education Ministers have endorsed a new Voluntary Code for Best Practice Governance developed by University Chancellors.

Education Investment Fund (EIF)

The Prime Minister has announced the opening of the Regional Priorities Round of the EIF. Expressions of Interest (EOI) must be submitted by 4 November and successful applicants will be invited to develop their EOIs into detailed Stage 2 applications. The University has been deemed eligible to be considered as "regional" and will be submitting a revised bid for the Early Start Project. Info on EIF: <http://www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/EIF/Pages/EIFRegPrioRound.aspx>

Awards and Achievements

- Creative Arts Lecturer, Jacky Redgate, has won what is regarded as Australia's most prestigious photography prize, the \$25,000 William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize. Ms Redgate is one of Australia's pre-eminent photographic artists. For more than 25 years her work has been included in important national and international exhibitions and held in many major public and private collections in Australia and overseas. For further information: <http://media.uow.edu.au/news/UOW110493.html>
- In August, a Laureate Fellowship was bestowed on Professor Gordon Wallace, Executive Research Director at the ARC Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science (ACES) and Director of the Intelligent Polymer Research Institute (IPRI) which are located at the Australian Institute for Innovative Materials (AIIM) Facility at UOW's Innovation Campus. The Australian Research Council (ARC) Laureate Fellowships are highly prized awards designed to develop and retain Australian skills. It will result in funding of more than \$2.6 million over the next five years for a team of postdoctoral fellows and PhD students to work with Professor Wallace on his groundbreaking bionics research program. Further information: <http://media.uow.edu.au/releases/UOW108363.html>
- In September, Professor Abdesselam (Salim) Bouzerdoum won the 2011 Eureka Prize for Outstanding Science in support of Defence or National Security for his research on imaging systems. Professor Bouzerdoum, from the School of Electrical, Computer and Telecommunications Engineering, is leading the way in developing through-the-wall radar imaging (TWRI) systems that can 'see' objects behind walls, doors and other opaque materials. Further information: <http://media.uow.edu.au/news/UOW109976.html>
- The Sir Nicholas Shackleton Medal for the most outstanding Quaternary scientist (the Quaternary Period spans the last 2.6 million years of the Earth's history) is awarded only every two years and was recently presented at a ceremony in Switzerland to UOW scientist, Dr Zenobia Jacobs. The medal is given to an outstanding young Quaternary scientist (younger than 40 years), chosen by his or her peers and evaluated by a committee of eminent Quaternary scientists. Further information: <http://media.uow.edu.au/news/UOW110299.html>

New CEO for University of Wollongong in Dubai

Following the resignation of Professor Rob Whelan, a new President and Director of UOWD, Professor Ghassan Aouad, has been appointed. Professor Aouad has spent over 20 years in leading UK institutions with outstanding research credentials balanced with considerable leadership experience, most recently as Pro Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation and Dean of the College of Science & Technology at Salford University. Professor Aouad will take up his appointment at the start of January 2012. In the interim, David Rome, former Vice-Principal (Administration) at UOW, who has acted in the role of UOWD President previously, will be acting President. Further information: <http://media.uow.edu.au/news/UOW111659.html>

New Chair of SMART Infrastructure Facility Advisory Board

One of Australia's most influential public policy experts, Dr Ken Henry, has been appointed as Chairman of the SMART Infrastructure Facility Advisory Council. Dr Henry represented Australia at the OECD and served as the Secretary to The Commonwealth Treasury from 2001 to 2011 for the Howard, Rudd and Gillard Governments. On 1 June 2011, he was appointed as Special Advisor to the Prime Minister. Further information: <http://media.uow.edu.au/news/UOW111943.html>

Death of Rosemary Cooper

At the end of September, Rosemary Cooper, the Faculty of Commerce's Finance Manager died. Rosemary worked in the Faculty of Commerce for over 21 years and was a wonderful employee with the highest professional work ethic and standards who always had the interests of the University at heart. Throughout her career at the University Rosemary touched many people and her drive, determination and commitment led to significant improvements at both the University and Faculty level. She is and will be dearly missed.

