ACADEMIC SENATE

Minutes of a meeting of the Academic Senate held from 9:34 am to 11.15 am on Tuesday 21 February 2017 in the Senate Room, Level 3, Lincoln Building (C8A), 16 Wally’s Walk.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Professor Mariella Herberstein (Chair)
Professor Amanda Barnier
Associate Professor Ayse Bilgin
Professor Stephen Brammer
Dr Frank Carrigan
Dr Florence Chiew
Associate Professor Pamela Coutts
Professor Judith Dawes
Professor Catherine Dean
Professor S Bruce Dowton
Associate Professor Barbara Griffin
Professor Antonina Harbus
Thomas Hedl
Professor Lesley Hughes
Professor Kevin Jameson
Dr Timothy Kyng
Professor Lisa Magnani
Budhaditya Majumdar
Paris Manson
Judith McKay-Tempest
Professor Barbara Messerle
Professor Kathryn Millard
Professor Martina Möllering
Professor Peter Nelson
Dr Kerry-Ann O’Sullivan
Dr Mitch Parsell
Professor Sakkie Pretorius
Dr Peter Roger
Professor Neil Saintilan
Cissy Shen
JoAnne Sparks
Professor Lucy Taksa
Professor Sherman Young

IN ATTENDANCE

Ruby Biscuit
Benjamin Dougall
Megan Kemmis (Secretariat)
Kerri Mackenzie
Kathryn Whittingham
Zoe Williams

APOLOGIES

Dr Deidre Anderson
Nicole Brigg
Professor Enrico Coiera
Soujanya Datta
Professor Jim Denier
Dr Paul Formosa
Professor Simon Handley
Professor Norma Harrison
Brayden Jones
Professor Nick Mansfield
Professor Patrick McNeil
Professor Jacqueline Phillips
Simon Populin
Professor David Wilkinson
1. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

A meeting of the Academic Senate commenced at 9:34 am. The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land and welcomed members and attendees to the meeting. The Chair advised that the Acknowledgement of Country will be rotated amongst members from the next meeting.

2. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair reminded those present of their role and purpose as members of the Academic Senate and encouraged members to engage with and discuss the items on the agenda.

The Chair noted the apologies outlined above and welcomed Ruby Biscuit, the new Director of MUIC and the members of Academic Senate.

The Chair noted that Dr Trudy Ambler has retired from the University and expressed her sincere gratitude for Trudy’s work on Academic Senate and its Committees.

3. **ARRANGEMENT OF AGENDA**

3.1 Disclosure of conflicts of interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3.2 Adoption of unstarred items

The Chair noted that the following items had been circulated separately:

- Item 10.7 – Academic Senate Standing Committee: Revised Terms of Reference
- Item 13.1 – Vice-Chancellor Commendations: List of Recipients
- Item 14.1 – Academic Senate Standing Committee - Report of the meeting held 14 February 2017

Items 10.1 and 10.4 were starred for discussion.

**Resolution 17/01**

Academic Senate resolved that the items not starred for discussion (Items 5, 10.2, 10.3, 10.5, 10.6, 12, 13.1, 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 14.4, 15.1, 15.2, 15.3, 15.4, 15.5 and 16.1) be noted and, where appropriate, be adopted as recommended.

4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 **Resolution 17/02**

Academic Senate resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting held 6 December 2016 as a true and correct record subject to the amendments identified.

Dr Mitch Parsell and Cissy Shen arrived 9:40 am

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair:

- noted the successful induction session run the previous week and thanked all those involved particularly the Deputy Chair and Senate Project Officer for co-ordinating the event;
- advised that in response to feedback the meeting agenda template has been revised to include approximate timing for items and advised minutes will be more brief and focussed on resolutions, rather than discussion.

7. **VICE-CHANCELLOR ORAL UPDATE**

The Vice-Chancellor updated member changes within the University’s Executive. He congratulated Dr Deidre Anderson on completing the requirements her PhD, adding that she will be leaving the University at the end of April to explore new challenges. He paid tribute to Dr Anderson’s extraordinary contributions to the life of the University, in particular strengthening support services for students. He indicated that the Students and Registrar portfolio will be reviewed, to align non-academic service delivery more closely with the academic mission of the University. The Vice-Chancellor noted the opportunity to eliminate the bifurcation of student support and ensure the University is able to respond to the needs of its students into the future. He further advised members that Professor Kevin Jameson has agreed to be the interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) for the remainder of 2017.

The Vice-Chancellor advised that the Federal Minister for Education has accepted the Shergold Report ("Improving the Transparency of Higher Education Admissions") and the Federal Government is supportive of improved access to clear and consistent information on university admissions. The Higher Education Standards Panel is tasked with reviewing completion rates at Australian universities.
The Vice-Chancellor thanked all staff involved with the University’s admission processes for 2017 noting the increased clarity in admissions via UAC and via alternative pathways. He particularly noted that there were no forced offers issued in the 2017 admissions cycle, which gives the University a stronger position for defending the transparency of its admission practices.

