

SENATE DIGEST FOR MEETING OF 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chancellor welcomed Senators and attendees to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Report from Chancellor

The Chancellor observed that the written Report contains a summary of the events and meetings in which he had participated since the previous meeting and discussed the Universities Accord Interim Report.

3. Report from Vice-Chancellor and President

The Vice-Chancellor and President (VC) provided an overview of the written Report and highlighted the following:

- Almost \$2.5m in competitive research funding has been received since the last Senate meeting;
- ACU are meeting and exceeding philanthropy targets. Gratitude to those supporting the education of others was acknowledged;
- A state-of-the-art human metabolic chamber is being built and due to be finalised by end of year;
- The launch and partnership with the Aged Care Workforce Alliance (ACWA); and
- Met with counterparts at the University of Santo Thomas and the Ateneo de Manila in the Philippines.

4. Recovery Taskforce

The Vice-Chancellor and President (VC) provided an overview of the Recovery Taskforce Report and provided an overview of the July Financial Forecast.

Senate noted and discussed Recovery Taskforce progress and the July 2023 Financial Forecast.

5. Appointment of Pro Vice-Chancellor Research

Senate approved the appointment of Professor Philip Parker as Pro Vice-Chancellor Research.

6. Mission and Identity

The Vice-President and Director, Identity and Mission provided an overview of the reports on Mission and Identity and History of the Catholic Church in Australia Collection (HCCA) and highlighted the following:

- ACU celebrated its first Mission week (28 August - 1 September);
- The Community Engagement Unit review recommendation for a cross-institutional working group and detailed action plan will be submitted to the Vice-Chancellor's Advisory Committee by the end of 2023; and
- The success and positive feedback in relation to the Ex Corde Senior Leaders Mission.

7. Presentation: Teacher Education Expert Panel

Professor Mary Ryan, Executive Dean, Education and Arts provided an overview of the report and the Teacher Education Expert Panel, and discussed the recommendations made in relation to four key areas of reform.

Senate discussed and noted the Teacher Education Expert Panel (TEEP) report, implications for the university, and the approach FEA is taking to the recommendations.

8. Presentation: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise)

Professor Abid Khan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) provided an overview of:

- The current state of the ACU research model and the required changes to better align with the sector;
- Drivers of change over next 3-5 years;
- External thematic review realignment recommendations; and
- Changes to build a sustainable model over the next 3-5 years.

9. Report from Interim Provost

The Interim Provost provided an overview of the written Report and highlighted current enrolment: 23,970 EFTSL, 210 under the forecast and 137 less than same time last year. Commencing enrolment is at 94% of target.

Senators discussed enrolment targets and noted the Provost Portfolio Report.

10. Report from Chief Operating Officer

Senate discussed and noted the following reports:

- Melbourne Campus Development Report;
- Contract Execution Register;
- Work Health and Safety Report Q2;
- Power of Attorney – Rome.

11. Report of the Academic Board

The Chair of Academic Board (AB) provided an overview of the Academic Board meeting of 12 July 2023 which was an important meeting as it was the last opportunity before publishing courses advertised to market for 2024.

A new approach in relation to orientation for 2023 was examined by Academic Board. It is known as O-week in the sector but TEQSA consider it a process and it is important to make sure students are adequately supported. Advice has been provided for next year.

Academic Board has triggered a review of the Course Accreditation, Amendment and Review Policy.

12. Report of the Senate Standing Committee

Senate noted the Report of the Senate Standing Committee from its meeting of 3 July 2023.

Senate approved the revised Statute 9 – Student Organisations, as presented, with effect for elections commencing after 1 September 2023.

13. Report of the Finance and Resources Committee

The Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee (FRC) provided an overview of the Report from the meeting on 6 July 2023. The focus of the meeting was the current deficit position, draft change plans and optimal workforce profile. Senate noted the 2022 preliminary section financial results.

14. Report of the Audit and Risk Committee

The Secretary provided a brief overview of the meeting of 20 July 2023. Senate noted the Report.

15. ACU Vision 2033

The Chancellor advised that the session on ACU Vision 2033 would be deferred to a Teams session.