1. Welcome and apologies

The Chancellor welcomed Members and noted apologies from Ms Julieanne Alroe, Ms Rebecca Hurst, Mr Thomas Mackay, Mr Grant Murdoch, and Dr Sally Pitkin.
2. Approval of items *en bloc*
Having provided Members with an opportunity to star any additional agenda items, it was **resolved** that Senate approve or note *en bloc* all items which were not starred.

3. Declaration of interests
Members’ interests as at October 2018 were circulated with the agenda.

The following changes were **noted** –

**Ms Kathy Hirschfeld**
The following entry has been added, effective 1 October 2018: Powerlink, Chair.

The following entry has been removed, effective 4 October 2018: Energy Queensland, Director.

**Professor Peter Høj**
The following entry has been added, effective 1 October 2018: Wine Australia, Director.

**Dr Sally Pitkin**
The following entry has been removed, effective 30 September 2018: Opera Queensland, Chair.

4. Confirmation of the minutes
After an amendment made at the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2018 were **confirmed**.

5. Matters arising from the minutes
The list of matters arising from previous minutes was **noted**.

6. Update from the Chancellor

**Resignation of Undergraduate Student Member on Senate**
The Chancellor advised that Mr Zachary Thomas had resigned from the Senate with effect from 2 October 2018. On behalf of Senate, the Chancellor placed on record his appreciation for Mr Thomas’s contribution during his time on the Senate. A proposal to fill the vacancy will be discussed at the December Senate meeting.

**National Conference on University Governance, October 2018**
The Chancellor presented a keynote address at the conference on ‘Tensions with China: what they mean for Australian universities’.

There had been a good panel discussion on ‘Universities as a place of academic freedom’ chaired by Professor Peter Shergold AC, Chancellor, Western Sydney University. Key documents on this topic have been made available to Members. The Vice-Chancellor and the Academic Board are considering UQ’s position. The Chancellor requested the Vice-Chancellor to bring the topic to the Senate for discussion once he was in a position to do so, and flagged his intention to have a Senate process in place further to discuss the issue and decide on next steps, such as whether to adopt a statement of principles.
Senior Executive Mission to Delhi
The Chancellor referred to the Senior Executive Mission to Delhi in late September which was outlined in the Vice-Chancellor’s Report. This mission was one of the largest in UQ’s history in terms of number of participants and scope of activities. The signing of a Collaboration Agreement and Joint PhD program at IITD is a significant step for an Australian university to move up the quality curve. The Chancellor commended everyone responsible for organising the mission, especially considering that UQ does not have a physical presence in India.

7. Vice-Chancellor and President’s Report
The Vice-Chancellor’s Report to Senate and the UQ Latest News, which had been circulated with the agenda, were taken as read. Members were invited to comment.

The Vice-Chancellor provided further details at the meeting on:

Premier’s Export Service Award
The University won the Premier’s Export Service Award earlier this month under the ‘Education Category’. It was noted that the overall winner was Tritium, which is a company started by three UQ graduates.

UQ Enterprise Agreement
Members had been advised on 4 October that staff had voted 96% in favour of accepting the University’s Enterprise Agreement 2018-2021. The Agreement has now been referred to the Fair Work Commission for approval.

Ramsay Centre Expression of Interest
Members had been advised on 15 October that UQ submitted an Expression of Interest to explore a possible partnership with The Ramsay Centre. In the submission the University was clear that any potential partnership would need to align with the University’s longstanding principles of institutional autonomy and intellectual freedom and would be governed by UQ’s standard policies and procedures. These are critical matters for the University.

Schonell Theatre and Student Hub
Senior Management is working with the UQ Union on the plans for the redevelopment of the current UQ student complex, which currently includes the Schonell Theatre. This proposed redevelopment reflects the need for a contemporary student hub.

A building condition report and feedback received from students through evaluation surveys have identified concerns about the poor quality of the space provided in the Schonell Theatre and the large cost of refurbishment. The University is currently gathering information on what functions the theatre fulfils for UQ and its student body/community and how best to cater for those needs going forward. It is evident that the Schonell Theatre, which was completed in 1970, no longer provides a performance space which is contemporary, but no decision has been made on suitable alternatives.

The business case for the development of the Student Hub is in progress and will be submitted to the Senate for consideration through the Campus Infrastructure Committee and Finance Committee. This will include views on alternatives to the Schonell Theatre.
Siemens agreement
[Professor Michael Brünig, Head of the School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering, and Mr Joe McLean, Director, Research Partnerships attended the meeting for this item.]

Professor Brünig took Members through the main features of the Siemens partnership.

UQ has been selected by the Australian Government’s Industry 4.0 Taskforce as one of five Australian universities with the opportunity to participate in a partnership with Siemens Australia to help prepare Australia for Industry 4.0, the next wave of industrialisation. Siemens is offering Academic Partner grants of its Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) software platform at less than 1% of the regular academic pricing to the five universities (and for about 0.1% of the full commercial value of the software platform). In addition, the Australian Government provides up to $1m funding for each university that receives the PLM software grant to build an Industry 4.0 test lab.

