

Ref: F21/125**MINUTES
UWA SENATE****Held Monday, 24 May 2021 in Senate Room commencing at 3.30pm****MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE:**

The Chancellor, as Chair: The Hon Robert French, AC
The Pro-Chancellor: Mr Frank Cooper, AO
Vice-Chancellor: Professor Amit Chakma
Chair of Academic Board: Professor Raymond da Silva Rosa
Governor Appointees: Ms Joanne Farrell
Ms Sue Murphy, AO
Ms Linda Kenyon
Elected by Convocation: Adjunct Professor Warren Kerr, AM
Adjunct Professor Dr Brett Davies
Elected by Academic Staff: Dr Nin Kirkham
Elected by General Staff: Ms Jill Benn
Elected by Students: Ms Emma Mezger: President, Student Guild
Mr Joseph Chan: President, Postgraduate Student's Association
Co-opted members: Dr Bob Olivier
Dr Sue Gordon, AM
Mr Michael Byrne

Apologies:

Nil

By Invitation:

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Simon Biggs
Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Professor Tim Colmer
Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education, Professor David Sadler
Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Leona Marquand
Director Governance and General Counsel, Mr Paul Shanahan

For Agenda Items 10.1 and 10.2

Mr Nigel Waugh, Director, Human Resources

For Agenda Item 15

Pro Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Professor Graham Brown

Observers (Open Senate):

Associate Professor Debra Judge

Secretariat:

University Secretary, Ms Sue Moore

PART 1: ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION IN CLOSED SENATE

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chancellor as Chair welcomed all members and particularly new members Ms Linda Kenyon and Adjunct Professor Dr Brett Davies.

The Chancellor outlined the changes to the agenda informed by the Independent Review of the Senate and Academic Governance and the work of the Senate Effective Governance Working Group noting the iterative process to improve the agenda and meetings throughout the remainder of 2021.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The declarations of members were noted.

Dr Sue Gordon, AM advised she is no longer a board member of the Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation or the Chair of Aboriginal Hostels Limited.

Ms Sue Murphy advised she is now a Director of MMA Offshore Ltd.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED – S R25/21

To confirm as a true and accurate record:

- (a) Minutes of the Senate meeting held on 4 March 2021 (S 01/21);***
- (b) Noting of Decision by the Senate made on 24 March 2021 (S CR 01/21);***
- (c) Noting of Decision by the Senate made on 1 April 2021 (S CR 02/21);***
- (d) Noting of Decision by the Senate made on 27 April 2021 (S CR 03/21).***

PART 2: ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION IN OPEN SENATE

Associate Professor Debra Judge joined the meeting as an Observer.

9. CHANCELLOR'S UPDATE: INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE SENATE AND ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE

The Chancellor outlined his presentations to the Strategic Resources Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee noting the ongoing work to address the recommendations arising from the Independent Review of the Senate and Academic Governance and those of the Senate Effective Governance Working Group.

10. SAFETY AND HEALTH, INJURY MANAGEMENT AND WELLBEING

10.1. SAFETY AND HEALTH, INJURY MANAGEMENT AND WELLBEING REPORT Q1 2021, SAFETY AND HEALTH INJURY MANAGEMENT AND WELLBEING 2020 ANNUAL REPORT AND OTHER MATTERS

The Director, Human Resources, Mr Nigel Waugh joined the meeting.

The Senate acknowledged the significant amount of work undertaken by management to improve the quality of the reports.

The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor noted feedback from the Audit and Risk Committee would drive further changes including a focus on safety culture across the University and improvements to the availability and quality of data to inform reporting.

RESOLVED – S R27/21

The Senate:

- (a) **Notes the combined Q1 2021 Safety and Health (S&H) Injury Management and Wellbeing (IM&W) Report (Attachment A);**
- (b) **Notes the Safety and Health (S&H) and Injury Management and Wellbeing (IM&W) 2020 Annual Report (Attachment B);**
- (c) **Notes the response to actions arising from the 24th of February Audit and Risk Committee and the 4th of March Senate meetings; and**
- (d) **Notes the Chinese Government '1000 Talents' Program report (Attachment C)**

10.2. SAFETY AND HEALTH POLICY, SAFETY AND HEALTH, INJURY MANAGEMENT AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

Introducing the item, the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor noted the Policy appropriately reflected the roles and responsibility in relation to safety and health across the institution.

It was noted the Audit and Risk Committee had requested an amendment to the Policy to ensure all classes of employees, contractors etc. are appropriately defined within the document.