External Appointment to Investment Advisory Committee

Following recommendations arising from the recent review of the University's Investment Strategy to appoint an external member to the Investment Advisory Committee, Mr Michael Cole, Chair of the IMB, former Chair of State Super and Executive Director and Vice-President of the Bankers Trust had agreed to join the Committee.

Vice-Chancellor accompanying the Premier's Delegation to India

The Vice-Chancellor advised that he has accepted the request of the NSW Premier that he form part of the delegation accompanying the Premier to India to develop business opportunities and relationships between NSW and India.

Youth Allowance Changes

The Federal Government has announced changes to the Youth Allowance Scheme whereby Wollongong will now qualify as "inner regional". As a consequence, eligible students will receive financial assistance and relocation costs. Further information about the Youth Allowance reforms: <http://www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/YouthAllowance/Pages/RSISROverview.aspx>

Presentation on international status and strategy

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) gave a presentation setting out the current status of its international activities and strategies towards 2020. For further information about international activities: <http://www.uow.edu.au/about/global/index.html>

University Budget 2012

Council approved the University's budget for 2012 following a presentation by the Associate Director, Finance. The budget outcomes for 2012 are for steady, manageable growth with key risks being managed, continued investment in research, an alignment with strategic financial targets and the maintenance of the University's Standard and Poor's AA credit rating.

Response to the AUQA Audit

Council approved the University's Quality Improvement Plan setting out the University's response to the AUQA Audit Report. For further information about quality and the AUQ Audit: <http://www.uow.edu.au/planquality/auqa/index.html>

Business from the Administrative Committee

Council received the minutes (unratified) of the 6 September 2011 meeting of the Administrative Committee. For further information regarding the Administrative Committee: <http://www.uow.edu.au/governance/committees/council/UOW000319.html>

Business from the Audit Management & Review Committee

Council received the minutes (unratified) of the 5 August 2011 meeting of the Audit Management & Review Committee. For further information regarding the Audit Committee: <http://www.uow.edu.au/governance/committees/council/UOW000269.html>

Business from the Innovation Campus Oversight Committee

Council received a progress report on the developments at the Innovation Campus and the minutes of the past iC Oversight Committee meeting held on 5 August 2011. For further information regarding the Innovation Campus: <http://www.innovationcampus.com.au/>

Occupational Health & Safety

Council noted the August 2011 OH&S Report. For further information about OH&S:

<http://staff.uow.edu.au/ohs/>

Student Representation and Advocacy

Council received a report on activities and 2011 budget from the Wollongong Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and a report on activities from the Wollongong University Postgraduate Association (WUPA). It also received the Student Advocacy Officer's Annual Report and the minutes from the last Student Representative Forum. For more information on Student Representation and Advocacy:

WUSA: <http://wusa.uow.edu.au/>

WUPA: <http://www.uow.edu.au/wupa/>

Student Advocacy Officer: <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/advocacy/index.html>

Student Representative Forum: <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/representation/index.html>

Reports from Controlled Entities

Council received progress reports from the University's controlled entities. For further information:

ITC Group of Companies: <http://www.itc.com.au>

UniCentre: <http://unicentre.uow.edu.au/index.htm>

URAC: <http://www.urac.com.au/>

Policy approvals

The following new and revised UOW Rules and Policies were approved by Council:

- Revised University Examinations Rules
- Amendments to the Higher Degree Research Rules within the General Course Rules
- Amendment to the Supplementary Assessment Guidelines
- New Public Interest Disclosures Policy
- Revised Children in the Workplace and Study Environment Policy

The new and revised Rules and Policies can be accessed online via the Policy Directory:

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

Proposed 2012 Council and its Committees' Meeting Dates

Dates for the 2012 meetings of Council and its Committees were approved as follows:

| Council | Administrative Committee | Audit Management & Review Cte | iC Oversight Committee | Ceremonial & Hon Awards |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 10 February | 13 March | 10 February | 10 February | 13 April |
| 13 April | 22 May | 30 March | 13 April | 19 October |
| 22 June | 17 July | 17 August | 17 August | |
| 17 August | 11 September | 7 December | 7 December | |
| 19 October | 6 November | | | |
| 7 December | | | | |

For further information regarding Council and its Committees, refer to

<http://www.uow.edu.au/governance/committees/council/index.html>

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for Friday 2 December 2011.