1. **Acknowledgement of Country**

On behalf of the Senate, the Chancellor acknowledged the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which the meeting took place, and paid respects to their ancestors and their descendants.

The Chancellor confirmed the Senate’s ongoing commitment to the University’s Reconciliation Action Plan.
2. **Welcome and apologies**  
The Chancellor welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from Ms C Wake.

3. **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.

4. **Declaration of interests**  
Members’ interests for July 2023 were circulated with the agenda and noted. The Chancellor provided an update on changes to interests for members since the previous meeting, and provided members with an opportunity to advise of any changes to the interests circulated.

The Chancellor provided Members with an opportunity to declare any perceived, potential, or actual conflict with any of the meeting agenda items. The following members declared interests with respect to awards under consideration in item 14: Ms T Dwyer, Ms J Alroe, and Professor D Terry.

5. **Confirmation of minutes**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2023, having been circulated, were **confirmed**.

6. **Matters arising from previous Senate meeting**  
There were no new matters arising from the previous Senate meeting. The Chancellor noted that following changes in staffing, the discussion of the risk appetite statement would likely be scheduled to a meeting in early-2024.

7. **Update from the Chancellor**  
The Chancellor provided an update to members, noting the below:

   • This year’s Senate Retreat would be taking place on Saturday 9 September with the overarching theme of ‘Challenges to Growth’. The day would look at a range of themes related to growth which would include the business model, student experience, transnational education, and tripartite partnerships. An external perspective would be provided by guest speaker Professor Michael Wesley (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Global, Culture and Engagement) at the University of Melbourne) who recently published a book on perspectives of universities in the community.

   • The Executive Committee of the University Chancellors Council (UCC) met on 21 August 2023. The meeting included discussion on the analytical work being commissioned on the broader non-economic contribution of universities to the Nation.

   • The dates for the Australian Institute of Company Directors governance course in 2024 had been circulated to Senate members. Members were encouraged to indicate their interest if they wished to attend.

   • The University had recently received correspondence from an interest group which recommended for the University to adopt a particular definition of ‘Antisemitism’. The response to the group would indicate that the University’s policy framework provided provisions in place to deal with antisemitism without the need to adopt the specific definition.

   • The Chancellor recently spoke to The University of Adelaide senior leadership team regarding the outlook for international students, and discussed the amalgamation of the university with the University of South Australia.
8. Vice-Chancellor and President’s Report

The Vice-Chancellor’s written report and dashboard reports were noted. Taking her reports as read, the Vice-Chancellor highlighted the following items:

- Key achievements for the University, which included:
  - Following the circulation of the Vice-Chancellor’s report, the Academic Rankings of World University (ARWU) had reissued its rankings. The University had ranked 51st in the world, and second in Australia. The Vice-Chancellor provided an update on the positioning of other Queensland universities and the Go8 universities.
  - UQ topped the nation in the 2023 Australian Research Council (ARC) Laureates scheme, as four academics received the award, with total funding of $12.8 million. Congratulations were noted for Professor Janeen Baxter, Professor Matthew Hornsey, Professor Yusuke Yamauchi and Professor Alpha Yap.
  - UQ received the highest number of ARC Future Fellows in the 2023 scheme, with 11 awards in total. The Vice-Chancellor congratulated the successful recipients.
  - The results of the 2022 Student Experience Survey reflected that UQ had improved its performance and returned to its pre-Covid position. In particular, UQ had ranked first nationally (statistically) on the measure of ‘Overall Teaching Quality’ and first in the Go8 on the ‘Learning and Resources Scale’. The survey also highlighted some focus areas for the University.
  - The outcomes of the latest rounds of ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centres and ARC Industrial Transformation Research Hubs were recently announced. UQ’s Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) attracted two of the successful bids. UQ also received funding towards the ARC Training Centre in Predictive Breeding for Agricultural Futures, and the ARC Research Hub for Engineering Plants to Replace Fossil Carbon.
  - The Queensland State Government had recently announced funding to support clinical trials for the use of an ultrasound device for Alzheimer’s research in the University’s Queensland Brain Institute.
  - UQ received two awards in the 2023 Restaurant and Catering Australia Awards for Excellence (Qld and NT) with Patina at Alumni Court winning the Restaurant Caterer Award; and Customs House winning the Events Caterer Award. The Vice-Chancellor congratulated the Customs House team, who would now progress to the national awards in November.

- On 7 August – 9 August, the Vice-Chancellor travelled to Chile and Brazil on a Senior Executive Mission with government, industry and university partners to broaden collaborations in the region. The Vice-Chancellor highlighted the opportunity to meet with the UQ team working at International Centre of Excellence from the Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI-ICE) based in Santiago, Chile.

- UQ would be hosting panel discussions on the Voice to Parliament referendum at Gatton (on 5 September) and St Lucia (on Friday 8 September) to hear from panels of constitutional and legal experts, and leaders in Indigenous affairs.

- UQ held its Open Day at St Lucia on Sunday 6 August, and at Gatton on Sunday 20 August to profile the campus to potential students and their families. Registrations from students had increased by 30% compared to 2022, including high school students from years 10 to 12.

