COUNCIL NEWS
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING
5 December 2011

VICE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

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


COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Members noted that Mr Chris Eigeland was recently elected to the position on the University Council for an undergraduate student member.

BUSINESS BUILDING AT THE GOLD COAST CAMPUS

Council resolved to approve a funding allocation for a new building at the Gold Coast campus for the Griffith Business School (GBS). It was noted the proposed building would front Parklands Drive and would be a signature landmark and the Gold Coast ‘face’ for the GBS. The building would be 6-7 storeys, encompassing a significant number of staff offices, state-of-the-art technology-rich learning spaces such as MBA lecture rooms, flexible learning spaces for postgraduate classes and executive education, a share market trading room etcetera. The building would also have some common teaching facilities for the campus generally.

UPDATE ON EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH FOR AUSTRALIA (ERA)

The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) provided an update to Council on Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA). Council noted that for ERA 2012, the University will be submitting:

- More than 13,000 research outputs (more than 14,000 weighted research outputs), which is almost 20% greater than for ERA 2010, and;
- Almost $180m in research income, which is 38% greater than for ERA 2010.

While larger overall, the shape of the University’s ERA 2012 submission will be quite similar to the ERA 2010 submission. The University will reach the assessment threshold in at least as many Fields of Research (FoR) as in ERA 2010. Due to recent expansion within the University of particular research themes, and because of a few changes to the ERA Guidelines, the University will be assessed in a number of new fields in 2012 that were not assessed in 2010 such as Architecture, Immunology, Art Theory and Criticism, and Inorganic Chemistry. A few of the smaller FoR which were assessed in ERA 2010 will not reach the assessment threshold for ERA 2012, such as Cardiovascular Medicine and Haematology. The final checks of submission data in each FoR and finalisation of the selection of research outputs to be nominated for peer review will occur this month. In January, the ERA Academic Advisory Teams will draft the Explanatory Statements for each broad discipline, while the Office for Research and Information Services prepare the submission data and peer review material according to the Australian Research Council’s Technical Specifications.
The ERA 2012 Submission Phase begins on 5 March. As the University is well advanced in its ERA preparations, the Australian Research Council requested that Griffith participate in pre-submission testing of the ERA submission platform in mid to late January.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Council considered a proposal to establish the School of Government and International Relations within the Griffith Business School. Council noted that the proposal had been finalised following wide consultation both within the University and external to the University, and that there had been an overwhelmingly positive response from all stakeholders. Council noted that establishment of the new School aligns with the University’s strategy of building and promoting its strengths or ‘peaks of excellence’ and would:

- enhance and strengthen the University’s profile and attractiveness in the key fields of political science, public policy, and government and international relations.
- enable the repositioning of the University’s capability in these fields in local, national and international markets.
- enhance the University’s ability to leverage its excellent research performance.
- attract a higher number of quality undergraduate, postgraduate and research students.

Council noted that the new School would comprise the Department of Politics and Public Policy, the international relations component of the Department of International Business and Asian Studies, and relevant new strategic research appointments. It was noted that upon establishment, the new School would become one of the largest groups of scholars working in the areas of government, politics, public policy and international relations in Australia.

Council **resolved to approve** the following:

(a) The disestablishment of the Department of Politics and Public Policy effective 31 January 2012;
(b) The establishment of the School of Government and International Relations from 1 February 2012.

**REVIEW OF GRIFFITH SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING**

In May 2003, Council adopted a framework for regular, five-yearly, systematic, independent reviews across the University. Council noted that during 2011 the Griffith School of Engineering had been reviewed under the University’s policy.

Council endorsed the review report and implementation plan.

**VICE CHANCELLOR’S APPOINTMENT**

Council **resolved** to extend the Vice Chancellor’s appointment to the end of 2018 in recognition of his excellent performance and to achieve continuity in leadership through the changing environment of the next few years including the lead-up to the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in 2018.
APPOINTMENTS

Council **resolved to offer** the following appointments: Professor Lorelle Frazer a further appointment as Dean (Learning and Teaching), Business for the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2014; Professor Paul Cleveland a further appointment as Director, Queensland College of Art for the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2013; Associate Professor Jock MacLeod as Head, School of Humanities for the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2013; Professor Cliff Goddard as Head, School of Languages and Linguistics for the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012; Professor Debra Grace as Head, Department of Marketing for the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012; Professor Alex Bellamy as Head, School of Government and International Relations for the period 1 February 2012 to 31 January 2017.

PROFESSOR EMERITUS

Council **resolved to confer** the title of “Professor Emeritus” on Professors Angela Arthington and Barry Harrison in recognition of their distinguished service to scholarship and to the University.

PRESENTATION ON THE PLACE, EVOLUTION AND ROCK ART HERITAGE UNIT

Professor Paul Tacon made a presentation to members on the Place, Evolution and Rock Art Heritage Unit (the Unit). Council was advised that the Unit was established in early 2011 and is located within the School of Humanities. The Unit advocates multidisciplinary, multicultural and scientific approaches to rock art and cultural evolution research.

Council noted that the Unit collaborates closely with Indigenous peoples wherever research is undertaken. It was noted that the key aims of the Unit are:

- Promotion of excellence in Australian and international rock art, human evolution and place research across Australasia.
- Training and supervising postgraduate students.
- Raising national and international public awareness of the importance of Australian rock art, human evolution and place research.
- Providing a forum for the development of new national and international research projects and strategies.
- Encouraging the incorporation and development of new ideas, technologies and perspectives.
- Establishment of Australia’s first collaborative rock art institute.

Council noted that the Unit launched the Protect Australia’s Spirit campaign on 31 May 2011 with actor and advocate Jack Thompson. The aims of the campaign are to raise public awareness about the importance of and threats to Australia’s rock art, and also to encourage financial support to help establish the national rock art institute.

COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORK

Council **resolved to** approve the Compliance Framework document (2011/0006038) with immediate effect. The Compliance Framework articulates the University’s commitment to compliance, and details the roles and responsibilities in ensuring compliance, the procedures
for managing compliance and the procedures for reporting significant incidents of non-compliance.

AMENDMENT TO COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEDURES

Council resolved to approve an amended Committee Meeting Procedures document (2011/0006036) with immediate effect to include the addition of a new clause (20) Review of Performance which details the requirement for University Committees to undertake biennial reviews of performance.

AMENDMENT TO STUDENT GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS POLICY

Council resolved to approve revisions to Section 2.1 Grievances Concerning Academic Decisions of the Policy on Student Grievances and Appeals with effect from Semester 1 2012.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO SIGN CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

Council resolved to approve a revised Authority to Sign Contracts and Agreements Schedule of Delegations document to provide that the Director, Griffith Enterprise has the delegated authority to sign Standard Assignment of Intellectual Property Deeds (Consultancy and Commercial Research Policy).

DECEMBER 2011