Minutes of the 490th Meeting of the Macquarie University Council held at the Chancellery, 19 Eastern Road, Macquarie University, North Ryde at 4.00pm on 22 August.

Present: Presiding Member and Deputy Chancellor, Ms L Mason
Vice-Chancellor, Professor S B Dowton
Chair of Academic Senate, Professor M Herberstein (by videoconference)
Dr W Bradford
Mr C Darvall (from 4.35pm)
Professor C Dean
Dr E Grosvenor
Ms D Hadwen
Ms J Qian
Mr J Wigglesworth
Mr F Zipfinger
Mr A Hablutzel

In attendance: Ms Heather Mackinnon, Director and Chief of Staff, Office of the Vice-Chancellor
Ms Kim Withers, Office of the Vice-Chancellor
Professor Brammer, Executive Dean Macquarie Business School*
Professor Wilkinson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Engagement*
Mr Robin Payne, Vice-President Finance *
Mr Guy Ferguson, Grant Samuel*
Ms Louise Donn, Grant Samuel*

Apologies: No apologies were received

Secretariat: Ms Carol Kirby, Acting Council Secretary

* Attended for part of the Meeting as indicated in the minutes.

1. QUORUM AND APOLOGIES

The Deputy Chancellor confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Vice-Chancellor provided an Acknowledgement of Country.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Council noted there were no other new declarations of interest excepting that, in relation to Item 2.2 and Item 2.3.
4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION  
(Agenda item 1.3)

It was agreed to note the item at 6.1.

5. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS  
(Agenda item 1.4)

The Deputy Chancellor advised that no matters had been raised by Council members prior to the Meeting that had not already been included on the agenda.

6. SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED  
(Agenda item 1.5)

Council noted the items seeking approval and requiring resolutions to be passed.

7. VICE-CHANCELLOR’S STRATEGIC UPDATE  
(Agenda item 2.1)

The Vice-Chancellor took the report as read and provided his update including:

- it is anticipated that the new Chancellor will be elected at the Council meeting in October 2019 and assume the role of Chair from the December 2019 meeting;
- student load will be slightly above target for the year. There is a lag in student numbers for Macquarie University International College (MUIC), but this is expected to improve for the second session;
- recent attention by Government and the media on a perceived need for diversification of the international student population arising from the strong focus on the China market. The University has a diversified international student cohort and is least exposed to this risk;
- a briefing by security agencies of Vice-Chancellors concerning cyber security risk;
- the Open Day for potential students held on 17 August which was attended by 7,800 people - a significant increase from 2018;
- the impact and likely effect on the University of the report of Professor Wellings on performance-based funding of Universities.

Council discussed the report, including the basis for allocation of Commonwealth funding and how measures for performance-based funding are determined.

Council noted the report.
8. STRATEGIC PRESENTATION – MARKETING, BRAND, ALUMNI, PHILANTHROPY AND CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT
(Agenda item 2.2)

Professor Wilkinson provided Council with a presentation, including:

- the single set of key performance indicators across the portfolio;
- data supporting progress in meeting the key performance indicators, including data provided by external independent sources;
- comparisons with competitor Universities in key areas;
- performance in rankings and development of a rankings strategy;
- performance in fundraising which is generally on target;
- the progress in and benefits of University led collaboration and co-operation in the Macquarie Park area;
- plans to expand incubator activity to other sites within Macquarie Park;
- strategy for managing relationships with large companies to maximise benefits across University activities.

Council discussed the presentation including:

- the profile of donation amounts and the relationship between the resources available for fund-raising and the number and size of donations;
- how brand data is compiled;
- how ratings are compiled and strategies to improve them;
- the implications of engagement in defence industry research.

Council noted and thanked Professor Wilkinson for the presentation.

9. STRATEGIC PRESENTATION – MACQUARIE BUSINESS SCHOOL
(Agenda item 2.3)

Professor Brammer provided Council with a presentation on the Faculty Strategy – Macquarie Business School, including:

- change and progress since 2017;
- current innovations and initiatives;
- research output and results with the expectation of significant improvements in lagging indicators;
- interaction with the corporate sector;
- improved alumni relationships;
- status of industry accreditations, and
- increased public profile of the School.

