**DIGEST – MEETING 03/2023**

A summary of the Academic Board meeting held on 24 May 2023 is detailed below.

**Chair of Academic Board’s Update**

Academic Board:

* endorsed the revised amendments to Statute 2.6 – The Faculties, incorporating the addition of scholarships to section 2.6.10, for submission to the Senate Standing Committee.
* discussed the Academic Board Risk Register and deferred approval to the next meeting.
* noted ACU’s Artificial Intelligence response to Minister Tierney, April 2023.
* noted the Chair of Academic Board Approvals.

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

The VCP updated members on the following matters:

* acknowledged the efforts of the Faculty of Law and Business for progressing the School of Business’ internationally recognised accreditation with Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).
* the appointment of Professor Anne Castles as a Laureate Fellow to the Faculty of Education and Arts’ new Australian Centre for the Advancement of Literacy (ACAL).
* based on 2021 indicators, ACU was provisionally rated as low financial risk in its Provisional Annual Risk Assessment from the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) in early April.
* issues arising from TEQSA’s Guidance Note on Research and Research Training.
* the opening of the Library at ACU’s Blacktown Campus in March.
* congratulated Professor Sandy Middleton, Director of the Nursing Research Institute, who has secured the following grants:
  + $2.5 million NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) grant – Accelerate Stroke Trial Innovation and Translation.
  + as part of the team for $1.49 million NHMRC Partnership Project, to improve the health system’s response when patients are harmed.
* the Federal Government’s recent budget announcement and its impact on universities.

**Provost’s Update**

The Interim Provost reported on:

* the university’s current enrolment and projected mid-year enrolment numbers.
* the report’s Faculty focus area, the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy.
* Provost course concept and suspension April – May 2023.

Academic Board:

* discussed and noted the Widening Participation Performance Report presented by Chris Riley, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Global & Education Pathways.
* discussed and noted the Thematic Review of Post-Entry Language Support.
* noted the 2022 Scholarships Annual Report.
* discussed and noted the ACU Thrive model presented by Professor Anthony Whitty, Director, Centre for Education and Innovation (CEI).

**Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Enterprise (DVCRE) Update**

The DVCRE reported on:

* the timeline for the Thematic Review in Research and Research Training report had been extended from the initial June date.
* the increase in ACU’s grant applications by 40%.
* the quality number of ACU researchers recognised nationally and internationally.

Academic Board:

* discussed a presentation from the DVCRE titled Partnering for Excellence and Impact.

**Deputy Vice Chancellor, Ethics (DVCE) Update**

The DVCE reported on:

* the Thematic Review of the First Peoples Directorate was due to commence.
* Institute of Child Protection Studies (ICPS) - National Health and Medical Research (NHMRC) was funding the Australian Child Maltreatment Study.

Janet Fletcher, Director of Libraries reported on:

* the focus of the impact of the Recovery Transition Budget (RTB) on ACU’s libraries, including a review of the current service model.
* the benchmarking study of other university libraries.
* the importance of maintaining a suitably funded resources budget.

**Presentations**

Academic Board noted the ACU Campus Optimisation Progress Report, presented by Paul Campbell, Director, Campus Leadership.

**Reporting Committees**

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

Academic Board:

* noted the Report of the Chair of the CAQC, dated 11 May 2023.
* approved the New Course: Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation) (Honours).
* approved the Course Review of the Bachelor of Global Studies double degrees:
  + Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Global Studies.
  + Bachelor of Business Administration/Bachelor of Global Studies.
  + Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Global Studies.
  + Bachelor of Applied Public Health/Bachelor of Global Studies.
  + Bachelor of Theology/Bachelor of Global Studies.
  + Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Global Studies.
  + Bachelor of Laws (Honours)/Bachelor of Global Studies.
* approved the Course Review:
  + Master of Education.
  + Graduate Certificate in Education.
* approved the Course Review:
  + Bachelor of Educational Studies.
  + Diploma in Educational Studies (Tertiary Preparation).
  + Diploma in Educational Studies (Tertiary Preparation) (Away from Base).
  + Certificate in Educational Studies.
* approved the Major Course Change:
  + Bachelor of Education (Primary).
  + Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary).
  + Bachelor of Education (Primary and Secondary).
  + Bachelor of Education (Primary and Special Education).
* approved the Major Course Change:
  + Master of Teaching (Early Childhood and Primary).
  + Master of Teaching (Early Childhood and Primary)/Graduate Certificate in Religious Education.
  + Master of Teaching (Primary).
  + Master of Teaching (Primary)/Graduate Certificate in Religious Education.
* approved the Course Discontinuation: Graduate Certificate in Safeguarding Children and Young People.
* approved the Course Discontinuation: Graduate Certificate in Contemporary Literacies.
* approved the New Microcredentials UNMC501 and UNMC502 for FEA Microcredential Suite.
* approved the Major Course Change (PR000397): Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (Birth to Five Years) (Accelerated).
* approved the New Course: Graduate Diploma in Psychology for ACU Online
* approved the Course Review: Master of Leadership and Management in Healthcare.
* approved the Major Course Change (for ACU Online):
  + Master of Leadership and Management in Healthcare.
  + Graduate Diploma in Leadership and Management in Healthcare.
  + Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Management in Healthcare.
* approved the Course Review:
  + Master of Health Administration.
  + Graduate Diploma in Health Administration.
  + Graduate Certificate in Health Administration.
* approved the Major Course Change:
  + Master of Health Professional Education.
  + Graduate Diploma in Health Professional Education.
  + Graduate Certificate in Health Professional Education.
* approved the Major Course Change: Graduate Certificate in Religious Education for ACU Online.
* noted the Student Experience and Outcomes Report 1 2023.
* noted the minutes.

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

Academic Board:

* noted the SALPC Chair’s report.
* endorsed the 2023 Foundation Studies Entry Requirements.
* noted the 2022 Student Complaints Report.
* noted the 2022 Student Appeals Report.
* noted the 2022 Use of Savings Clause Report.
* noted the International Admissions Report February 2023.
* noted the 2023 Main Round Domestic Admissions Report.

1. **University Learning and Teaching Committee (ULTC)**

Academic Board noted the minutes.

1. **University Research Committee (URC)**

Academic Board

* approved the Faculty of Health Sciences Strategic Research Plan (2023-2027)
* noted the minutes.

1. **Faculty Boards**

Academic Board noted the minutes and updates.

**Reporting**

**Data, Analytics and Strategic Insights (DASI)**

Academic Board noted the ACU Renewal of Registration Readiness Report, presented by Dalton Langenhoven, National Manager, Quality Assurance and Standards.