- The Vice-Chancellor noted that the University made a material change notification to the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Authority (TEQSA) on 21 August 2023, following receipt of advice that the online English test results from a particular provider had been retrospectively cancelled for a number of students worldwide, including UQ students. The Vice-Chancellor outlined the immediate actions taken by the University to investigate the issue, and to contact impacted students regarding alternative arrangements for verification of English proficiency. The President of the Academic Board noted that the University’s working party for English Language Proficiency would be presenting to Academic Board in November.
Members discussed the Vice-Chancellor’s update. Members also discussed the recent Commonwealth Senate inquiry regarding the proposal for Australian universities to support an anti-sexual violence campaign for students into sexual consent laws.

In addition, members discussed Senate’s approach to responding to requests from external parties to address Senate, and held the view that groups would be invited to address Senate only under exceptional circumstances. This view was held on the basis that meetings were primarily to conduct the business of Senate, which in itself, was substantial.

Strategic Matters

9. UQ’s Defence Partnerships Portfolio Overview

Mr Paul Nicholls (Executive Director, Research Partnerships) and Dr Greta Nabbs-Keller (Associate Director, Defence, Space and National Security) attended for this item.

The Chancellor noted that Senate received an update on UQ’s Government Partnerships and Policy function at the meeting on 27 June 2023, and would now be briefed from the Research Partnerships function on the University’s strategic partnerships in the defence sector.

Mr Nicholls noted that the Research Partnerships function consisted of eight key portfolios, which each had an Associate Director as lead. Each portfolio had major strategic projects and key partnerships in response to external demand, which mapped back to internal capability.

Dr Nabbs-Keller provided an update on UQ’s research partnerships with industry and defence organisations, which included an overview of the below:

- The development of UQ’s Defence, Space and National Security portfolio.
- The role of Australian universities in contributing to government strategic priorities and sovereign capability.
- UQ’s defence priorities within the broader strategic and policy context in line with the Defence Strategic Review (April 2023).
- Government-university coordination under the Advance Strategic Capability Accelerator and AUKUS Pillars I and II.
- The contribution of Australian universities to the overall defence innovation ecosystem.

Members raised questions regarding UQ’s partnerships and the defence sector, which included discussion regarding the human, ethical, legal and social dimensions of defence technology. Members had an interest in hearing from other portfolios within the Research Partnerships function and UQ’s capability for the other AUKUS pillars.

The Chancellor thanked Dr Nabbs-Keller and Mr Nicholls for the valuable briefing.

10. Australian Universities Accord Interim Report

Ms Clare Hourigan, Director of Planning and Business Intelligence joined the meeting for this item.

The Chancellor referred to the Australian Universities Accord Interim Report (as circulated in the agenda) and outlined five priorities for immediate action. The report signalled the ambition to lift enrolment levels at universities particularly the number of students who had been underrepresented, which included low-SES, regional and Indigenous students. University governance had also been identified as one of priority areas, with the proposal for governing councils to include greater representation from members with higher education expertise, amongst other attributes. It was noted that the
UCC intended to respond in the area of governance, noting that universities had developed strategic matrices that outline the particular skill sets needed on their individual governing boards. In addition, UCC planned to make submissions on the proposal to establish a Tertiary Education Commission, focussed on the potential impact to university autonomy.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that the Universities Accord Interim Report set out that an additional 5.8 million people would need a higher education qualification by 2052, on the basis that jobs requiring a university qualification would increase. This analysis, from the Department of Education suggested that by 2035, Commonwealth supported enrolments would need to increase by 33% compared to 2021. To achieve this, parity would be needed in enrolments from students from historically unrepresented backgrounds.

The Vice-Chancellor presented an overview of the five priority areas, and the proposed areas for UQ’s response to the report. It was intended for UQ’s response to focus on research funding, the potential international tuition fee levy, funding for Commonwealth Supported Places, and the strength of existing university governance arrangements.

Members discussed the Interim Report which included the Federal government position on funding arrangements to support student growth, and submissions to the Accord Panel regarding HDR student stipends.

Academic Matters

10. Update from the Academic Board President
The President of the Academic Board discussed his written report, which covered the notable items from the 4 August 2023 Academic Board meeting. The following points were highlighted:
- Voting for membership to the Academic Board closed on 11 August 2023. The election was held for seven Professorial Members (and three casual vacancies), seven Non-Professorial Teaching and Research Staff (and one casual vacancy), and five student representatives. It was noted consultation would now take place to increase Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander representation on the Academic Board.
- A review of the University’s Assessment Procedure had been completed, which was the most read document in the University’s Policies and Procedures Library. The changes included updated provisions relating to assessment technologies including online exams, and digital assessment.
- The Academic Board updated its Standing Orders to reflect contemporary practice following the review of Academic Board review in December 2021.
- The President noted that Academic Board has responsibility for promoting the principles of freedom of speech and academic freedom under the University’s policy in this area. In line with these obligations, the Academic Board received a presentation from Professor Kath Gelber, Head of School, School of Political Science, who is an expert in the field of freedom of speech, and the regulation of public discourse. Her presentation was well received.
- The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and academic integrity continues to be monitored. Every Electronic Course Profile (ECP) now included guidelines that stipulated how students could use, or not use, AI in the assessment for the course. Members had a discussion regarding circumstances where AI could not be used in courses.

