**DIGEST – MEETING 01/2023**

A summary of the Academic Board meeting held on 16 February 2023 is detailed below.

**Chair of Academic Board’s Update**

Academic Board:

* noted and discussed the meeting arrangements for 2023.
* noted and discussed the TEQSA Communications relating to Artificial Intelligence.
* noted the update on chairing arrangements for the Courses and Academic Quality Committee.
* noted the process and schedule for the election of the Deputy Chair, Academic Board.
* approved the nominees for award of University Medals and University Honours Medals; Executive Dean’s Award for Academic Excellence; and Minimum Medals Mark for 2023.

**Vice-Chancellor and President’s (VCP) Update**

The VCP updated Members on the following matters:

* acknowledged the financial challenges the University was currently facing, and the work required for a sustainable future for ACU.
* acknowledged the work of Professor Mary Ryan, FEA, Executive Dean, and her team to secure STEM funding from the NSW Government.
* congratulated Associate Professor Laura Miller (Occupational Therapy) and her team from the School of Allied Health for leading the consortium in successfully securing $6.9 million in funding from the Australian Department of Social Services to deliver ENVISAGE, an evidence-based program to support families raising children with a developmental concern or disability, across all states and territories in Australia.
* provided an update on partnerships.
* highlighted the continued growth in the online space.
* noted the support for the Strategic Plan.
* highlighted the university’s focus on how to better acquire and retain international students.

**Provost’s Update**

The Interim Provost reported on:

* the efforts to date of the Recovery Transition Program.
* the refocussing of the ACU Online course portfolio within the context of a review of 2022 performance and the Recovery Transition.
* promotion of honour scholarships with 20 students enrolled across the disciplines.
* the admission and enrolment process for 2023.

The Pro-Vice Chancellor, Global & Education Pathways reported on:

* International Load.
* the consequences for international students in the on-line learning space.
* the Business School’s study tours to Malaysia and India.
* the creation of new entities including the Business Plan for Australian Centre for the Advancement of Literacy (ACAL).

**Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprises Update**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprises reported on:

* the Research Performance Report.

**Vice-President Update**

The Vice-President, reported on:

* the review of the design, functioning and effectiveness of community engagement units at ACU.

**Presentations**

Academic Board:

* noted and discussed the progress of the Academic Timeline initiative and approved the proposed Governing Framework.
* endorsed the proposal to establish the ACU Australian Centre for the Advancement of Literacy (ACAL) and referred the matter to Senate for approval.

**Reporting Committees**

1. **Courses and Academic Quality Committee (CAQC)**

 Academic Board:

* noted the report of the Chair of the Courses and Academic Quality Committee (CAQC), dated January 2023.
* approved the proposal to discontinue the:
	+ Master of Occupational Health, Safety, and Environmental Management
	+ Graduate Diploma in Occupational Health, Safety, and Environmental Management
	+ Graduate Certificate in Occupational Health, Safety, and Environmental Management

currently on offer via Open Universities Australia, with effect from Semester 1 2023, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR000481.

* approved the recommendations of the course review of the Bachelor of Theology / Bachelor of Philosophy and the consequential changes to the:
	+ Bachelor of Theology
	+ Bachelor of Theology / Bachelor of Laws
	+ Bachelor of Theology / Bachelor of Global Studies

for implementation effective from Semester 1 2024, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR000470.

* noted the 2023 Faculty Proposals Submission Schedules from all faculties.
* noted the minutes.

1. **Student Administrative Lifecycle and Policy Committee**

Academic Board:

* noted the SALPC Chair’s report.
1. **University Learning and Teaching Committee**

Academic Board:

* approved the revised Assessment Policy and Procedures, and Guidelines for Assessment of Research in Coursework Programs, effective 31 July 2023.
* approved the adoption of internal benchmarks, as recommended by ULTC.
* noted the minutes.
1. **Faculty Boards**

Academic Board noted the minutes and updates.