THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

COUNCIL MINUTES

The 460th meeting of the Council was held at 9:15am (AEST) on Friday 31 July 2020 using video/teleconferencing facilities.

Members present:
The Chancellor, The Hon Julie Bishop (in the Chair)
The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Brian P Schmidt AC
The Pro-Chancellor, Ms Naomi Flutter
Professor Suzanne Cory AC
Ms Natasha Stott Despoja AO
Mr Mike Baird AO
Ms Anne-Marie Schwirtlich AM
Dr Doug McTaggart
Ms Tanya Hosch
Professor Matthew Colless
Associate Professor Ben Corry
Professor Kate Reynolds
Ms Caterina Giugovaz
Mr Lachlan Day
Mr Utsav Gupta

In attendance:
Chair, Academic Board - Professor Joan Leach (non-voting member of Council)

Chair, Audit & Risk Management Committee - Mr Geoff Knuckey
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) - Professor Keith Nugent
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) - Professor Grady Venville
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student & University Experience) - Professor Ian Anderson AO
Chief Operating Officer - Mr Paul Duldig
Pro Vice-Chancellor (Innovation) - Professor Michael Cardew-Hall
Pro Vice-Chancellor (International Strategy) - Professor Sally Wheeler
Interim Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) - Professor Royston Gustavson
Vice-President (Engagement and Global Relations) - Ms Jane O’Dwyer
Vice-President (Advancement) - Ms Barbara Miles
Interim Chief Financial Officer - Ms Anna Tsikouris
Interim Dean, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific - Professor Sharon Bell
Chief of Staff and Director, Office of the Vice-Chancellor - Mr Chris Price
Director, Facilities & Services - Ms Nicki Middleton
Director, Planning & Performance Measurement - Ms Richelle Hilton
Director, Service Improvement Group - Ms Lakshmi West
Director, Human Resources Division - Dr Nadine White
Chief Information Security Officer - Mr Suthagar Seevaratnam
Deputy Chief Financial Officer - Ms Tracey McRoberts
Senior Manager, Respectful Relationships Unit - Ms Sue Webeck

Council Secretary and Director, Corporate Governance and Risk Office - Mr Chris Reid
Associate Director, Corporate Governance and Risk Office - Mrs Megan Easton
Senior Governance Officer, Corporate Governance and Risk Office - Ms Leslie McDonald
Senior Governance Officer, Corporate Governance and Risk Office - Mr Greg Barry
Manager, Audit & Risk, Corporate Governance and Risk Office - Ms Sharon Sidhu
Senior Auditor, Corporate Governance & Risk Office - Mr Christian Coelho

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PART 1: PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES

Council noted the following:

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➤ Council elections for Academic Staff representatives will take place in August and September 2020, with elected representatives scheduled to commence Council terms on 30 September 2020, for two years. The terms of the following three Council members will end on 29 September 2020: Professor Matthew Colless, Professor Kate Reynolds and Associate Professor Ben Corry, with each eligible for re-election. *****

➤ Postgraduate Student representative, Mr Utsav Gupta, officially finishes his one year term on 15 August 2020. Mr Gupta’s successor will be known after the elected candidate has been confirmed on or soon after 25 September 2020, with arrangements to then be made for the new postgraduate student representative to join the next scheduled Council meeting on 2 October 2020. *****

➤ On 7 June 2020, Council member, the Hon Michael Baird, was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for distinguished service to the people and Parliament of New South Wales, particularly as Premier, and to the community.

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2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

No Council member sought a leave of absence for a future meeting.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST

No member disclosed any material personal interest.

4. ARRANGEMENT OF AGENDA

Council starred Item 11 (ANU Tuition Fee Bands for 2021) for discussion.

Council determined to proceed with the remainder of the agenda as proposed, with no further items being declared confidential or starred for discussion.

No objections were raised to non-confidential material being published.

5. MINUTES

Resolved
Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2020 (76/2020).
PART 2 – KEY BUSINESS ITEMS

6. VICE-CHANCELLOR’S REPORT
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Resolved
Council noted the Vice-Chancellor’s report.

7. COVID-19 – FINANCIAL HEALTH STRATEGY (AND REVISED BUDGET 2020)
*****

Resolved
Council:

1. Noted the June 2020 Year to Date results;
2. Noted the status of the Expenditure Control Framework; and
3. Approved the 2020 Revised Budget.

8. COVID-19: CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM (CIMT) CLOSE-OUT REPORT – UPDATE
*****

Resolved
Council noted:

1. The update and the presentation; and
2. That the CIMT Close-Out report will be made available to Council members when finalised.

9. STRATEGIC PLAN - IMPLEMENTATION - 2020 MID-YEAR REPORT
*****

Resolved
Council noted:

1. The University’s implementation of the Strategic Plan and the mid-year performance reports for 2020; and

2. That a further report focussed on equity and equality (arising from consideration of KPI 8) will be presented to Council at the 2 October 2020 meeting.

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PART 3 – STRATEGIC ISSUES – PART OF ITEM 7

Council noted that Strategic Issues listed under Part 3 of the agenda, usually delivered at each Council meeting in the form of a portfolio presentation from a member of the Executive, has been suspended in 2020, with such issues broadly captured as part of substantial COVID-19 reporting instead.

