

PRESENT: Chancellor (Mr Tweddell)(Chair), Deputy Chancellor (Hon. P Lindsay), Vice Chancellor (Professor Harding), Chairperson of the Academic Board (Professor Naylor), Ms Cannon, Ms Caswell, Mr Charlton, Mr Dodge, Mr Gilliver, Mr Harridge, Mr Kirkwood, Mr Landy, Professor Leggat, Ms McLaughlin, Mr Mosch, Mr Phillips, Dr Smorfitt, Dr Tyrell and Ms Walker.

ATTENDANCE: Mr Kern (Secretary), Mr Troupe (Minute Secretary), Professor Cocklin and Ms Brand (Permanent Advisors). Professor Louis Schofield (Item 6)(by video-conference from Cairns)

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mr Haddrick, Associate Professor Leicht and Mr Twomey.

START TIME: The Meeting commenced at 6:04pm

The Chancellor welcomed members to the meeting and paid tribute to his predecessor, Lt. Gen. John Grey AC Ret'd, who retired as Chancellor, after 17 years of service, on 25 March 2016.

The Deputy Chancellor paid tribute to Mr Tweddell, who had commenced as Chancellor on 26 March 2016.

The Chancellor congratulated Mr Harridge on being re-elected (as the "undergraduate student" member and thanked Mr Dodge ("postgraduate student" member) and Ms Walker ("undergraduate or postgraduate student" member), who were attending their last meeting of Council.

1. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS:

The Vice Chancellor had a conflict of interest in relation to Confidential Minute Item 20.

2. MINUTES

N-SECT The following Minutes were adopted as a true and correct record:

- 2.1 Ordinary Minutes of Meeting (1/16) held on 26 February 2016, as confirmed by the Chair.
- 2.2 Confidential Minutes of Meeting (1/16) held on 26 February 2016, as confirmed by the Chair.
- 2.3 Council Circular Minutes (1/16), approved 29 March 2016

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

A-EO The Vice Chancellor advised Council that, while not specifically referenced in her Report, work on a question taken on notice at the last Meeting in relation to where and how the SSAF funding was allocated and specifically what proportion was being allocated to the JCU Students Association, was under way and a report was being prepared which would be submitted to Council once the 2016 allocations were finalised.

4. MATTERS NOT YET FINALISED:

There were no matters not yet finalised.

5. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The final report from Lt. Gen. John Grey AC Ret'd, recently retired from the position of Chancellor, up to 25 March 2016, was received along with the first report of the incoming Chancellor, from 26 March 2016.

The Chancellor made reference to his email of 26 March 2016 that was issued to all members upon his taking up the role of Chancellor on that day and he sought and received agreement from Council for the email be attached to his Report and the Minutes.

Council noted that the incoming Chancellor's first official function was as officiating officer at the JCU Singapore Graduation on 2 April 2016. The Chancellor also met with His Excellency Philip Green, Australia's High Commissioner to Singapore.

RESOLVED:

N-UNISEC that the Chancellor's Report, including as an attachment the Chancellor's 26 March 2016 email communication dated 26 March 2016, be noted.

6. VICE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Professor Louis Schofield, Director of JCU's Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine, provided a briefing on the Institute.

The presentation was acknowledged with acclamation.

The Vice Chancellor highlighted the following matters from her Report:

- The Times Higher Education (THE) - 150 Under 50 Rankings for 2016, had been released which ranked the top 150 universities under 50 years old in the world and JCU had been ranked in 38th place. Furthermore, JCU had run its 'top 4% in the world' marketing campaign for a number of years based on the *Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU)*, which had consistently placed JCU in the top 301-400 group of universities. Over that time, JCU has improved its position, while the number of recognised higher education institutions had increased, on some scales, from 10,000 to more than 18,000, in reality placing JCU in the top 2% of universities worldwide;
- Cairns Innovation Centre - the Queensland Government had pledged \$10 m towards the construction of the Cairns Innovation Centre, dependent on the Commonwealth Government providing \$10 m in matching funds. The completed project was estimated to cost \$50 m, with additional funding being sourced commercially and from JCU, as per the Clinical Practices Building on the Townsville campus;
- Marine Precinct – a meeting had been held on 18 March 2016 involving representatives of JCU, the Port of Townsville, Townsville City Council, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Australian Institute of Marine Science and other stakeholders in relation to the proposed Marine, Research and Tourism Precincts identified in the Townsville Waterfront Priority Development Area. The Port and City Council had expressed a strong desire to leverage and showcase local expertise in these areas and had indicated that they were aware of a couple of development proponents. The participants committed to further discussions. A member commented that the Federal Government had indicated it was not in the business of funding stadiums so this project might be a suitable alternative signature project for funding;
- Northern Australia Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) – Ms McLaughlin, recently elected Mayor of the Burdekin Shire, informed members that the Burdekin Shire Council had written a letter of support to the Federal Government for the Northern Australia CRC to be located in Townsville;
- Higher Education Reforms – the Federal Minister for Education had reiterated that he was in consultation with the sector on reforms that would be part of a Turnbull Government higher education election platform. The savings flagged in the Higher Education and Research Reform Bill 2014, defeated in the Senate 17 March 2015, remained government policy as tabled in the 2015/16 Budget and the December 2015 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook. These savings included deregulation of fees for Commonwealth Supported Places, a 20% cut in the Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS) and a 10% reduction in funding for the Research Training Scheme (RTS) together with the enabling of universities to charge RTS supported students tuition fees. A 3.25% efficiency dividend saving was also still on the table; and
- There was also some discussion regarding:
 - the impact of the ever increasing Higher Education Contribution Scheme / Higher Education Loan Program (HECS – HELP) debt, largely driven by expansion of the scheme into VET;
 - Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) scores; and
 - the Inquiry into Opportunities for Expanding the Aquaculture Industry in Northern Australia and the recommendations and potential opportunities resulting from it.

