

COUNCIL NON-CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES



Minutes of the 538th meeting of **COUNCIL** held at **2pm** on **Monday 2 December 2024** in Boardroom 307, Level 3, Chancellery and via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Mr David Gonski AC, Chancellor
Dr Jennifer Alexander
Ms Maxine Brenner (*via Teams*)
Professor Attila Brungs, Vice-Chancellor and President
Mr Mark Johnson (*via Teams until 5.02pm*)
Professor Scott Kable, President of the Academic Board (*via Teams*)
Professor Justine Nolan
Mr James Raggatt
Ms Catherine Rowe
Aunty Maxine Ryan
Mr Pepsi Sharma
Dr Lana Tatour

APOLOGIES

The Hon Justice Elizabeth Cheeseman
Mr Warwick Negus, Deputy Chancellor
Mr Matthew Grounds AM

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr David Cross, Chief of Staff, Vice-Chancellor's Office
Professor Merlin Crossley AM, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Quality
Professor Verity Firth, Vice-President, Societal Impact, Equity and Engagement
Professor Bronwyn Fox, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprise
Professor, Colin Grant, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Global
Ms Clair Hodge, Interim Vice-President, Transformation, Planning and Assurance
Professor Sarah Maddison, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience
Professor Vlado Perkovic, Provost
Mr Paul Sheehy, Acting General Counsel
Mr Andrew Walters, Vice-President, Operations

Present:

Item 5.4

Ms Fiona Maclean, Executive Director, Operations

Item 5.5

Ms Davina Mearthur, Strategy Lead, Provost Office

Ms Alison Avery, Executive Director, Partnerships and Engagement

Ms Vinita Channan, Director and Executive Lead, Vice-Chancellor's Office

SECRETARY

Mr James Fitzgibbon, Director of Governance and University Secretary
Dr Amrita Mukhopadhyay, Senior Governance Administrator

For convenience, items were taken out of agenda order.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. Welcome, apologies and leave of absence

The Chancellor welcomed the members and attendees and noted the apologies.

The Chancellor invited Aunty Maxine to perform a Welcome to Country which she generously provided.

2. Declarations of interest and conflicts of interest

The Chancellor invited members to disclose any interests or conflict of interests relevant to items for discussion at the meeting.

The Chancellor advised that he ceased to be a director of the Australian Philanthropic Services Limited.

Mark Johnson advised that Seven Group Holdings Limited is now known as SGH Limited.

No further interests were declared.

3. Minutes of previous meeting and business arising (other than business in this agenda)

3.1. Minutes of Council meeting held on 14 October 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2024 were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED

Council approved the minutes of its meeting held on 14 October 2024 as an accurate record and authorised the Chancellor to sign them.

3.2. Matters arising and business carried forward

The Chancellor discussed the report on matters arising and business carried forward, noting one item is listed for discussion today, and two items are scheduled for the 17 February 2025 Council meeting.

RESOLVED

Council noted the report on matters arising and business carried forward.

4. Adoption of items for noting and approval and starring of item

The Chancellor invited members to star items 12-14 if they wanted them discussed. No items were starred.

RESOLVED

Council adopted the unstarred items 12-14 for approval and noting.

MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY

5. Report of the Vice-Chancellor and President to Council

6. Report on the proceedings of the Academic Board

The President of the Academic Board spoke to the items.

6.1. Report to Council by President of the Academic Board

The President of the Academic Board provided an overview of the recent Academic Board meeting, the Academic Board Student Representative Group (ABSRG), the TEQSA Conference and the annual Australian Committee of Chairs of Academic Boards Senates (OZCABS) Conference. He informed

Council about the introduction of 'Questions on Notice' at Academic Board meetings in response to the recommendations of the *External Review of Academic Governance* to improve engagement and discussion.

The Chancellor thanked the President of the Academic Board for the introduction of the initiative and for briefing Council on academic governance throughout the year.

RESOLVED

Council noted the report of the President of the Academic Board.

6.2. Minutes of the Academic Board meeting held on 1 October 2024 (confirmed)

RESOLVED

Council noted the confirmed minutes of the Academic Board meeting held on 1 October 2024.

6.3. Report on the establishment of a Degree, Diploma, Certificate or Other Award Program by the Academic Board

RESOLVED

Council noted the Report on the establishment of a Degree, Diploma, Certificate or Other Award Program by the Academic Board.

6.4. Appointment of Academic Board nominee to the Honorary Degrees Committee

RESOLVED

Council approved the appointment of Professor Margaret Morris as the Academic Board nominee to the Honorary Degrees Committee.

6.5. Amendments to the UNSW Rules

RESOLVED

Council approved the amendments to the UNSW Rules.

7. Report on the proceedings of the Audit Committee

8. Report on the proceedings of the Safety and Risk Committee

9. Report on the proceedings of the Honorary Degrees Committee

10. Report on the proceedings of the Information Technology Committee

11. Chief Development Officer [Ms Lindsay Robinson] Presentation

The Chief Development Officer spoke to the item. Council was advised about the impact of the philanthropic campaign and the contribution of a philanthropic culture to UNSW.

RESOLVED

Council noted the presentation from the Chief Development Officer.

Items for Approval and Noting

12. Compliance with Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Public Universities

RESOLVED

Council noted the paper on compliance with the *Voluntary Code* as part of its commitment to annually review the University's compliance with the *Voluntary Code*.

13. English language proficiency support

RESOLVED

Council noted the report on English language proficiency support currently offered at UNSW and plans to strengthen in 2025.

14. Update on UNSW's Medical Research Institute Affiliation Renewals

RESOLVED

Council noted the update on UNSW's Medical Research Institute Affiliation Renewals.

Business without notice

The Chancellor asked members if there were any items of business without notice. No items were raised.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ONLY SESSION

The Chancellor asked management to leave except those remaining for items 17 and 18. The Chancellor thanked the management staff for their exceptional work in 2024.

The Chancellor moved the meeting from the confidential session to the closed members only session at 5.02 pm.

Next Council meeting: Monday 17 February 2025

SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD

Presiding Member

Mr David Gonski AC
Chancellor