Before putting the resolution, the Chair sought Senate's comfort with the proposal that the requested amendments would be managed by the Vice-Chancellor.

RESOLVED – S R28/21

The Senate:

- (a) **Subject to minor amendments to be managed by the Vice-Chancellor, approves the Safety and Health Policy (Attachment A); and**
- (b) **Notes the Safety and Health, Injury Management and Wellbeing Strategy documents (Attachments B – E)**

Mr Waugh left the meeting.

11. INSTITUTIONAL KPIs - UPDATED

The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor outlined the development of the new Key Performance Indicators and feedback received from the Strategic Resources Committee.

In response to queries, the Vice-Chancellor reiterated Executive's commitment to report annually on a range of comprehensive people and culture-related indicators and would consider the 'net promoter score' as one such indicator.

Additionally, the Vice-Chancellor undertook to consider the development of meaningful digital/IT indicators.

It was recommended that management adjust the 2025 target for HDR Completions to 50 per cent to align with the figure stated in the Vice-Chancellor's KPIs at Item 12 and in light of the current HDR student pipeline.

RESOLVED – S R29/21

The Senate approves the updated 2021 Institutional performance indicators and targets as at Attachment A.

12. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S KPIs

RESOLVED – S R30/21

The Senate approves the Vice-Chancellor's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) as at Attachment A.

13. FINANCE REPORT – MARCH 2021

The Chief Financial Officer highlighted the refreshed report format and outlined consultation undertaken with the Strategic Resources Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee to address the discrete requirements of each as outlined in their constitutions.

It was noted the report will continue to evolve to address Senate's requirements, those of its Standing Committees and internal stakeholders.

In summary, to 31 March 2021 the University:

- Has made considerable headway in its efforts to achieve financial sustainability and reductions in its cost-base of \$70m;
- A disciplined approach to continuous improvement is still required if genuine sustainability is to be achieved.

The report was noted.

14. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO – ANNUAL HEALTH CHECK AND POLICY REVIEW

The Chief Financial Officer advised the recommendations had arisen from Mercer's major bi-annual review of UWA's investment portfolio and Investment Policy Statement noting the changes reflect a tilt in the Strategic Asset Allocation ranges of the Long Term Pool to greater growth and risk objectives were adjusted in light of the inherent risk within the market.

In relation to the Strategic Asset Allocations, each pool has been considered holistically with changes recommended intended to address the University's return and risk objectives. The Investment Policy Statement has also been updated to incorporate a capped portfolio strategic asset allocation to growth assets of 70%

RESOLVED – S R31/21

The Senate:

- (a) Approves the annual health check recommendations as at Attachment A;***
- (b) Approves the changes to the Investment Policy Statement as at Attachment B; and***
- (c) Approves the revised Investment Policy Statement as marked up on Attachment C.***

15. TEQSA BRIEFING: HESF DOMAIN 3 TEACHING; AND DOMAIN 4 RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING

The Pro Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Professor Graham Brown joined the meeting and provided an overview of Domains 3 and 4 of the Higher Education Standards Framework and the University's status against these Domains in relation to core activities of the University.

In relation to Domain 3: Teaching, Professor Brown highlighted work was underway to:

- develop a central register of exceptions in relation to the “one higher level” rule for teaching staff;
- develop an explicit statement of scholarship requirements for academic staff; and
- improve teaching facilities and IT systems.

In relation to Domain 4: Research and Research Training, Professor Brown advised issues identified included:

- the need for more systematic and documented research training; and
- the suspension and review of the non-award research (HDR) preparation course.

The briefing was noted.

16. UNIVERSITY POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor noted the revised Policy had been through an extensive consultation process.

In response to a query on the breadth of its application, it was confirmed that the Policy applied to the Senate as members of the University Community as defined in the *UWA Statute*.

The General Counsel was requested to confirm that the definition of Policy includes codes of behaviour e.g. the *Code of Conduct*, the *Code for the Protection of Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom*.

It was noted solutions are being sought to address the accessibility of policies on the University website.

RESOLVED S R32/21

The Senate approves for immediate implementation:

- (a) ***the Policy Framework Policy at Attachment A; and***
- (b) ***the Terms of Reference for the Establishment of the Policy Management Control Group at Attachment B.***

ACTION: General Counsel to confirm that the definition of Policy includes codes of behaviour e.g. the *Code of Conduct*, the *Code for the Protection of Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom*.