RESOLVED:

N-EO that the Vice Chancellor's Report be noted.

7. REPORT TO COUNCIL FROM CHAIRPERSON OF ACADEMIC BOARD

The Chairperson spoke to his report and highlighted the following:

- Chair of Academic Board (CAB) Forums would now be held following Council meetings in future to ensure relevant final approved information was passed onto staffing;
- Following on from the Universities Australia conference (9-11 March 2016), which Professor Naylor attended, there was a need to value-add to teaching excellence not just research (e.g. similar to the Teaching Excellence Framework, UK or Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, both were useful measures that may be used in the future);
- Policy Reviews and Updates - all new academic policies would be located on the University's Policies website under the control of the Quality, Planning and Analytics Directorate;
- The Chairperson foreshadowed to Council a paper, via the Academic Board, which sought to address a likely outdated requirement for off-shore academic offerings, including courses and majors, being offered for the first time on the JCU Singapore Campus to require Council approval in accordance with the *Curriculum Approval, Monitoring, Review and Improvement Policy*, before they could be delivered in Singapore. The requirement does appear to have continuing relevance for off-shore, off-campus academic offerings and by definition this should exclude JCU Singapore.
- With regard to the *Academic and Student Delegation Policy*, this had been considered and approved by Academic Board and was sponsored by the Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic. It provided a framework to enable development of a current Academic Delegations Register and the policy and register would come forward to Council in the future; and
- Council noted that a Posthumous Award had been recently conferred and Professor Naylor and the University Secretary explained to members the requirements of the *Posthumous Award Policy*, which makes provision for a posthumous award to be conferred after careful assessment to determine that but for death the student would likely have satisfactorily completed their studies.

RESOLVED:

N-CHTAB that the Chairperson of Academic Board's Report be noted.

8. REPORT TO COUNCIL FROM CHAIRPERSON OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Report was noted.

RESOLVED:

N-CHRHSEC that the Chairperson of Health, Safety and Environment Committee's Report be noted.

9. REFER SEPARATE PAGES**10. ACADEMIC BOARD – ACADEMIC OFFERINGS – DIVISION OF TROPICAL HEALTH AND MEDICINE – NEW MAJOR – SINGAPORE**

Council noted that in accordance to the *Courses, Majors and Subjects Approval Process Policy*, Academic Board had endorsed the proposed new major *Bachelor of Arts – Psychology Studies*, at its meeting (1/16) held 14 March 2016, and noted that the existing BA course and Psychology Major would not be discontinued in Singapore until the Council for Private Education (or equivalent) approval for the new program had been achieved. Until that time two separate course codes might need to exist.

Council, in accordance with the policy, approved the proposed new major, as recommended by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Division of Tropical Health and Medicine, as it would be offered in Singapore for the first time from 1 January 2017.

It was noted that JCU Singapore would be formally notified of Council's decision through its minutes.

RESOLVED:

- A-CIMS
N-JCUS
1. that the proposed new Psychology Studies Major in the Bachelor of Arts be approved; and
 2. that JCU Singapore be formally notified through the Council minutes of the proposed new major to be offered in Singapore.

11. ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

The Chair of the Audit Committee briefed Council on the Annual Report, required under section 1.7 of Schedule A of the Audit Committee Charter and section 35 (5) of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009 (Qld)*. Council noted that Internal Audit was now concentrating on compliance and internal control and as a result of reduced resources was scaling back its advisory services.

The Chair highlighted that the Audit Committee at its Meeting (2/16) adopted the Report and had provided the following comments:

The Chair advised the Committee that under section 2 of the report – 'Chair Comment' it was noted that the end of year survey of Council members revealed that several members were uncomfortable with the governance of risk. The Committee agreed that a better understanding of what Council's concerns were needed and requested that clarification be sought.

Council noted that a presentation on current risk management arrangements at the University would be made as part of the Vice Chancellor's Report at the 27 May or 14 July meeting and if there were still concerns they could be raised then.

RESOLVED:

- N-CHRAC
A-EO
A-COS
1. that the Annual Report to Council on the activities of the Audit Committee for the year ended 31 December 2015 be noted.
 2. that a presentation on current risk management arrangements at the University would be made as part of the Vice Chancellor's Report at the 27 May or 14 July meeting be noted.

