PRESENTATION ON GOLD COAST CAMPUS STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

At its December 2005 meeting, Council approved a proposal to lease land on the southern precinct of the Gold Coast campus to a third party which would, in return, build and operate student accommodation, with an option to build and operate further accommodation if the University wishes.

Dr Patrice Derrington, Chief Executive Officer, Campus Living Villages Pty Ltd, and Ms Catherine Baudet, Architect, made a presentation to Council on student accommodation on the Gold Coast campus.

UPDATE ON RESEARCH QUALITY FRAMEWORK

The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) provided an update to Council on the Research Quality Framework. Council also noted the new Research Prospectus which highlighted Griffith’s research strengths in the following areas: Biomedical and Healthcare Innovations (Science and Health); Sustainable Solutions for our Rivers, Coasts and Land (Environmental Sciences); Tomorrow's Technologies Today (Science & Engineering and Information Technology); Creative Ideas for a Changing World (Humanities, Education, Creative and Performing Arts); and Social Innovations (Humanities, Social Sciences, Business, Law).

2006 UNDERGRADUATE DOMESTIC ADMISSIONS

The overall application rate to QTAC for all universities increased marginally this year by around 200 applications, with a total of 51,847 applications. The University’s first preference applications were 9,614, with a total of 53,088 preferences. These numbers had increased from last year (4% and 9% respectively). Griffith made 7,599 admission offers through QTAC in the major offer round, and 1006 offers in the final offer round for Commonwealth supported places. These offers are expected to enable the University to meet its Commonwealth supported load target for 2006.

Council was advised that the outcome for the University for 2006 undergraduate admissions in terms of cut-off scores and the quality of students admitted was similar to last year.

VOLUNTARY STUDENT UNIONISM

The provisions of the Federal Government’s Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) legislation will take effect from 1 July 2006.

Council considered a briefing paper which explained the Government’s legislation, provided background information on the University’s various student bodies, set out some of the main financial implications of the legislation, and provided an update on progress in responding to the legislation’s impact.
Council noted that a considerable amount of analysis had been carried out by Campus Life and the three student bodies during 2005 in anticipation of passage of the VSU legislation, and each had developed to a varying degree contingency plans to cope with the expected impact of the legislation. Council was advised that discussions had been held with each organisation and further meetings were scheduled.

**APPOINTMENT OF PORTFOLIO DEANS, GRIFFITH BUSINESS SCHOOL**

Council resolved to offer the following appointments: Professor Bill Shepherd as Dean (Academic) for the period 7 March 2006 to 28 February 2009; and Professor Lorelle Frazer as Dean (Learning and Teaching) for the period 7 March 2006 to 28 February 2009.

**APPOINTMENT OF HEADS OF SCHOOL**

Council resolved to offer the following appointments: Dr Cheryl Sim as Head, School of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning for the period 7 March 2006 to 31 December 2006, or until such time as the recommendations of the Faculty of Education Review are finalised, whichever is the sooner; and Professor David Thiel as Head, School of Engineering for the period 7 March 2006 to 31 December 2007.

Council also ratified the executive action of the Vice Chancellor in appointing Professor Parlo Singh as Head, School of Education and Professional Studies for the period 27 February to 31 December 2008.

**REVISED TITLES FOR DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLORS**

Council resolved:

a. to approve a change in the title of Deputy Vice Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) to Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic).

b. that the term “Deputy President” be deleted from the title for Deputy Vice Chancellors for use by these officers domestically, and that the title “Deputy Vice Chancellor and Deputy President” be changed to Vice President (Research) and Vice President (Academic) respectively for use by these officers when travelling overseas.

**APPOINTMENTS TO GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION BOARD**

Council approved the following appointments to the Griffith University Fund Board for a two-year term of office up to 6 March 2008: Ms Leneen Forde as Chairperson and Mr Rob Borbidge as Deputy Chairperson.

**ACADEMIC MANAGEMENT POSITIONS IN THE GROUP**

Council approved a revised policy statement “Appointment of Deans, Heads of School, Deputy Heads of Schools and Portfolio Deputy Directors” (2006/004508), as well as new position descriptions for the following positions: Group Pro Vice Chancellor, Dean (Academic) in a single faculty Group, Dean (Research) in a single faculty Group, Dean (Learning and Teaching) in a single faculty Group, Dean of Faculty in a multi faculty Group, Research Centre Director, and Head of School/Department.
ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW POSITION OF DEPUTY CHAIR, ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Council established a new position of Deputy Chair, Academic Committee which combined two previously separate positions - the Dean International (Quality and Policy) and Chair, Programs Committee. The new position will play a major role in overseeing the University’s quality assurance processes in learning and teaching, including quality assurance of international and offshore activities; and will provide representation for the University in national fora of Chairs of Academic Boards or Senates, or equivalent.

DEAN (INNOVATION)

At its May 2004 meeting, Council established the position of Dean (Innovation) to identify and pursue major commercial opportunities, particularly where these might be cross-institutional and combine both educational and research opportunities. Council was advised that the work undertaken by the Dean (Innovation) sat comfortably in the Office for Commercialisation and to some extent in the Office for Research and it was proposed that these offices take over managing the projects initiated by the Dean (Innovation). As a result, Council disestablished the position of Dean (Innovation) with effect from 1 May 2006.

DISESTABLISHMENT OF GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Council approved the disestablishment of the Graduate School of Management (GSM) within the Griffith Business School (GBS) with immediate effect, as set out in the paper “Disestablishment of the Graduate School of Management.”

Council noted that the disestablishment of the GSM would remove the current brand confusion between the GBS and GSM, reduce duplication and overheads, strengthen research and teaching leadership in other departments, and simplify accountability and reporting relationships. It would also free up resources that could be re-allocated to improve program support for the MBA.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE – 2005 REPORT

Council noted a report from the Pro Vice Chancellor (Equity and Community Partnerships) outlining the key activities and achievements of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee in 2005.

REVISIONS TO UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Council approved revised constitutions for Staff Committees and the Senior Selection Committee to take account of membership changes arising from the paper “Group structures and accountabilities of senior academic managers at Griffith University” which was approved by Council at its December 2005 meeting.
COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Council approved appointments to the following University committees: Audit Committee, Community Partnership Committee and Equity Committee.

PROFESSOR EMERITUS

Council conferred the title of “Professor Emeritus” on Professor David Saunders in recognition of his distinguished service to scholarship and to the University.

APPOINTMENTS TO QUEENSLAND CONSERVATORIUM ADVISORY COUNCIL

Council appointed Mr Malcolm Snow (CEO – South Bank Corporation) and Mr Matthew Hall (Partner, Swaab Attorneys) to the Queensland Conservatorium Advisory Council for a term of office commencing immediately and up to 6 April 2008.

MARCH 2006