11. Academic Board Report
The Academic Board Report was noted.

Governance Matters

13. Campus Designation Proposal
The Chancellor noted that, following endorsement from Governance Committee, Senate agreement had been sought to designate the PACE precinct at Dutton Park as a campus.
Senate approval was sought for agreement to the campus designation. Senate Governance Committee had also recommended that criteria be incorporated into UQ’s policy framework regarding the grant of campus status to a UQ site.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that UQ had a significant presence at the Dutton Park site, which included the School of Pharmacy and UQ’s presence within TRI. These activities consisted of about 300 staff, 700 students, a branch of UQ’s Library, UQ Health Care and the Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences. A campus designation would recognise this presence for staff and students, and would help profile UQ’s long standing presence at the Dutton Park site in the context of the future development of the Boggo Road Innovation Precinct.

The criteria to designate a UQ campus would be discussed further at Governance Committee and brought to Senate in due course.

Senate resolved to:
- Approve the proposal to designate the UQ precinct at Dutton Park as a campus, effective 1 January 2024; and
- Note that criteria would be incorporated into UQ’s policy framework regarding the designation of campus status to a UQ site.

14. Report of the Senate Honorary Awards Committee
The Chancellor noted that Senate approval had been sought to confirm five Honorary Awards, and UQ RH Roe Awards, as follows:

   i. Dr Margaret Valadian AO MBE – Honorary Doctorate of the University
   ii. Ms Kathy Hirschfeld AM – Honorary Doctorate of Engineering
   iii. Mr Tim Fairfax AC – Honorary Doctorate of the University
   iv. Mr Peter Harris AO – Honorary Doctorate of Economics
   v. Mr Li Cunxin AO – Honorary Doctorate of Letters
   vi. Professor Julie Duck – UQ RH Roe Award

Following consideration of these requests, as circulated, Senate resolved to approve the conferral of five Honorary Doctorates, and the RH Roe Award in December 2023 onward.

15. Naming Requests
The Chancellor noted that Senate had been asked to approve two naming requests.

15.1 Lilla Watson Place
The Vice-Chancellor noted that Senate approval was sought to name the forecourt to the Chamberlain building Lilla Watson Place. In 1979 Dr Watson became the University’s first Indigenous tutor, which was championed by Professor Edna Chamberlain. Dr Watson had also been an appointed member of Senate.

15.2 St Baker Soyer Chair in Dermatology Research
Senate approval was sought for the philanthropic naming of the St Baker Soyer Chair in Dermatology Research in the Faculty of Medicine. Professor Soyer was recognised in the fields of dermatology and cancer research. The naming was supported by a gift from the St Baker Family Foundation in line with the philanthropic criteria in UQ’s Naming Policy.

Following consideration of these requests, as circulated Senate resolved to:
- Approve the naming of the forecourt of the Chamberlain Building at the St Lucia campus to Lilla Watson Place.
- Approve the naming of the St Baker Soyer Chair in Dermatology Research.

16. 2023 Senate Election of Student Representatives
Senate noted the update on the 2023 election of the undergraduate and postgraduate student representatives to Senate.
17. Update on Renewal of UQ’s TEQSA and CRICOS Registrations

The Chancellor noted that the update on UQ’s TEQSA and CRICOS registrations had been provided for noting. Senate noted:

- The approval of UQ’s application for renewal of CRICOS registration for a period of seven years; and
- The update on UQ’s application to TEQSA for re-registration, including that UQ had received an overall risk rating of low in relation to the risk assessment for UQ for 2022 in accordance with TEQSA’s Risk Assessment Framework.

Senate Committee Reports

18. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

The report of the Senate Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee was noted.

19. Governance Committee

The Chancellor noted that that Governance Committee considered the issue of naming chairs that are not philanthropic or honorary following a discussion regarding the partnership arrangements for industry partnerships. It was decided that criteria should be added to UQ’s Naming Policy that addressed the naming of chairs with UQ’s partners and private companies.

The Vice-Chancellor noted the proposal for non-philanthropic/non-honour naming requests to be time-limited in nature and to be reflected as ‘supported by’ rather than a named chair (for example, UQ’s chair in Advanced Hypersonics, supported by Lockheed Martin Australia). The revised policy would be discussed at a future Governance Committee. Senate supported the development of this policy position for naming requests that are neither honorary nor philanthropic.

The report of the Governance Committee was noted.

Other Matters for Noting

20. Senate Annual Calendar 2023

The Senate Annual Calendar for 2023 was noted.

21. 2023 and 2024 Senate Meeting Dates

The 2023 and 2024 Senate meeting dates were noted.

22. UQ Significant Litigation Report

The Significant Litigation Report for August 2023 was noted.

23. Any Other Business

The meeting closed at 6.50pm.