Each university participating in the software grants and test lab will have a focus on a particular industry sector. In the case of UQ this is the energy sector. An Energy test lab will be established to enable researchers in EAIT and across other parts of UQ to research effective energy management. Properties & Facilities will be able to work with the test lab to study efficient energy utilisation at UQ. This fits with UQ’s objective of being a world leader in energy efficiency. The test lab is intended to be a showcase research facility of global significance.

Various points arose during discussion –

Students will still be able to learn and work with software from other vendors and will not be limited to only Siemens’ products.

Data analytics will provide UQ with a deeper understanding of energy usage data than what current building information management systems can provide. The Siemens software will be able to interface with the current systems.

There is no time limit on use of software. The licenses are perpetual with a modest annual upgrade and maintenance fee.

It was noted that academics cannot use the software for consultancy work or any commercial purpose, which is a standard requirement in any academic software licensing.

Strategic matters
8. UQ’s Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2022
A final draft of the University’s Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2022 was circulated with the agenda.

The Vice-Chancellor outlined the extensive consultation process which had been undertaken to reach the final draft version of the Plan and commended everyone who had participated in the process.
The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement), Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, who was unable to attend the meeting due to ill health, sent a message in favour of endorsing the Plan. Ms Julieanne Alroe, who was also unable to attend the meeting, had advised the Chancellor of her support for endorsing the Plan. The Chancellor thanked the Vice-Chancellor and all those who had worked hard to finalise the Plan.

Senate endorsed the Final Draft Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2022, as circulated in the papers.

9. The Economic Impact of Go8 Universities

A Paper – ‘The Economic Impact of G08 Universities’ – was circulated with the papers, together with a slide pack summarising the key findings from the report ‘The Economic Impact of Group of Eight Universities’. A link to the full Report was provided.

The Vice-Chancellor introduced the Report and the Provost took Members through a presentation of the highlights.

In August 2018 the Go8 released a report outlining the findings of an economic analysis, prepared by London Economics, which concluded that Go8 universities contributed $66.4 billion to the Australian economy in 2016. The contribution of UQ was estimated to be $8.55bn (or 13% of the total).

The report presents the total value of Go8 activities in dollar terms and, in doing so, provides concrete support for arguing that university funding is an investment rather than a cost. The analysis does not cover the ‘softer’ impacts such as social mobility and cohesion or cultural influence but does provide a useful framework for articulating how university activity directly benefits the Australian economy. The framework covers four types of impact: research, university expenditure, exports (i.e. activity related to teaching international students), and teaching and learning (restricted to domestic students).

The following points arose during discussion –

It is understood that London Economics tried to align its methodology to that of the Treasury but this cannot be stated with certainty.

An observation was made that the internal benefit to the organisation is also a benefit derived by reports such as these.

One of the reasons why the Go8 commissioned the report and not Universities Australia was to illustrate that the research-intensive Go8 universities add disproportionate value to the economy, yet Federal funding through HECS and CGS is the same for all universities irrespective of research output.

Academic Matters

10. Update from the Academic Board President

The President suggested that any consideration of academic freedom and freedom of speech can be usefully informed by the University’s five values (pursuit of excellence, creativity and independent thinking, honesty and accountability, mutual respect and diversity, supporting our people).
The attention of Senate members was drawn to the principles of learning as summarised in the Academic Board paperwork. It is interesting to consider exactly how students learn, what constitutes an effective student experience, and the closely related question of what is the product of a university. In essence, exactly what are students (and the Government) paying for when they attend university?

11. Award of Posthumous Degree
A Memorandum dated 8 October 2018 had been received from the Academic Registrar recommending the approval by Senate of a posthumous award.

Senate approved – the posthumous conferral of a Bachelor of Commerce on Li Diao (44188902).

12. Academic Board Report
The Academic Board Report for the meeting held on 27 August 2018 was noted.

Financial / Operational Matters

13. Recognition of Long Service
Senate recorded its appreciation in recognition of long service to members of professional and research staff.

Senate Committee Reports / Minutes

14. Advancement Committee
An Advancement update for October 2018 was noted.

The Chair of the Advancement Committee reported a very strong close to the quarter ended 30 September 2018.

15. Campus Infrastructure Committee
The Campus Infrastructure Committee minutes of the meeting held on 9 August 2018 were noted.

16. Risk and Audit Committee
A Risk and Audit Committee Report was noted.

Noting

17. Senate report on litigation
The Senate report on litigation was noted.

18. Senate annual calendar
The Senate annual calendar was noted.

19. Next meeting date
The next meeting will be held on 4 December 2018 at 5:30pm, Customs House, 399 Queen St, Brisbane.