

## COUNCIL NON-CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Minutes of the 543<sup>rd</sup> meeting of **Council** held at **2pm** on **Monday 13 October 2025** in Boardroom 307, Level 3, Chancellery and via Microsoft Teams

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**PRESENT** Mr David Gonski AC, Chancellor  
Ms Luan Atkinson (via Teams until 5.21 pm)  
Ms Maxine Brenner (via Teams until 5.30 pm)  
Professor Attila Brungs, Vice-Chancellor and President  
The Hon Justice Elizabeth Cheeseman (via Teams)  
Mr James Hooke  
Mr Mark Johnson  
Professor Scott Kable, President of the Academic Board (until 6pm)  
Mr Warwick Negus, Deputy Chancellor  
Professor Justine Nolan  
Mr James Raggatt  
Ms Catherine Rowe  
Aunty Maxine Ryan (until 5.40 pm)  
Dr Lana Tatour

**APOLOGIES** Nil

**IN ATTENDANCE** Mr David Cross, Chief of Staff, Vice-Chancellor's Office  
Professor Merlin Crossley AM, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Quality  
Professor the Hon Verity Firth AM, Vice-President, Societal Impact, Equity and Engagement  
Professor Bronwyn Fox AO, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprise  
Professor Colin Grant, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Global  
Professor Sarah Maddison, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience (from 3.15pm)  
Professor Vlado Perkovic, Provost  
Mr Tobi Wilson, Vice-President, Operations and Chief Operating Officer

Present:

Professor Julien Epps, Dean Faculty of Engineering (Item 9)  
Ms Bronwyn Greene, Director Conduct and Integrity (Item 5.4)  
Ms Leah Hill, Pro Vice-Chancellor Student Success (Item 5.3)  
Ms Kathryn Taylor, Director Health and Safety (Items 5.5- 5.6)

**SECRETARY** Mr James Fitzgibbon, Director of Governance and University Secretary  
Ms Michelle Edwards, Senior Manager, Governance  
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, noting James Hooke is attending his first Council meeting. There were no apologies.

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

Council was reminded that the graduation ceremony of former Council member, Matthew Grounds, will be held on Wednesday 3 December 2025. Members were advised to notify the Director of Governance and University Secretary should they wish to attend.

**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. 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 – 11 August 2025**

**RESOLVED**

Council approved the minutes of its meeting held on 11 August 2025 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 two items were scheduled for discussion at the 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 10.1 – 10.2 if they wanted them discussed. No items were starred.

**RESOLVED**

Council adopted the unstarred items 10.1 – 10.2 for approval and noting.

**MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY**

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

**6. Academic Board report and recommendations**

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, noting

- Academic Board approval of amendments to the UNSW English Language Proficiency requirements to improve student success outcomes;
- consideration of the academic offerings, the academic quality, operations and risks of the UNSW India Proposal;
- the findings of the Undergraduate Performance Report by Admissions Pathways which noted that students entering UNSW via different pathways were being well-supported and achieving equivalent success as students who enter via direct UAC entry; and

- the findings of the paper on the role of the Academic Board in managing academic risk presented to the 5 September Safety and Risk Committee meeting; and
- an invitation to Council members to attend the 25 November Academic Board meeting where the Chancellor will be in attendance as a special guest reflecting on his time at UNSW.

**RESOLVED**

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

**6.2. Minutes of meeting – 12 August 2025 (including report on award programs)**

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the confirmed minutes of the Academic Board meeting held on 12 August 2025.

**6.3. Report on award programs of meeting – 30 September 2025**

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the Academic Board approval of degree, diploma, certificate or other award programs at its meeting on 30 September 2025.

**7. Audit Committee report and recommendations**

**8. Safety and Risk Committee report**

**9. Faculty of Engineering Presentation: A five year stocktake and five-year vision**

**10. Items for approval and noting**

**10.1. Reappointment of Academic Board nominee to the Honorary Degrees Committee**

**RESOLVED**

Council approved the reappointment of Professor Anna Munster as a member of the Honorary Degrees Committee for the period from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2027.

**10.2. UNSW initiatives addressing racism on campus**

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the establishment and progress of the Anti-Racism Taskforce, including its purpose, engagement approach and emerging themes, as part of UNSW's broader commitment to addressing racism on campus.

**Business without notice**

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

SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD

Presiding Member  
Mr David Gonski AC  
Chancellor