The Vice-Chancellor welcomed the recent appointment of the Hon. Rob Stokes as the new State Minister for Education and Training, noting that the new Minister is an alumnus and supporter of Macquarie University.

The Vice-Chancellor noted the Chair’s introduction of Ruby Biscuit as the new Director of MUIC and added that Dr Pamela Humphreys has been appointed as Deputy Director and Director of the English Language Centre. Both appointments will provide a greater focus on supporting students at the University from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The Vice-Chancellor advised members that the recent changes to research block grant funding will pose challenges for the University this year, and highlighted the work of Professor Sakkie Pretorius and his team to help the University minimise this impact. He pointed out that the University needs to improve both its peer review grant income and strengthen its ties with industry.

The student load for 2017 promises improvements both in domestic and international student numbers and in entry standards, and the Vice-Chancellor undertook to provide more details at the next meeting.

The Vice-Chancellor highlighted the number of building works underway, and advised that Council has given initial approval for $2.6 billion expenditure in building remediation and new works.

8. QUESTION TIME

No questions were raised

9. STUDENT LED BUSINESS

Dr Mitch Parsell reported on the student-led item from the 1 November 2016 meeting, relating to the exemption for Psychology units to release past examination papers:

- All units with current exemptions must disclose the exemption in the Unit Guide and on iLearn;
- The pedagogical reason for the exemption will be given to students;
- A sample exam paper must be provided; and
- A register of all exempted units will be maintained and regularly audited.

Cissy Shen advised the students supported this approach and Dr Parsell advised the matter will be referred to the next Faculty of Human Sciences Faculty Board meeting. Associate Professor Pamela Coutts added this was a good interim solution but the reliance on multiple-choice examinations by some disciplines should be phased out. Members agreed to note that this issue has been resolved.

Resolution 17/03

Academic Senate resolved to note the measures proposed by the Faculty of Human Sciences to address the exemption for Psychology units to release past examination papers to students.

10. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

10.1 Principles of Majors and Minors (ASQC)

Associate Professor Coutts provided an overview of the paper. Clarification was provided regarding the definition of minors. Members agreed unanimously to approve the principles and Appendix A, but it was agreed Appendix B would be reworded to clarify that a student can only qualify for a minor if they are studying in a program that is structured on majors.

Resolution 17/04

Academic Senate resolved to approve the Principles of Majors and Minors, the wording of the Schedule of Majors and the Schedule of Minors, effective from the dates specified in the implementation plan.

10.2 2018 Schedule - New program for approval: Bachelor of Science – Global Challenges (ASQC)

Resolution 17/05

Academic Senate resolve to approve the academic case for the Bachelor of Science – Global Challenges from 1 January 2018 subject to approval of the business case by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).
10.3 2018 Schedule – Approval of Names for New Programs (ASQC)

Resolution 17/06
Academic Senate resolve to:

i. approve the names of the following proposed programs with effect from 1 January 2018:
   - Graduate Certificate of Security Studies and Criminology
   - Graduate Certificate of Security Studies and Criminology (OUA)
   - Graduate Diploma of Security Studies and Criminology
   - Graduate Diploma of Security Studies and Criminology (OUA)
   - Master of Counter Terrorism
   - Master of Counter Terrorism (OUA)
   - Master of Cybersecurity
   - Master of Intelligence
   - Master of Intelligence (OUA)
   - Master of Policy and Applied Social Research with the degree of Master of Development Studies
   - Master of Politics and Public Policy with the degree of Master of Developmental Studies
   - Master of Politics and Public Policy with the degree of Master of International Relations
   - Master of Security and Strategic Studies
   - Master of Security and Strategic Studies (OUA)

10.4 Faculty Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (ASQC)

Members noted that the initiative for this paper originated with the office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching). Members agreed to approve the academic content of this paper and to refer implementation and operational issues to appropriate areas.

Resolution 17/07
Academic Senate resolved to approve the academic principles underpinning the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching Faculty level.

10.5 Disruption to Studies Policy: Approval to Review (SLTC)

Resolution 17/08
Academic Senate resolved to approve the review of the Disruption to Studies Policy and note the information regarding the Rapid Improvement Event (Workshop) to be held as part of the review process.

10.6 Proposed Changes to the Higher Degree Research (HDR) Rules for 2017 (RRTC)

Resolution 17/09
Academic Senate resolved to:

i. endorse the proposed changes to the Higher Degree Research (HDR) Rules; and
ii. recommend the proposed changes to the HDR Rules for approval by Council.

10.7 Academic Senate Standing Committee: Revised Terms of Reference (ASSC)

The Chair noted a further amendment to clause 1 of the Terms of Reference to delete “increased” from the phrase “foster increased communication”. Members approved the amendments unanimously with no further discussion.