Council acknowledged significant improvements in the operation of the Business School under Professor Brammer’s leadership; noted the presentation and thanked Professor Brammer for his presentation.

10. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2019 FOR APPROVAL
(Agenda item 3.1)

The Deputy Chancellor took draft minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2019 as read.
RESOLVED 19/14

Council RESOLVED (unanimously) to approve the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 20 June 2019 as a true and correct record of the meeting held on that date.

11. MATTERS ARISING
   (Agenda Item 3.2)

   Council noted the status of the Matters Arising.

12. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 20 JUNE AND 8 AUGUST 2019
   (Agenda item 3.3)

   Mr Zipfinger took the draft minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meetings held on 20 June and 8 August 2019 as read.

   Council discussed and noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meetings held on 20 June and 8 August 2019.

13. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2019
   (Agenda item 3.4)

   • Mr Darvall took the report and draft minutes of the Finance & Facilities Committee meeting held on 23 July 2019 as read.

   Council discussed and noted the report and draft minutes of the Finance & Facilities Committee meeting held on 23 July 2019.

14. REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE
   (Agenda item 3.5)

   The Chair of the Academic Senate took the report from the University Discipline Committee for the period ending 30 June 2019 as read, highlighting that it is intended to provide more detail on the nature of the misconduct cases and long-term trends.

15. MINUTES OF THE MQ HEALTH BOARD MEETING
   (Agenda item 3.6)

   The Vice-Chancellor took the minutes of the MQ Health Board meeting held on 11 June 2019 as read.

   Council discussed and noted the minutes of the MQ Health Board meeting held on 11 June 2019.

16. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 AUGUST 2019
   (Agenda item 3.6)

   Ms Qian took the report and draft minutes of the Student Experience Committee meeting held on 8 August 2019 as read, noting that students on the Committee are engaged and positive.
Council discussed and noted the report and draft minutes of the Student Experience Committee meeting held on 8 August 2019.

17. **VICE-CHANCELLOR’S REPORT**  
   *(Agenda item 4.1)*

The Vice-Chancellor took the report as read and advised of the recent success of students of the Law School who reached the final of the highly competitive Nelson Mandela World Human Rights Moot Court Competition, beating Yale University and only narrowly defeated by Oxford University.

Council discussed and noted the report.

18. **ACADEMIC SENATE REPORT**  
   *(Agenda item 4.2)*

The Chair of the Academic Senate took as read the report from the Academic Senate meetings held on 25 June and 23 July 2019, and highlighted the shared governance project, advising that changes to the University Rules may be required to implement project outcomes.

Council noted the report.

19. **HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT**  
   *(Agenda Item 4.3)*

The Vice-Chancellor took the report as read.

Council discussed the report, including the importance of vigilance and reporting of hazards.

Council noted the Health and Safety report.

20. **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE CALENDAR**  
   *(Agenda Item 5.1)*

Council endorsed the annual governance calendar.

21. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**  
   *(Agenda Item 5.2)*

The Vice-Chancellor took the paper as read, highlighting that the policy takes into account changes earlier this year to ICAC Guidelines.

Council discussed and noted the Conflict of Interest Policy

22. **POWER OF ATTORNEY REGISTER**  
   *(Agenda item 6.1)*

Council noted the documents signed under Power of Attorney during the period 4 June 2019 – 7 August 2019.
23. **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Nominations for Consideration as Ministerial Appointment to Council (Agenda item 7.1)**

The Vice-Chancellor took the paper as read and briefed Council on the procedure required by the NSW Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education to fill the current casual vacancy in Ministerial appointments to Council and the likely time for filling the position.

Council discussed the nomination of candidates for consideration by the Minister, taking into account matters including:

- the skills matrix for Council members and forthcoming retirements from Council;
- considerations of gender balance;
- the need for finance expertise.

Council noted that the next regular meeting of the Council is scheduled for 24 October 2019 at 4.00pm at the North Ryde campus.

**CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.00pm.

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Deputy Chancellor as Presiding Member of Council under Clause 7(2), Schedule 1, Macquarie University Act, 1989