

COUNCIL BULLETIN

MARCH 2019

SIGNIFICANT ITEMS APPROVED BY COUNCIL AT THE 25 FEBRUARY AND 25 MARCH MEETINGS:

Annual 2018 Financial Statements | 2018 Annual Report
2019 UpSkill Fee Schedule | Revised Policy and Procedure Framework

The next meeting of the USQ Council is scheduled for Monday 13 May 2019
at the USQ Ipswich Campus

Council's first meeting for 2019 was held on 25 February at the Toowoomba Campus, where consideration was given to the 2018 unaudited financial statements, the Queensland Audit Office (QAO) Closing Audit Report for USQ for the year ending 31 December 2018, and the 2018 USQ Annual Report, including the 2018 International Travel Report.

Council also met on 25 March, again at the Toowoomba Campus. This was Mr Peter Becker's last Council meeting as the Elected Student Member on Council, with his two-year term concluding on 18 April 2019.

Ms Lauren Walsburg has since been elected as the next Student Member on Council for a two-year term from 19 April 2019 to 18 April 2021.

REPORTS

The Vice-Chancellor provided detailed reports on activities and issues since the December 2018 Council meeting, including the University Performance Report – March 2019.

Professor Karen Nelson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Mrs Leanne Midgley, Principal Advisor (Academic Governance and Standards) provided an update to Council on work that is being done across the University to address the various components of the TEQSA Re-registration Condition. Work is progressing on development of an Academic Delegations Schedule (academic delegations are currently embedded within University policy and procedure), as well as the Data Dashboard initiative. The Data Dashboard will allow greater cohort analysis and better understanding of progression, retention and attrition rates. Mr Togamau Te'o, Acting Executive Director (Corporate Management Services) and Mr Robert Wood, Acting Director (Strategic Information Services) joined the 25 March Council meeting to provide a demonstration of the Dashboard to Council members.

Work has commenced on procuring an appropriately qualified consultant to undertake an independent external review of the USQ Council. In addition, planning is underway for Academic Board to conduct its 2019 self-assessment exercise.

A report on the key initiatives and activities of Academic Board was provided to Council. Council approved minor updates to the Academic Board Terms of Reference, including membership changes - new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic); replacement of former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Communities) position title with Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Services).

Proposed changes to the University's Policy and Procedure Framework were considered and it was agreed to delegate approval authority from Council to Academic Board for Academic Quality Policy, and to approve endorsement authority to Academic Board for University Procedure related to Academic Quality Policy. Both these changes contribute to empowering Academic Board in providing academic governance oversight and leadership.

Mr Peter Becker, Student Member on Council, provided his final report on student activities and issues.

Council also received the following reports:

- Risk Management Report
- Strategic Report on Education – progress update
- Gender Equity Initiatives at USQ – progress update.

USQ UPSKILL INITIATIVE

Council was briefed on the USQ UpSkill micro-credentialling initiative, intended to deliver a suite of mini-courses to be offered as a new fully on-line product, and will continue to receive updates on this. The proposed 2019 Fee Schedule for these courses was approved by Council.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Council approved the following:

- 2018 Financial Statements
- 2018 USQ Annual Report and 2018 USQ International Travel Report
- Revised Academic Board Terms of Reference
- 2019 UpSkill Fee Schedule
- Revised Policy and Procedure Framework.

All correspondence for University Council should be directed to USQGovernance.Office@usq.edu.au

Information on the University Council is available at: <http://www.usq.edu.au/about-usq/governance-management/council>