

SENATE DIGEST FOR MEETING OF 5 DECEMBER 2024

1. Welcome and Apologies

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

2. Report from Chancellor

The Chancellor noted that the written report contains a summary of the events and meetings in which he had participated since the previous meeting.

3. Report from Vice-Chancellor and President

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

- The University has reached its largest student enrolment, with a 77% increase in commencing International Student enrolments for 2024; and
- Research metrics have improved as expected, with progress and stabilisation across several performance indices.

4. Renewal of Registration

Senate noted the update provided by the Institutional Lead, Renewal of Registration.

5. Report from Provost

The Provost provided an overview of the written report and highlighted the following:

- All faculties have generated a significant surplus;
- Academic workload allocation processes; and
- Student numbers for 2025 are promising, based on current first preferences among high school students;

Senate noted the Provost Report.

6. Impact of 2023 Academic Change Management Plan on Research Capability

Senate noted the Impact of 2023 Academic Change Management Plan on Research Capability.

7. Independent Review of the Governing Body ('Niland Review') – Action Plan: Progress Report

Senate considered and approved the Action Plan, noting detailed consideration of earlier versions of the Action Plan by the Senate during 2024.

8. 2025 Governance Meeting Schedule

Senate noted the Senate and Senate committee meeting dates for 2025.

9. Conferral Report

Senate noted the 2024 Conferral Report.

10. Report of the Academic Board

Chair of the Academic board provided an overview of the written report and highlighted ongoing efforts to address plagiarism and academic misconduct as emerging issues.

Senate noted the Academic Board Report.

11. Report of the Senate Standing Committee

Senate noted the Report of the Senate Standing Committee.

12. Report of the Finance and Resources Committee

Senate noted the Report of the Finance and Resources Committee

13. 2025 Budget

The Chief Financial Officer provided an overview of the written report and highlighted that the 2025 Budget was presented to the Finance and Resource Committee and outlined the University's financial position and budget development strategy.

Senate discussed and approved the 2025 University Budget.

14. Gender Equity and Diversity Report

The Chief People Officer provided an overview of the written report and highlighted that work is underway within the area of Data Governance and work will continue towards ACU achieving the Athena Swan Silver Award.

Senate noted the Gender Equity and Diversity Report

15. Report of the Audit and Risk Committee

Senate noted the Report of the Audit and Risk Committee.

16. Work Health & Safety Report and Action Plan

The Chief People Officer provided an overview of the written Report and highlighted the current focus on resourcing in the Work Health and Safety areas, as well as updates to Riskware.

Senate noted the Work Health & Safety Report and Action Plan.

17. External Audit Plan and Engagement Letter

Senate noted and endorsed the External Audit Pan (for calendar year 2025).

18. Cyber Security Report

Senate noted the Cyber Security Report including updates on risk profile and achievements.

19. General Business

Senate noted and expressed gratitude for the service of Professor Richard Colledge to the ACU Senate.