12. REFER SEPARATE PAGES

13. MINUTES - COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL - ORDINARY MINUTES OF ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING (1/16) HELD ON 14 MARCH 2016

While Committee minutes were normally reported via a Council Circular, two members of Council had requested that the Ordinary Minutes of Academic Board Meeting (1/16), held on 14 March 2016, be considered at a full meeting of the Council.

The Chairperson of Academic Board clarified that the *Delegations Policy*, which had been withdrawn from Council at its 3 December 2015 meeting (Minute 15 of Council meeting 9/15 refers) was an overarching policy that would eventually be developed and sit above all other delegations policies. He reminded Council that the Vice Chancellor at that Meeting had highlighted to Council that the existing framework and practice of establishing a function-specific Delegation policy and associated Delegations Register, such as was the case for *Human Resources* and *Financial*, would be employed to deal with Student and Academic Delegations.

The new policy approved by Academic Board would provide the principles and guidance and enable work to commence on the revised *Academic and Student Delegation Register*, which had triggered a process of consultation. The existing register has 700 line items of delegations, many of which were procedural. This had now been reduced to 400 lines and the remaining delegations were aligned with the new University structure and were closer to the source of the delegation. The aim was to have a primary and secondary delegate and no nominees. 95% of the work towards being comfortable with regard to delegations in the academic and student services areas was complete. A paper was being prepared which would be considered by the Vice Chancellor's Advisory Committee, Education Committee, Research Committee and Academic Board before coming to Council for approval being

the culmination of a deeply thought through process in accordance with policy, which cascaded into the delegations register.

The member, who had raised concerns with regard to the *Delegations Policy* at the 3 December 2015 Council meeting and had worked since that time with the Vice Chancellor and the Quality, Standards and Policy Unit to share her original concerns, commended the work that had been undertaken by all parties. The issue of multiple delegates was believed to have been resolved following receipt of legal advice.

RESOLVED:

N-SECT that the Ordinary Minutes of Academic Board – Ordinary Meeting (1/16) held 14 March 2016, be noted.

- 14. REFER SEPARATE PAGES
- 15. REFER SEPARATE PAGES
- 16. REFER SEPARATE PAGES
- 17. REFER SEPARATE PAGES
- 18. CONFERRAL OF AWARDS IN ABSENTIA

RESOLVED:

A-EXAM
N-GRS that the following awards be conferred in absentia, the date of conferral to be 7 April 2016.

Awardee

Degree/Diploma

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SOCIETY & EDUCATION

Elaine Shirley Gilmour

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

COLLEGE OF MARINE & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Eric Peter Osborn

MASTER OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE

Pedro Henrique Cipresso Pereira

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Boga Soni Figa

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Lalu Adi Gunawan

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Lorena Machado

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Fiona Patricia McDuie

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Michelle Venter

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

- 19. REFER SEPARATE PAGES
- 20. REFER SEPARATE PAGES
- 21. GENERAL BUSINESS

21.1. CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

The Council thanked Mr Dodge (postgraduate student member) and Ms Walker (undergraduate or postgraduate student member), who were attending their last meeting of Council, for their contribution to Council over their term of office and both were presented with Certificates of Appreciation. Mr Dodge thanked the University, the JCU Council and the Chancellor (outgoing and incoming) for a wonderful experience. The Chancellor undertook to convey those thanks to his predecessor.

21.2. CONGRATULATIONS

The Chancellor congratulated Ms McLaughlin on being elected Mayor of the Burdekin Shire Council.

21.3. REFER SEPARATE PAGES

21.4. COUNCIL PHOTOGRAPH

Members were informed that it was proposed that the Council Photograph for 2016 would be taken immediately prior to the 1 September 2016 meeting scheduled to be held in Townsville. Members were asked to try to attend the meeting.

21.5. REFER SEPARATE PAGES

21.6. WEB ISSUES AND COMMITTEE PAPERS

A member commented that there were ongoing issues with regard to Council and Committee web pages, that there had been problems with uploading and being able to access papers and this was impacting members. Council noted that the University had a new Content Management System (CMS), which was, like the previous CMS, not designed for Meeting document storage and access and a number of upgrades had been undertaken in recent weeks which had exacerbated existing accessibility issues. It was hoped the more recent issues would be resolved soon. Council was advised that a Committees Management Review Project had identified a specific purpose software product as a project deliverable. Council was also informed that on occasion when the CMS was having issues, papers had been made accessible using Cloudstor, an AARNet sponsored "drop box".

It was agreed that until the CMS issues were resolved or the Committee Meeting management software solution implemented, Council Meeting papers should be uploaded to the CMS and Cloudstor (or other alternative, secure drop box) as a matter of course.

21.7. RACIAL SEGREGATION MEDIA STORY – QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY

In relation to a media story regarding racial segregation at another Queensland university, a member asked if JCU had dedicated spaces for particular groups and if any such spaces were not open to others. It was confirmed that there were support spaces for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students but they were not exclusive to those students and therefore there was no racial segregation. Council noted there were also gender specific prayer rooms at JCU Singapore.

The Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Approved by the Chair
29 April 2016