

**The University of Queensland**  
**Minutes of a Meeting of Senate held on 18 August 2016 at 5:30pm in the**  
**Senate Room, Level 5 Brian Wilson Chancellery,**  
**St Lucia Campus**

**Minutes confirmed by Senate on 6 October 2016**

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**Attendance**

The Members present were Mr P N Varghese AO (Chancellor), Dr J Wilson (Deputy Chancellor), Mrs M Brown, Mr T Crommelin, Professor F D'Agostino, Hon Justice M Daubney, Ms T Dwyer, Associate Professor G Hainge, Mr P Hennessy, Ms K Hirschfeld, Dr Z Hodge AM, Professor P Høj, Mr D Kerr, Mr T Mackay, Mr G Murdoch, Associate Professor T Roberts, Mr C Sartain, Mr M Starkey, Dr C Tromans, and Mr M Zivcic.

Apology: Ms M Tredenick.

In attendance were the Acting Provost, Professor J Wright; Chief Operating Officer, Mr G Pringle; Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor D Macdonald; Deputy Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement), Professor I Watson; Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor R Ward AM; Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor A Rix; Acting Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Advancement), Ms P Danver; Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International and Research), Professor A Middelberg; Chief Financial Officer, Mr A Betts; Director, Office of Marketing and Communication, Mr G Bethune; General Counsel, Ms C Seeto; and Executive Officer to the Vice-Chancellor and President, Ms J Connah.

Secretary: Dr J Montgomery.

Observer: President UQ Union, Mr M Lucas.

## The University of Queensland Senate Minutes: 18 August 2016

### 1. Statement by the Chancellor

Mr Varghese opened his first meeting as Chancellor by saying how delighted he was to be taking up the position at the University which has played such an important role for him and his family.

He acknowledged Mr John Story's very productive five year term as Chancellor, and thanked Dr Jane Wilson for the great work she had done as Acting Chancellor after Mr Story stepped down in December last year.

The Chancellor then outlined what he saw as being his role on Senate: chairing the University's peak governing body, working with the Vice-Chancellor and Senate in setting the strategic direction of the University, assisting with the University's major relationships, especially its relationships with external stakeholders, and representing the University as appropriate and communicating to the wider community why universities matter, the contribution they make, and what type of university UQ aspires to be.

The Chancellor congratulated Professor Høj and his team for the outstanding result of UQ being placed 55<sup>th</sup> in the 2016 Shanghai AWRU rankings. Universities in Australia face big challenges and positioning the University for the future requires constant effort. He looked forward to working closely with everyone to make a great institution even greater.

### 2. Welcome and apologies

The Chancellor welcomed members and attendees to the meeting and noted an apology.

### 3. Confirmation of election of Chancellor

On 23 November 2015, Senate elected Mr Peter N Varghese AO as Chancellor of The University of Queensland for five years with effect from July 2016, under Section 30 of the University of Queensland Act 1998.

Senate **noted** that the start date of his five-year term is 11 July 2016.

### 4. Declaration of interests

No declarations were made at the meeting.

### 5. Confirmation of the minutes

The general minutes, confidential minutes, and closed session minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2016, which had been circulated, were **confirmed**.

### 6. Matters arising from the minutes

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

The Deputy Chancellor said that she looked forward to receiving advice on the residential colleges at the next meeting as this has been outstanding for some time.

## 7. Statement by the Vice-Chancellor and President

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 raise issues in the Report.

### Academic Ranking of World Universities

The University rose up the prestigious ARWU to rank 55<sup>th</sup> globally and second in Australia, up 22 places from 77<sup>th</sup>. Professor Høj said that this reflects decades of sustained hard work with a focus on research excellence and the high quality of UQ's researchers and alumni.

### UQ Student Summit

The Vice-Chancellor and members of Senior Management attended the UQ Student Summit. This is an annual event that provides students with an opportunity to discuss the future direction of the University and provide feedback on the student experience to members of University Senior Management.

Professor Høj congratulated Mr Lucas, the President UQ Union, for organising such a successful event. Senior Management enjoyed the opportunity to engage with the diverse group of student leaders present.

### University Strategy 2018-2020

A recent University Senior Management Retreat provided an opportunity to consider key themes to be incorporated into the University's 2018-2020 Strategic Plan, in the context of longer term 10-year statement of strategic intent. The outcome from the retreat will inform Senate at its August retreat. A green paper will then be developed followed by a white paper, a process which proved successful in developing the UQ student strategy.

The following items from the Report were **noted** but not discussed –

- Request by Crime and Corruption Commission Queensland for UQ to contribute to an investigation report
- 2016 Vice-Chancellor's All Staff Address and launch of the UQ Student Strategy
- St Lucia Master Planning Process
- Science in Australia Gender Equity (SAGE) Pilot of the Athena SWAN Program
- Release of the UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy 2016-2017
- Faculty of Science: Reorganisation of School of Earth Sciences and School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Management
- Acting arrangements for the Executive Dean, Faculty of Business, Economics and Law
- Appointment of Sustainable Minerals Institute Director
- UQ athletes to compete in Rio Olympics
- Royal Commission into the Detention of Children in the Northern Territory
- Customs House Award
- Shanghai Consultancy Engineering Rankings

**8. Statement by the President of the Academic Board**

The delegations to the Vice-Chancellor of the approval of academic programs, and those policies not reserved for Senate is now operational. The process is proving both timely and robust. Under the Senate Governance Framework, Senate will receive two reports each year on how the Vice-Chancellor exercised these delegations. During this transition phase, however, it was **agreed** to provide this report at each Senate meeting.