17. UNIVERSITY POLICY ON DELEGATIONS REVIEW UPDATE

It was requested that the Matters Retained by the Senate include reference to the Senate's powers under the *University Colleges Act 1926*.

RESOLVED S R33/21

The Senate:

- (a) ***notes the status of the review of the [University's Policy on Delegations](#) and timelines for approval;***
- (b) ***subject to minor amendment, approves the draft Matters Retained by the Senate at Attachment B; and***
- (c) ***notes the status of the review of the University's Policy Library and the Policy Framework Policy.***

ACTION: University Secretary to update the Matters Retained by the Senate to include reference to the Senate's powers under the *University Colleges Act 1926*.

18. UWA STUDENT GUILD AND CODE FOR THE PROTECTION OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM

The Student Guild President detailed the review undertaken by the Guild to ensure alignment of policies, regulations, rules and stances with the Code. She noted the Standing Orders are currently under review.

The report was noted.

19. SENATE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Chancellor noted the course developed by the University Chancellor's Council in consultation with the AICD was that preferred by the Chancellor's Committee.

RESOLVED S R34/21

The Senate approves in-principle funding for Senate members to attend the University Chancellors Council – Foundations of University Governance professional development training delivered by the Australian Institute of Company Directors ('the AICD').

PART 3: ITEMS FOR DECISION 'EN BLOC'

23. ACADEMIC BOARD REGULATIONS

RESOLVED – S R38/21

The Senate approves the revised Academic Board Regulations for implementation effective immediately.

24. NEW AWARDS

RESOLVED S R39/21

The Senate approves the introduction of the following new undergraduate awards for offering from 2022:

- (a) BP020 Bachelor of Agribusiness*
- (b) BP019 Bachelor of Agricultural Science*
- (c) BP022 Bachelor of Environmental Science*
- (d) BP025 Bachelor of Biological Science*
- (e) BP023 Bachelor of Marine Science*
- (f) BP029 Bachelor of Earth Sciences*
- (g) BH011 Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)*
- (h) BP031 Bachelor of Human Sciences*
- (i) BP026 Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Sciences*
- (j) BP030 Bachelor of Psychology*
- (k) BP027 Bachelor of Chemistry*
- (l) BP028 Bachelor of Molecular Sciences*
- (m) BP013 Bachelor of Economics*
- (n) Diploma in Commerce (UWA College)*

(o) *Diploma in Science (UWA College)*

25. **AWARD OF TITLE OF EMERITUS/EMERITA PROFESSOR**

RESOLVED S R40/21

The Senate approves conferral of the title of Emeritus Professor upon Professors Ian McArthur and Tony O'Donnell following their retirement from the University.

26. **GIFT ACCEPTANCE AND GOVERNANCE POLICY**

RESOLVED S R41/21

That the Senate:

- (a) Rescinds the Charitable Gift Acceptance Policy (UP13/13);***
- (b) Rescinds the Bequest Policy (UP12/28); and***
- (c) Approves the new Gift Acceptance and Governance Policy as at Attachment A.***

27. **AMENDMENT TO HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION**

RESOLVED S R42/11

The Senate approves the amended Honorary Degrees Committee Constitution at Attachment A

28. **HONORARY DEGREES AND CHANCELLOR'S MEDAL POLICY**

RESOLVED S R43/21

The Senate:

- (a) approves the amended Honorary Degrees and Chancellor's Medal Policy at Attachment A; and***
- (b) notes that subsequent to Senate's approval of the amended Honorary Degrees and Chancellor's Medal Policy that, as the Policy Steward, the Vice-Chancellor will approve the Honorary Degrees and Chancellor's Medal Procedures at Attachment B.***

29. **CHANCELLOR'S COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION**

RESOLVED S R44/21

The Senate approves the Chancellor's Committee Constitution, as amended, at Attachment A.

30. **PERTH FESTIVAL DIRECTOR RE-APPOINTMENT**

RESOLVED S R45/21

The Senate approves the re-appointment of Ms Fiona Kalaf as director of the Perth Festival Board for a second and final term effective 1 May 2021 to 29 April 2024

PART 4: ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION ‘EN BLOC’

31. CAPTIAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATE REPORT

The Senate noted that the forecast against the approved projects for 2021 are incorporated into Appendix C and D of the March 2021 Finance Report (Item 8).

32. APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

The appointments and promotions were noted.

33. 2021 SENATE MEETINGS

The dates for meetings of the Senate in 2021 were noted.

CLOSE: 6.30 pm

Confirmed (Sign)

Date