Resolution 17/10
Academic Senate resolved to approve the revised terms of reference for the Academic Senate Standing Committee with immediate effect

11. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

11.1 Academic Senate 2017 Projects and Priorities
The Chair spoke to the paper identifying those projects carried over from 2016. Members noted the interconnectivity of many of the projects, and links to larger projects occurring across the University, such as the Program Lifecycle Framework. A number of items proposed by members were noted as outside Academic Senate’s remit and will be referred to appropriate staff and units for consideration. Members unanimously supported the prioritisation of projects for 2017.
Resolution 17/11
Academic Senate resolved to:

i. discuss the identified projects for 2017 for Academic Senate;

ii. endorse the prioritisation of the projects (Attachment 1); and

iii. note the project workshops will be held on Tuesday, 7 March 2017 and an update will be provided to the next meeting.

11.2 Establishing Program Reviews

Resolution 17/12
Academic Senate resolved to note the progress on developing an institutional approach to Program Reviews.

11.3 Academic Governance: The Faculty of Business and Economics and MGSM Alignment
Professor Brammer updated members on the alignment of the MGSM with the Faculty of Business and Economics. Further consideration is required concerning the ongoing role of the MGSM Academic Board and external accreditation requirements. Members unanimously endorsed the recommendations as proposed.

Resolution 17/13
Academic Senate resolved to

i. recommend to Council that the Academic Senate Rules are amended to remove the Dean of the MGSM as an ex-officio member and the MGSM academic representative as an elected member;

ii. recommend to Council that the General Coursework, Higher Degree Research and Higher Doctoral Degree Rules are amended to reflect the appropriate authority of the Dean of the MGSM to align with the Delegations of Authority.

iii. approve the amendment of the Terms of Reference for the RRTC to remove the Dean of the MGSM as an ex-officio member and the elected academic representative from the MGSM as members of that committee;

iv. note the amendment of the membership of the Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Board to include the Dean of the MGSM effective immediately;

v. note that an election will be held to elect an academic representative from the MGSM to the Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Board; and

vi. request the Faculty of Business and Economics review accreditation requirements and recommend to Academic Senate the continuing status of the MGSM Academic Board.

Professor Barbara Messerle left at 11:04 am

11.4 Towards a Model for Shared Responsibility for Academic Governance
The Chair outlined the purpose of this project and the proposed establishment of a steering group to oversee the working party Senate had resolved to establish in 2016. The project received strong support from both Faculty-elected members and Executive members, and the establishment of the steering group was unanimously approved.

Resolution 17/14
Academic Senate resolved to approve:

i. the establishment a Steering Group to oversee the shared responsibility for academic governance project; and

ii. the function and composition of the Steering Group.

12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Members may submit questions on notice to the Chair two days in advance of the meeting.
No questions were received.

13. ITEMS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR
13.1 Vice Chancellor Commendations: List of Recipients

Resolution 17/15
Academic Senate resolve to approve the awarding of the Vice-Chancellor Commendation to the lists of Bachelor degree and Master coursework graduands circulated.
14. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

14.1 Academic Senate Standing Committee

Resolution 17/16

Academic Senate resolved to:

i. ratify resolutions ASSC 17/04, ASSC 17/05, ASSC 17/06, ASSC 17/07, ASSC 17/08 and ASSC 17/09 of the Academic Senate Standing Committee; and

ii. note the report of the Academic Senate Standing Committee meeting held on 14 February 2017.

14.2 Academic Standards and Quality Committee

Academic Senate noted the report of the Academic Standards and Quality Committee (ASQC) meeting held 31 January 2017.

14.3 Research and Research Training Committee

Academic Senate noted the report of the Research and Research Training Committee (RRTC) meeting held 29 November 2016.

14.4 Senate Learning and Teaching Committee

Academic Senate noted the report of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (SLTC) meeting held on 13 February 2017.

15. REPORTS FROM FACULTY BOARDS

15.1 Faculty of Arts Faculty Board

Academic Senate noted the report of the Faculty of Arts Faculty Board meeting held 14 January 2017.

15.2 Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Board

Academic Senate noted the reports of the Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Board meetings held 12 December 2016 and 6 February 2017.

15.3 Faculty of Human Sciences Faculty Board

Academic Senate noted the report of the Faculty of Human Sciences Faculty Board meeting held 12 December 2016.

15.4 Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Faculty Board

Academic Senate noted the report of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Faculty Board meeting held 13 December 2016.

15.5 Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board

Academic Senate noted the report of the Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board meeting held 13 December 2016.

16. CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

16.1 University Hearing Committee

The confidential report of the University Hearing Committee meeting held on 7 December 2016 was tabled.

17. OTHER BUSINESS

Professor Sakkie Pretorius asked that Professor Kathryn Millard be acknowledged as the new representative from Academic Senate on the Research and Research Training Committee. The Chair added that the other newly appointed representatives from Academic Senate to Senate committees included Professor Judith Dawes and Professor Antonina Harbus to the Academic Senate Standing Committee, Dr Timothy Kyng to the Academic Standards and Quality Committee and Dr Peter Roger to the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (joining Associate Professor Ayse Bilgin and Dr Kerry-Anne O’Sullivan).

18. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Academic Senate will be held on Tuesday 11 April 2017.

Agenda Items are due by Tuesday 28 March 2017.

The meeting closed at 11:15 am.