PART 4 – OTHER MATTERS FOR DECISION

11. ANU TUITION FEE BANDS FOR 2021

The matter was starred for discussion at the commencement of the meeting.

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Resolved
Council approved:

1. The fee bands and Domestic Fee Adjustment Bands for 2021 fees. *****

2. The other tuition fees. *****

3. The introduction of a new Domestic Fee Tier of “D” providing a 40% reduction for postgraduate students to increase enrolments aligned with Government national priorities.

And noted:

4. That no tuition fees are set below the floor of Band 1 without explicit approval, representing the quality of the ANU brand and that, in principle, ANU should aim to be the median of the Group of Eight.

12. ANU COLLEGE TUITION FEES FOR 2021

Resolved
Council approved:

1. The 2021 tuition fees outlined in Tables 1 and 2 for programs delivered by ANU College; and

2. Noted that ANU Diploma Fees (programs owned by ANU) have already been set for 2021 (per Table 3).

13. ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM – PROPOSAL TO CHANGE REPORTING

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- The COVID-19 response by the University has seen a significant change to the Administrative Reform program.

- Due to these changes, reporting needs to be adjusted to focus on the Customer Service Roadmap and the customer experience, while cost reduction initiatives should be included in Financial Health Strategy reporting.

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Resolved
Council:

1. Noted the Administrative Reform (Cost and Satisfaction) Reports 2018 to 2019.

2. Approved the closure of the Administrative Reform (Cost and Satisfaction) Report twice per year, and replaced it with:

   - Cost-reduction reporting as part of standard Financial Health Strategy updates; and
   - Satisfaction reporting as part of an annual presentation to Council on Student and University Experience each May.

14. LAND ACQUISITION – UNIVERSITY AVENUE

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Resolved
Council:

1. Noted the update regarding the University Avenue land acquisition; and

2. Approved the purchase of City Section 30, Block 6 and for the University to finalise arrangements with the ACT Government.

PART 5 – OTHER MATTERS FOR NOTING

15. INFORMATION SECURITY – UPDATE

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16. INSURANCE – UPDATE

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Resolved
Council:

1. Noted the insurance update; and

2. Requested that a further update be provided at the 2 October 2020 meeting.

17. SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION STRATEGY 2019-2026 – REPORT 2/2020

*****

Resolved
18. STUDENT SAFETY REPORT

*****

Resolved
Council noted the Student Safety report.

19. WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

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Resolved
Council noted the Work Health and Safety Performance Report for the period 1 May to 30 June 2020.

20. REVIEW – CORAL BELL SCHOOL OF ASIA PACIFIC, COLLEGE OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (CAP)

*****

21. COVID-19 COMMITTEE – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Resolved
Council noted the summary of major items considered by the Committee at its meetings since being established by Council on 3 April 2020:

- 15 June
- 13 July.

22. CAMPUS PLANNING COMMITTEE – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Resolved
Council noted the summary of major items considered by the Campus Planning Committee at its meeting of 30 June 2020.

23. FINANCE COMMITTEE – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Resolved
Council discussed and noted the summary of major items considered by the Finance Committee at its meeting of 3 July 2020.

24. AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Resolved
Council noted the summary of major items considered by the Committee at its meeting of 8 July 2020.

25. ACADEMIC BOARD – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Resolved
Council noted the summary of major items considered by the Academic Board at its meeting of 30 June 2020.
Resolved
Council noted the update concerning the ANUE Business Plan (the Strategy) 2019-2021.

27. ANU CRAWFORD LEADERSHIP FORUM 2020 - REPORT

Resolved
Council noted the ANU Crawford Leadership Forum report for 2020.

28. ANU 75TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECT - UPDATE

Resolved
Council noted the update about the ANU 75th Anniversary year.

29. ANU STORY - UPDATE

Resolved
Council noted the update on the ANU Story – Growing Our Profile.

30. REPORT TO DONORS 2019: THE IMPACT OF GIVING

Resolved
Council noted the 2019 Report to Donors.

31. STANDARD AND POORS’ RATING OF THE ANU 2020

Resolved

32. SIGNIFICANT VISITS AND EVENTS, GRANTS AND CONSULTANCIES

Resolved
Council noted the reports on grants and consultancies (noting that Significant Visits and Events are significantly reduced in 2020 on account of COVID-19 and, accordingly, not being reported upon).

33. POWER OF ATTORNEY

Resolved
Council noted there were no transactions over which the Director, Investment Office exercised Power of Attorney since the last Council meeting, on 29 May 2020.

34. LEGISLATION

Resolved
Council noted the Vice-Chancellor had approved amendments to the Council (Election) Order 2020.
35. UNIVERSITY SEAL REPORT

Resolved
Council noted there were no documents to which the University Seal was affixed since the meeting of Council on 29 May 2020

PART 6 – OTHER BUSINESS

36. OTHER BUSINESS

Council noted that the Respectful Relationship Summit was hosted by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor at 2pm this day (31 July 2020). The session brought together key stakeholders to discuss progress on the University's Sexual Violence Prevention Strategy. Council members also attended the Summit.

37. NEXT MEETING

Council confirmed that its next scheduled meeting would proceed as planned, on Friday 2 October 2020, beginning at 9.15am (AEST), via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 1.31pm (AEST).

_________________________________ Date: ________________________
The Hon Julie Bishop
Chancellor
The Australian National University

(* * * indicates a removed item which is confidential to Council Members)