

COUNCIL NEWS
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING
8 APRIL 2019

VICE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The Vice Chancellor presented her [April Report](#) to Council and briefed members about the following matters:

2018 ERA Outcome

The Vice Chancellor acknowledged the outstanding 2018 ERA outcome and acknowledged the work of the previous Vice Chancellor, the Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor and other members of the community in achieving these results.

2018 Australian University Teacher of the Year

Dr Kevin Larkin received the Australian Award for University Teaching in the Social and Behavioural Sciences category and won the overall 2018 Award for Australian University Teacher of the Year. The Vice Chancellor noted that Griffith had now won the Australian University Teacher of the Year award more times than any other University.

Review of Freedom of Speech in Australian Universities

The Hon Robert French AC, former Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia has undertaken an independent review into freedom of speech at Australian universities and drafted a proposed voluntary Model Code. The Vice Chancellor advised that the University would consider and respond to the report recommendations, noting that the report had concluded claims of a free speech crisis in Australian universities were not substantiated.

Update on Strategic Planning Process

The Vice Chancellor updated members on the development of the strategic plan, noting that around 150 responses, involving feedback from approximately 400 colleagues, had been received and ranged from a few dot points to detailed submissions. The Vice Chancellor advised that the feedback had been thoughtful and identified areas to be addressed, either as part of the strategy or separately. The Vice Chancellor advised outcomes in response to staff feedback would include a review of delegations and consideration of systems to streamline and improve processes. Council was advised that emerging themes included interdisciplinarity across teaching and research; more ambitious thinking about our campuses; a more collaborative and coherent approach to research resources; and a desire to reiterate and more tangibly demonstrate our social values around sustainability and diversity.

EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH FOR AUSTRALIA (ERA) 2018

The Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor presented the documents 'ERA at a Glance' and 'Engagement and Impact 2018 ARC Outcomes' to Council. His presentation included a briefing about the purpose of the Australian Research Council's (ARC) Excellence in Research for Australia evaluation; the 2011-2016 reference period; the planning and preparation undertaken by the University for ERA 2018 requiring involvement of the Office for Research, Griffith Enterprise, Digital Solutions and People & Wellbeing in collecting and managing data; advice about 2018 outcomes; improvements; advice about the challenges and implications arising from the 2018 evaluation; possible future government funding changes and next steps.

Council noted that Griffith's 2018 ERA outcomes were outstanding and reaffirmed the University's status as one of Australia's most comprehensive research universities. Council noted the sustained improvement in research quality which had been demonstrated by Griffith across the four cycles of ERA (2010-2018).

ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT 2018

The Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor briefed Council about the Australian Research Council's (ARC) 2018 Engagement and Impact evaluation; a companion exercise to 2018 ERA which rated universities and fields of research on a low, medium and high scale on the following measures:

- Engagement – interaction between researchers and research end-users outside of academia;
- Impact – the contribution the research had made to the economy, society, environment or culture, beyond the contribution to academic research; and
- Approach to impact – how universities facilitated and supported impact.

The Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor advised Council that the Engagement and Impact evaluation demonstrated the University's upward trajectory across a broad research profile. Council noted that Griffith was one of only eight universities where all engagement ratings were either high or medium. Council noted that the assessment recognised the relevant, value and benefits of Griffith research and the outcomes highlighted the impact of Griffith's research across a range of fields. The Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor advised Council that the exercise had facilitated a cultural shift in articulating research impact and thinking earlier and more strategically about the value of research to the community

2018 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Council **received** the certified 2018 Annual Financial Statements.

ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW REPORTS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Council **resolved to endorse** the following:

School of Applied Psychology

- Report of the Committee Reviewing the School of Applied Psychology (2019/0004642);
- Response to the Report of the Committee Reviewing the School of Applied Psychology - Implementation Plan (2019/1002059).

