Minutes of the 463rd Meeting of the Macquarie University Council held at the Council Room, Building E11A, Macquarie University, North Ryde at 4.00pm on Thursday 9 April 2015.

Present:  
Chancellor, The Hon M Egan  
Vice-Chancellor, Professor B Dowton  
Deputy Chancellor, Ms E Crouch  
Mr B Crotty  
Mr C Darvall  
Professor J Fitness  
The Hon P Forsythe  
Professor D Kane  
The Hon S Nori  
Ms J Qian  
Ms G Quinn  
Dr K Schott  
Professor D Verity  
Mr J Wigglesworth  
Mr F Zipfinger  

In attendance:  
Ms D Anderson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Registrar)  
Mr J Gorman, Chief Financial Officer  
Ms Nicole Gower, Director Human Resources  
Ms Melanie Harris, Director and Chief of Staff, Office of the Vice-Chancellor  
Professor J Lee, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International)  
Mr P Luttrell, General Counsel  
Professor P McNeil, Executive Dean  
Professor M Möllering, Executive Dean  
Professor B Messerle, Executive Dean  
Professor S Pretorius, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)  
Dr P Schreier, Chief Operating Officer  
Professor J Simons, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic  
Professor D Wilkinson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Engagement and Advancement)  

Apologies:  
Council  
Professor Richie Howitt  
Mr G Jones  
Ms H Krskova  
Mr G Ward  

Executives  
Professor Mark Gabbott, Executive Dean  

Secretariat:  
Ms E Lawler, Company Matters  

1. QUORUM AND APOLOGIES

The Chancellor confirmed that a quorum was present. The Chancellor noted apologies from Council Members Richie Howitt, Greg Jones, Hana Krskova and Greg
RESOLVED 15/05

Council resolved to excuse all Councillors absent from this meeting, in accordance with the provisions of clause 2(i) of Schedule 1 of the Macquarie University Act 1989.

The Chancellor welcomed Jingmin Qian and Frank Zipfinger to their first Council meetings.

The Chancellor noted this is the last Council meeting for Gemma Quinn and thanked her for her service over the last three years. The Chancellor advised that the results from the student election process will be known in May 2015.

The Chancellor noted a seminar that had been held prior to the Council meeting regarding the Academic Health Enterprise and thanked management for the presentations provided.

The Chancellor noted that he and the Deputy Chancellor are currently reviewing membership of Council committees and a recommendation will be submitted to the July 2015 Council meeting for review.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no new declarations of interest.

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Items under sections 2, 3 and 4 were agreed for discussion.

RESOLVED 15/06

The Council resolved to note item 5.1 in the agenda.

4. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Postgraduate and Undergraduate Student Representation on University Council

Gemma Quinn thanked Council for the opportunity to be a member of Council and advised that she had found it a rewarding and exciting experience.

Council noted the paper submitted by Gemma Quinn regarding student representation on Council and requested that the General Counsel review actions to be taken if such a change was desired and agreed that the paper be re-submitted to Council once these details are known.

Council noted there were no other matters raised by Council members prior to the Meeting.

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 12 FEBRUARY 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING

(Agenda items 2.1 and 2.2)

Council noted the minutes of the previous meeting.
RESOLVED 15/07

Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 12 February 2015 as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

Council noted the status of Matters Arising from previous meetings.

6. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING (Agenda item 2.3)

The Deputy Chancellor spoke to the minutes and highlighted key items, including the annual report from the Committee, changes to financial delegations and proposed changes to the main University entrance and building E7A. The Deputy Chancellor advised that the design work for both projects is provided in the Council room for Members’ information.

Council noted the minutes of the 24 March 2015 Finance and Facilities Committee meeting and the annual report from the Finance and Facilities Committee.

7. MINUTES OF THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE MEETING (Agenda item 2.4)

The Deputy Chancellor spoke to the minutes and highlighted key items.

The Deputy Chancellor outlined the strategic priorities for the Student Experience Committee for 2015 and advised a paper would be provided to the next meeting of that Committee for discussion. The Deputy Chancellor advised the proposed priorities for discussion at the Committee are:

- Streamlining the survey process for students;
- Identification of communication vehicles and how best to utilise;
- Review of how the new code of conduct is operating;
- Ongoing role of the Student Advisory Board and committees;
- The range of student services provided and how to make the transition to employment easier;
- Enrolment process; and
- Reporting to Council – how best to inform Council of activities and how to benchmark against other universities in this area.

Gemma Quinn advised that she had tabled resolutions from the Student Advisory Board (SAB) at the Committee meeting regarding MUPRA, including that Council be made aware of the SAB’s views. It was agreed that the resolutions be distributed to Council members for information.

RESOLVED 15/08

Council resolved, as recommended by the Student Experience Committee, that

1. the Student Advisory Board Constitution, Charter, Board Procedures and Consent to become a Student Advisory Board member subject to relevant amendments to Part 3.2(a)(v) and (a)(vi) being made as attached to the minutes of 24 March 2015 be approved; and
2. the revised Terms of Reference for the Student Experience Committee, as attached to the minutes of 24 March 2015, be approved.

Council noted the minutes of the 3 February 2015 and 24 March 2015 Student Experience Committee meetings and updates provided.

8. MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING (Agenda item 2.5)

John Wigglesworth spoke to the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting highlighting key items, particularly the key areas of judgments and accounting treatment in the financial statements, the ICAC inquiry on IT procurement and that the new Internal Audit Plan from the newly appointed internal auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers, had been received. Mr Wigglesworth noted that the financial statements and annual report would be considered separately later in the meeting.

Council noted the minutes of the 26 March 2015 Audit & Risk Committee meeting.

Sakkie Pretorius and Martina Möllering joined the Meeting.

The Chancellor congratulated Martina Möllering on her appointment as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

Risk Dashboard

Mr Wigglesworth outlined the risk dashboard information as provided in the papers, noting that the Committee receives a more detailed report on risks at each meeting. Dr Schreier and Professor Simons provided further detail on specific risks.

Council discussed the risk dashboard as provided with the Audit & Risk Committee minutes and agreed that a summary of key risk indicators and how they have changed should be provided to Council on a quarterly basis.

9. MINUTES OF THE HONORARY AWARDS COMMITTEE MEETING (Agenda item 2.6)

The Chancellor spoke to the minutes of the Honorary Awards Committee meeting and recommendations made.

The Chancellor also noted a paper detailing engagement with Honorary Award recipients has been provided for information.

10. MINUTES OF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE AND STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPEALS MEETINGS (Agenda item 2.7)

11. VICE-CHANCELLOR’S REPORT (Agenda item 3.1)

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to the report and highlighted key matters, including:

- TEQSA risk assessment;
• MyMaster investigation – two of the three Discipline Committee meetings have been held;
• Learning and Teaching Plan Green Paper;
• Update on Macquarie University International College;
• Excellence in Research for Australia 2015 – noting that the submission for ERA 2015 was lodged today;
• Hearing Hub progress update;
• Recruitment of the Executive Dean of Human sciences is in the closing stages;
• Student enrolment;
• Light Rail lobby group activities; and
• Robotics competition.

Council discussed and noted the report.

12. ACADEMIC SENATE REPORT
(Agenda item 3.2)

The Chair of Academic Senate took the Academic Senate Report as read.

Council noted the report.

13. HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT
(Agenda item 3.3)

Ms Gower took the Health and Safety Report as read, noting that there are no significant trends to report at this early stage of the year.

Council noted the report.

14. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Agenda item 4.1)

Council discussed the draft annual report and financial statements and noted that the financial statements had been reviewed at length by the Audit & Risk Committee and were recommended for approval.

David Wilkinson noted the hard work of the team in developing the financial statements and annual report.

John Gorman noted that he had provided a representation letter to John Wigglesworth, as Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee, in the same terms as the letter provided by the Vice-Chancellor and John Gorman to the NSW Audit Office.

RESOLVED 15/10

Council resolved to:

1. Approve the 2014 Macquarie University Annual Report to Parliament, subject to minor amendment; and
2. Approve the affixing of the signatures of the Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor to the 2014 Macquarie University Annual Report to Parliament.
RESOLVED 15/11

Council resolved, following recommendation from the Audit and Risk Committee and that in the Council’s opinion and to the best of their knowledge and belief:

- the financial statements present a true and fair view of the financial position of the University at 31 December 2014 and the results of its operations and transactions of the University for the year then ended.

- The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1983, the Public Finance and Audit Regulation 2010 and the Financial Statement Guidelines for Australian Higher Education Providers for the 2014 Reporting Period issued by the Australian Government (Department of Education).

- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, which include Australian Accounting Interpretations.

- The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including complying with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013

Council further resolved that:

- they are not aware of any circumstances, which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

- In accordance with the Higher Education Support Act 2003, the amount of Australian government financial assistance expended during the reporting period was for the purposes for which it was intended and Macquarie University has complied with applicable legislation, contracts, agreements and programme guidelines in making expenditure.

- There are reasonable grounds to believe that the University will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Council further resolved to authorise the Vice-Chancellor, the Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee and the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee to sign the 2014 Financial Statements and the Statement of Appointed Officers.
15.  CREATION OF A NEW UNIVERSITY CONTROLLED ENTITY TO ADMINISTER MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE (Agenda item 4.2)

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to the paper and outlined the proposal, advice received and options considered.

RESOLVED 15/12

Council resolved to:

1. Approve the establishment of ‘Macquarie University Clinical Associates’ as a company limited by guarantee to be the central integrating component of the Macquarie University Health Sciences Centre.

2. Approve the constitution as attached to the Council paper, subject to changes agreed in the meeting being made and any further minor amendments being approved by the Vice-Chancellor.

3. Authorise the Vice-Chancellor and the Chief Operating Officer, severally, to:
   (a) approve any other documents related to the establishment and operation of the Macquarie University Health Sciences Centre;
   (b) approve any variation or replacement of any of them and complete any details in any of them; and
   (c) do anything else necessary or convenient to establish Macquarie University Clinical Associates.

16. DOCUMENTS SIGNED UNDER POWER OF ATTORNEY (Agenda item 5.1)

Council noted the report.

17. OTHER BUSINESS

Next meeting

Council noted the next meeting of the Council is scheduled for 2 July 2015 at 4.00pm.

Council noted the Chancellor would be an apology for this meeting and Sandra Nori would be an apology for the July and August meetings.

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.15pm.
Chancellor

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