

# COUNCIL NON-CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES



Minutes of the 528<sup>th</sup> meeting of **COUNCIL** held at **2pm** on **Friday 14 April 2023** in Boardroom 307, Level 3, Chancellery and via Microsoft Teams

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**PRESENT**

Mr David Gonski AC, Chancellor  
Professor Attila Brungs, Vice-Chancellor and President  
Dr Jennifer Alexander  
Dr Raji Ambikairajah  
The Hon Elizabeth Cheeseman (via Teams)  
Professor David Cohen, President of the Academic Board  
Mr Jeremy Ellis  
Mr Matthew Grounds AM (from 2.18pm, via Teams)  
Mr Mark Johnson (from 3.17pm)  
Mr Joshua Karras  
Mr Warwick Negus, Deputy Chancellor (until 4.30pm, via Teams)  
Professor Justine Nolan  
Ms Catherine Rowe

**APOLOGIES**

Ms Maxine Brenner  
Professor Louise Lutze-Mann

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Professor Merlin Crossley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Quality  
Ms Fiona Docherty, Vice-President, External Engagement (via Teams)  
Ms Clair Hodge, General Counsel (via Teams)  
Professor Nicholas Fisk AM, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research & Enterprise  
Scientia Professor Valdo Perkovic, Acting Provost – Faculties  
Mrs Libby Stratford, Acting Vice-President, Operations (via Teams)  
Scientia Professor George Williams AO, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Planning & Assurance, and Acting Provost – Operations (from 3.26pm)

Present for item 5.3  
Mr Shaun Williams, Head of Talent & Recruitment

**SECRETARY**

Mr James Fitzgibbon, Director of Governance and University Secretary  
Ms Fatima Velosa, Acting Deputy Director of Governance

*For convenience, items were taken out of agenda order.*

## PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### 1. Welcome, apologies and leave of absence

The Chancellor extended his respects to Elders past and present, and acknowledged the Traditional Custodians from which members were joining the meeting.

Council accepted apologies from Ms Brenner and Professor Lutze-Mann for this meeting.

The Chancellor welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Mrs Stratford as Acting Vice-President, Operations and Scientia Professor Perkovic as Acting Provost – Faculties.

The Chancellor thanked Professor Perkovic for leading the tour of The Kirby Institute before the Council meeting, which provided Council members with a view of the Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct and the facilities in The Kirby Institute. On behalf of Council, the Chancellor asked Professor Perkovic to thank the Faculty of Medicine & Health and his colleagues for, and congratulate them on, their excellent work.

## 2. Declarations of interest and conflicts of interest

Council noted the following updates from members, which would be reflected in the Register of Interests:

- Maxine Brenner was appointed a Director of Telstra from 17 February 2023, and retired as a director of Orica in December 2022
- Attila Brungs ceased as a member of the Digital Identity Ministerial Advisory Council. He is a director of Next25 and is now an Advisor rather than a member on the NSW Innovation and Productivity Council.
- Warwick Negus has been appointed Chairman of the Bank of Queensland.

The Chancellor invited members to disclose any interests or conflict of interests relevant to items for discussion at the meeting. Council members did not disclose any interests or conflicts of interests for this meeting.

### RESOLVED

Council received and noted the declarations and conflicts of interest provided for the meeting.

## 3. Minutes of previous meeting and business arising (other than business on this agenda)

### 3.1 Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 February 2023

#### RESOLVED

Council approved the minutes of its meeting held on 13 February 2023 as an accurate record and authorised the Chancellor to sign them.

### 3.2 Matters arising and business carried forward

Council noted the Matters Arising and Business Carried Forward report and that all matters were either listed for discussion or scheduled for later in 2023.

## 4. Adoption of items for noting and approval, and starring of items

Council noted that item 15 was withdrawn.

### RESOLVED

Council adopted the non-confidential and confidential items for approval and noting, and did not star items 13 or 14 for discussion.

## MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY

## 5. Report of the Vice-Chancellor and President to Council

### 5.1 Federal and state government relations (including the Australian Universities Accord)

### 5.2 Students

- Enrolments
- International students
- Staff engagement

### 5.3 Staff

- Industrial relations strategy
- Staff engagement

## 6. Reports on the proceedings of the Academic Board

Professor Cohen reported on the following:

- UNSW continues to focus on assessment approaches at UNSW, as part of the suite of initiatives to improve the student experience, enhance academic integrity and address some of the bottlenecks associated with the UNSW3+ model.
- The Faculty of Science provided an overview to the Academic Board of the restructuring of its two flagship programs, the BSc and BAdvSc (Hons), so that staff and students understand them more easily. While maintaining all existing majors and the associated disciplinary course requirements, the revised programs incorporate a number of courses aimed at providing career development opportunities and enhancing students' general transferrable skills to produce globally desirable graduates, and to improve the student experience and outcomes.
- An external review of the UNSW Library advocates for significant improvements to the Library's physical spaces and an increase in capacity to meet student demand.
- A summary of the QILT Student Experience Survey and Graduate Outcomes Survey results presented at Academic Board noted the ongoing improvements in student experience scores and that UNSW graduates remain at the front of the queue for employability and wages, while noting there is still work to be done.
- The process of elections of academic staff to 28 positions on the Academic Board for a membership term from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025 is under way. Once the composition of the Academic Board is finalised, the continuing and incoming members will elect a new President and two Deputy Presidents of the Academic Board.

Council noted that Professor Cohen's final term as President of the Academic Board would end on 30 June 2023.

Council noted the importance of preparing academics to restructure and design UNSW programs to prepare students for jobs that did not yet exist, and teaching them to think and be adaptable to new situations. The Chancellor and the VC noted that it was hoped the external members of Faculty Advisory Bodies and the high number of industry experts/professionals who provide casual teaching are assisting academics and students in thinking about the jobs of the future.

The Chancellor thanked Professor Cohen for his update.

#### **6.1 Report to Council by the President of the Academic Board**

##### **RESOLVED**

Council received and noted the report to Council by the President of the Academic Board.

#### **6.2 Report on the establishment of a degree, diploma, certificate or other award program by the Academic Board**

##### **RESOLVED**

Council received and noted the report on the establishment of a degree, diploma, certificate or other award program by the Academic Board.

### **7. Finance & Strategy Committee Report**

#### **7.1 Unconfirmed minutes of the Finance and Strategy Committee meeting held on 28 March 2023**

#### **7.2 December 2022 YTD group results**

#### **7.3 February 2023 YTD group results**

#### **7.4 Key strategic projects update**

## 8. Audit Committee Report

- 8.1 Confirmed minutes of Audit Committee meeting held on 6 March 2023
- 8.2 Unconfirmed minutes of Audit Committee meeting held on 27 March 2023
- 8.3 Report on red-rated Internal Audit actions
- 8.4 UNSW Annual Report 2022 and Financial Statements
- 8.5 Wrongdoing Thematic Annual Report

## 9. Safety & Risk Committee Report

- 9.1 Report of the Safety and Risk Committee meeting held on 17 March 2023
- 9.2 Safety Report Q4 2022 – Think Safe, Be Safe, Home Safe

## 10. Information Technology Committee Report

- 10.1 Unconfirmed minutes of Information Technology Committee meeting held on 20 February 2023

## 11. Council KPIs

## 12. Presentation – University rankings

## ITEMS FOR APPROVAL AND NOTING

## 13. Register of use of seal and university name and arms

## 14. Report of approved policy documents

## 15. Item withdrawn

## 16. Business without notice

### 16.1 Extending the Council meeting

The Chancellor sought approval from Council members to extend the meeting beyond 5pm for the Council members only session.

#### **RESOLVED**

Council approved the extension of the 14 April 2023 meeting for a period not exceeding 30 minutes pursuant to the requirements of Council resolution CL96/60 that a Council meeting which begins at 2pm shall conclude no later than 5pm unless a majority of members present vote to extend the meeting for a period not exceeding one hour.

The Chancellor declared the meeting closed at 5.12pm.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS ONLY SESSION

Council moved into the members only session.

Next Council meeting: Monday 19 June 2023

SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD

Presiding Member

Mr David Gonski AC

Chancellor

19 / 06 /2023