Department of Tourism, Sport and Hotel Management

- Report of the Committee Reviewing the Department of Tourism, Sport and Hotel Management (2018/0002868);
- Response to the Report of the Committee Reviewing the Department of Tourism, Sport and Hotel Management - Implementation Plan (2019/0004641)

School of Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences

- Report of the Committee Reviewing the School of Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences (2018/0002863);
- Response to the Report of the Committee Reviewing the School of Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences - Implementation Plan (2019/1002049)

Academic Services, Academic Administration

- Review of Academic Services, Academic Administration (2018/0002873);
- Response to the Review of Academic Services, Academic Administration - Implementation Plan (2019/1002050)

Council noted the following 18-month implementation progress reports:

- Learning Futures (Document No. 2018/0002872)
- Department of International Business and Asian Studies (Document No. 2018/0002875)

SENIOR DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR NED PANKHURST

The Chancellor noted that this would be the last meeting that Professor Ned Pankhurst would attend prior to his retirement from the University. The Chancellor was joined by Council in expressing his deep appreciation to Professor Pankhurst for his long service and outstanding leadership and commitment, as evidenced most recently by the excellent 2018 ERA outcome.

SENIOR DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR DESIGNATE PROFESSOR DEBRA HENLY

On the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor, Council **resolved to approve** that Professor Debra Henly be offered an appointment as Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor from a date to be determined by the Vice Chancellor.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SENIOR POSITIONS

PRO VICE CHANCELLOR (LEARNING AND TEACHING)

On the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor, Council resolved to establish the new position of Pro Vice Chancellor (Learning and Teaching). The new position will deputise for the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) and will also be responsible for assisting the implementation of key strategies concerning learning and teaching, the student experience, student retention and student outcomes, including employability. A recruitment process will be conducted shortly.

PRO VICE CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH)

On the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor, Council resolved to establish the new position of Pro Vice Chancellor (Research). The new position will deputise for the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) and will also be responsible for assisting the implementation of key strategies concerning the University's research and innovation strategy and enhancing the University's research profile. A recruitment process will be conducted shortly.

STAFF APPOINTMENTS

DIRECTOR, QUEENSLAND COLLEGE OF ART

Council resolved to offer Professor Derrick Cherrie a further appointment as Director, Queensland College of Art for the period from 5 May 2019 up to and including 4 May 2021.

HEADS OF SCHOOL

Council resolved to offer the following re-appointments:

- Professor Mark Forwood as Head of School, Medical Science for the two-year period from 9 April 2019 up to and including 8 April 2021.
- Professor Bela Stantic as Head of School, Information and Communication Technology for the period from 9 April 2019 up to and including 3 September 2019.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

- Ms Rhonda White AO as a member of the Finance, Resources and Risk Committee for the period from 9 April 2019 up to 31 December 2019.
- Mr Steven Leigh as a member of the Tender Board for the period from 9 April 2019 up to 31 December 2019.
- Uncle Graham Dillon be re-appointed for a further term as co-Chair, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee for the period from 9 April 2019 up to 31 December 2020.
- Uncle Bill Buchanan be appointed for a term as the male Aboriginal representative on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee for the period from 9 April 2019 up to 31 December 2020.

- Professor Roianne West be appointed for a term as the female Aboriginal representative on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee for the period from 9 April 2019 up to 31 December 2020.
- Mr Charles Passi be appointed for a term as the male Torres Strait Islander representative on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee for the period from 9 April 2019 up to 31 December 2020.
- Dr Heron Loban be appointed for a term as the female Torres Strait Islander representative on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee for the period from 9 April 2019 up to 31 December 2020.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION

On the recommendation of the Academic Committee, Council **resolved to approve** revisions to the constitution (new document number 2019/1002010) to include the list of its sub-committees, and to change the membership provisions to include the Chair, University Appeals Committee and the Dean, Griffith Graduate Research School as ex officio members.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Council approved the following new and amended policies with immediate effect:

Amended Policies	
Academic Misconduct Policy – Higher Degree Research Candidates (2019/1002035)	Amended to ensure consistency with the <i>Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2018)</i> and the University's corresponding policy <i>The Responsible Conduct of Research</i> .
Approving Authorities for University Policies (2019/0000080)	Updated to include new and changed approving authorities.

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