Two new programs have been approved: the Bachelor of Advanced Humanities (Honours) and the Bachelor of Politics, Philosophy and Economics (Honours). These programs are high cut-off, small-cohort, restricted choice programs that have cohort-specific coursework and co-curricular activities which aim to provide a superior experience for highly-motivated, high-potential students via the development of a community of enquiry. There is always a tension between approving programs as early as possible yet making sure that they are fit for purpose.

Two new flagship coursework masters degrees have also been introduced in Data Science and in Leadership in Global Development. These programs fill gaps in the University's offerings.

A number of changes have been made to programs collateral to the Bachelor of Science, arising from the recent review of this suite of degrees.

There had been discussion, consequent on the Senate Review of the Academic Board, about the role of the Senior Executive in the septennial review of academic organizational units which is overseen by the Board's Standing Committee. A revised version of the procedures superintending the review process was put through the Board and approved by its custodian, the Academic Registrar.

Reviews of the School of Education, Pharmacy, Communication and Arts are complete and awaiting further discussion, as well as the Global Change Institute.

Mrs Maureen Bowen, a long-standing member of professional staff, and the Academic Registrar for the last five years, recently retired. Professor D'Agostino acknowledged her exemplary service to the Academic Board and acknowledged with appreciation her organization of secretariat support for the Board's various committees.

**9. Appointment of Academic Board President 2017**

[Professor D'Agostino recused himself for this item.]

Senate **approved** the appointment of Professor Fred D'Agostino as President of the Academic Board for 2017, under Section 35A(2) of The University of Queensland Act.

The Chancellor congratulated Professor D'Agostino on his appointment.

**10. Set KPI on OP 1-5 Enrolments**

A paper from the Director of Planning – Strategic Key Performance Indicators on OP 1-5 Enrolments: Proposed Target Change – was circulated with the agenda.

Sec.

Sec.

After discussion it was agreed to raise the percentage from 41.5% to 42%.

Senate **resolved** that the 2017 target for the 'market share of enrolments with an OP 1-5 (or equivalent)' KPI be set at 42%.

Sec.

#### 11. Work Health & Safety

External legal advice, which had been reviewed by General Counsel, was circulated with the agenda.

Members **noted** the contents of the advice.

The advice articulates ways in which Senate Members may better meet their duties as officers of a public authority. The Chief Operating Officer and Chair of the Senate Risk Committee will determine how best to implement these recommendations.

COO /  
Chair  
Senate  
Risk

#### 12. Residential Colleges: appointment of Senate Representatives

The following were **noted** –

Senate Members who are appointed as Senate representatives on college boards are members of that board and are therefore subject to that board's governance arrangements.

As far as possible, skills which a college board requires of a member should be aligned to those of the proposed Senate representative.

##### 12.1 Cromwell College Board

Professor Monique Skidmore having tendered her resignation to Senate, it was **resolved** –

that Mr Andrew Betts be appointed the Senate's representative on the Board of Cromwell College with effect from 18 August 2016 for the remainder of the 33rd Senate term, which ends on 31 December 2017.

Sec.

##### 12.2 Duchesne College Board

Professor Cindy Shannon having tendered her resignation to Senate, it was **resolved** –

that Mr Michael Zivcic be appointed the Senate's representative on the Board of Duchesne College with effect from 18 August 2016 for the remainder of the 33rd Senate term, which ends on 31 December 2017.

Sec.

#### 13. UQ Jakarta Office Pty Ltd

Noting the resignation of Mr Andrew Everett as Director and Secretary of UQ Jakarta Office Pty Ltd on 29 January 2016, Senate **resolved** –

that Dr Jessica Gallagher be appointed a Director and Secretary with effect from 18 August 2016 to fill these vacancies.

Sec.

A report was requested on the activities of the UQ Jakarta office since it was established.

DVC (EE)

**14. English Language Institutes**

A memorandum dated 27 July 2016 to Senate from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) was circulated with the agenda.

Senate **noted** the closures of –

- the University of DaNang-University of Queensland English Language Institute (UD-UQ ELI), and the
- University of Queensland-Universidad Catolica del Norte English Language Institute (UQ-UCN ELI).

Sec.

**15. Bequests and Donations**

Senate **approved** the bequests and donations, as set out in the Senate agenda papers.

Sec.

**16. Buildings and Grounds Committee**

Sec.

**16.1 Keith Street/Sir Fred Schonell Drive Childcare Centre, St Lucia**

On the recommendation of the Building and Grounds Committee, Senate **approved** the proposed new Childcare Centre at UQ St Lucia Campus for construction in accordance with the drawings circulated with the agenda.

The UQ Union President noted that while the UQ Union acknowledges the need for suitable childcare facilities, this has come at a cost of the loss of 150 student carparks. In the view of the President, the strategies being introduced to reduce the impact on students by the loss of these spaces does not compensate for the loss of the carparks as they are efficiency measures which could have taken place regardless of the new childcare centre. Members **noted** these comments.

**16.2 UQ Centre Entry, St Lucia**

On the recommendation of the Building and Grounds Committee, Senate **approved** the proposed modifications to the UQ Centre, St Lucia Campus for construction in accordance with the drawings presented to the Buildings and Grounds Committee on 20 July 2016.

**16.3 Mayne Centre Heat Pump Screen, St Lucia**

On the recommendation of the Building and Grounds Committee, Senate **approved** the proposed modification to the Mayne Centre, St Lucia Campus for construction in accordance with the drawings presented to the Buildings and Grounds Committee on 20 July 2016.

**17. Senate meeting dates for 2017**

The proposed Senate meeting times for 2017 were not suitable for several Members. Alternative proposed dates and times will be circulated to Members.

Sec.

**18. Senate annual calendar**

The Senate annual calendar was **noted**.

**19. Senate report on litigation**

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

**20. Policies reserved for Senate**

The status report on Policies reserved for Senate was **noted**.

The meeting ended at 8:20pm.