COUNCIL NEWS
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING
5 August 2013

VICE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

A copy of the Vice Chancellor's Report to Council can be accessed from the following web site:


RE-ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHANCELLOR

Council congratulated Mr Henry Smerdon AM on his re-election as Deputy Chancellor for a further three year period.

ACADEMIC PLAN 2013-2017


Members note that the new Academic Plan had been developed in consultation with the University’s academic community, and that its goals and targets reflected those of the University’s Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and were consistent with the new Research Plan 2013-2017.

Council noted that the Academic Plan 2013-2017 outlines the way in which the University aims to transform the student experience, while ensuring quality of teaching, and academic standards. Members noted the following key goals and strategies for the period 2013-2017:

- University scale and flexibility of study
- Participation of students from diverse backgrounds
- The student experience
- Successful and influential graduates
- Excellent staff

RESEARCH PLAN 2013-2013


Members noted that the goals, targets and strategies of the Research Plan 2013-2017 would support the University to achieve its vision to be one of the most influential universities in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region through the delivery of relevant research of a high standard.

Council noted that the Research Plan 2013-2017 was aligned with the University’s Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and the new Academic Plan 2013-2017. It was noted that in keeping with the previous Research Plan, the key themes of the Research Plan 2013-2017 were the consolidation of research strengths, and lifting the average quality of research across the University.

Members noted the following four key research objectives for the period 2013-2017:
• Consolidate world-class research strength through the Areas of Strategic Investment;
• Demonstrate research of international standing in all discipline areas as recognised by Excellence in Research Australia and other international ranking metrics;
• Maintain a culture of research quality and performance, well supported by infrastructure and resources;
• Maintain the University’s core commitments to innovation, bringing disciplines together and undertaking socially relevant research which provides demonstrable community benefit.

REVIEW OF THE GRIFFITH INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

In May 2003, Council adopted a framework for regular, five-yearly, systematic, independent reviews across the University. Council noted that during October 2012 the Griffith Institute for Higher Education was reviewed under the University’s policy.

Council endorsed the review report and implementation plan and resolved to approve:
(a) the disestablishment of the Griffith Institute for Higher Education effective 6 August 2013;
(b) the establishment of the Centre for Learning Futures effective 6 August 2013;
(c) that a Dean be appointed to lead the Centre for Learning Futures.

SENIOR STAFF MATTERS

Council noted that Professor Sue Spence, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Professor Marilyn McMeniman had each advised the Vice Chancellor recently that they would conclude their appointments and leave the University in early 2014.

Council resolved to approve changes to organisational arrangements as proposed by the Vice Chancellor, and the allocation of senior portfolios to the following senior management positions:

- Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor
- Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic)
- Deputy Vice Chancellor (Engagement)
- Vice President (Corporate Services)

Council resolved to approve that Professor Ned Pankhurst be offered a five-year contract as Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor for the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2018, and that Mr Colin McAndrew’s position of Pro Vice Chancellor (Administration) be retitled Vice President (Corporate Services) from 1 January 2014.

The Vice Chancellor’s email dated 6 August 2013 and titled ‘Allocation of Senior Portfolios’ provides further details about the arrangements approved by Council.

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN, CENTRE FOR LEARNING FUTURES

Council resolved to offer Professor Alf Lizzio an appointment as Dean, Centre for Learning Futures for the period 6 August 2013 to 5 August 2018.
APPOINTMENT OF HEAD OF SCHOOL, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Council resolved to offer Professor Michael Blumenstein an appointment as Head, School of Information and Communication Technology for the period 12 August 2013 to 11 August 2016.

REVIEWS OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY AND ORAL HEALTH AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, SPORT AND HOTEL MANAGEMENT

In May 2003, Council adopted a framework for regular, five-yearly, systematic, independent reviews across the University. Council noted that the School of Dentistry and Oral Health, and the Department of Tourism, Sport and Hotel Management had been reviewed under the University’s policy.

Council endorsed the review reports and implementation plans.

BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND FRAMEWORK

Council noted that a significant review of the Business Continuity Framework had recently been undertaken in order to refine understanding of Business Continuity Planning in the University context and to ensure that robust and usable plans that cover critical activities within the University were developed and maintained.

Council resolved to:
(a) rescind the Business Continuity Framework (2008/0026275) with immediate effect;
(b) endorse the Business Continuity Management and Resilience Policy (2013/0002765) and the Business Continuity Management Framework (2013/0002766) with immediate effect.

AMENDED RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Council noted that amendments were proposed to the heat map matrix within the Risk Management Framework to assist Groups and Divisions to make balanced assessments about residual risks when reviewing their respective risk registers.

Council resolved to approve an amended Risk Management Framework (2013/0002786) with immediate effect.

AMENDED FRAUD CONTROL PROCEDURE

Council resolved to approve an amended Fraud Control Procedure (2013/0002778) with immediate effect.

AMENDED CONSULTANCY AND COMMERCIAL RESEARCH POLICY

Council noted that amendments were proposed to the Consultancy and Commercial Research policy to streamline the administration of small consultancy and commercial research projects valued at $10,000 or less. Council resolved to approve an amended Consultancy and Commercial Research policy (2013/0002793) with immediate effect.

AMENDED UNIVERSITY SITE POLICY (NOW KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS ACCESS AND USE POLICY)
Council noted that various amendments were proposed to the University Site policy, including a change of name of the policy to ‘University Campus Access and Use Policy.’ Council **resolved to approve** with immediate effect, the *University Campus Access and Use Policy* (2013/0002787).

**AMENDED GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

Council **resolved to approve** an amended Griffith University Student Representative Council Constitution (2013/0002784) with immediate effect.

**APPROVAL OF POLICY FRAMEWORK**

Council noted the proposed *Policy Framework* document which detailed the processes for policy review, incorporated the recent decisions made by Council in relation to policy, and specified a five year review cycle for policies unless otherwise stated within the policy document. Council **resolved to approve** the *Policy Framework* (2013/0002783) with immediate effect.

**DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY – MEMBERSHIP OF OUTSIDE COMPANIES LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

Council **resolved to delegate** to the Vice Chancellor the authority to determine whether the University will become a member of a company limited by guarantee, with immediate effect.

**DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY – AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIVERSITY’S PRIVACY PLAN**

Council **resolved to delegate** to the Vice Chancellor the authority to approve or not approve changes to the University’s Privacy Plan, with immediate effect.

**AUGUST 2013**