



OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 7, 2021 – 9 DECEMBER

Deakin University Council met on 9 December 2021 and dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2021 business schedule.

Setting the strategic direction of the University

Council considered a report from the Vice-Chancellor covering the status of current matters including:

- International student pathways and transnational education
- implementation of the Deakin Reimagined program
- campus reactivation and the University's approach to COVID-19 vaccination
- foreign relations legislation and Guidelines on foreign interference.

Overseeing and reviewing the performance of the University

Council considered the latest iteration of the Strategic Plan Key Performance Indicators Dashboard Report and noted the measures and targets set out in the Report.

Council noted the results of the 2021 Graduate Outcomes Survey; Deakin ranked first in Victoria for overall undergraduate satisfaction for the 12th consecutive year and overall postgraduate satisfaction for the second year. Deakin is also second in Victoria for overall undergraduate employment and fourth for overall postgraduate employment.

Overseeing the management and control of finances

Council considered the Financial Report and Major Projects Report for the period to 31 October 2021 and a presentation from the Chief Financial Officer with the consolidated financial results for the period to 30 November 2021. Council noted cash flow movements and projections.

Council noted the progress of major projects against budget, scope and timeline targets and noted that most projects are close to completion.

Overseeing risk management and monitoring systems of control and accountability

Council considered the University's Headline Risk Report and the Strategic Audit Plan 2022-2024. Council noted the areas of focus for the triennium.

Human resources and sustainability

Council considered a presentation from the Chief Operating Officer on human resources matters and sustainability initiatives in 2021.

Overseeing and monitoring of academic activities

The Chair of the Academic Board, Professor Chris Hickey, reported on the Board meeting on 17 November 2021 and on actions taken by the Board during the year to uphold academic freedom, standards and quality. This included the annual report on Deakin's Academic Standards Risk and Compliance Framework.

Council thanked the Chair of the Academic Board for the quality and depth of reporting on academic governance throughout 2021, which has continued to provide Council with an understanding of the range of programs across the University to ensure the highest standards of teaching and research.

Performance of University Research Institutes

Council considered the 2021 report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Alfred Deakin Professor Julie Owens, on the performance of University research institutes against their objectives.

Council's own affairs, appointments and effectiveness

Council Committee appointments

Council approved membership of Committees for 2022.

Council Committee terms of reference

Council approved amendments to terms of reference, composition and rules of operation for the following Committees of Council: Audit and Risk Committee, Chancellor's Advisory Committee, Finance and Business Affairs Committee, Legislation Committee and Remuneration Committee.

Deakin University Council Charter

Council approved updates to the [Deakin University Council Charter](#).

Fulfilment of business for 2021

Council considered reports recording that Council and its committees had fulfilled their governance responsibilities during the year under relevant legislation and codes of practice:

- *Deakin University Act 2009* (Vic)
- Deakin University Council Charter
- corporate governance and accountability standards specified by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)
- Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Universities.

Council also received the 2021 report on actions taken under delegations conferred by Council. Council noted that delegations had been exercised appropriately and that all delegations remained current.

2022 Council business schedule

Council received the 2022 Council business schedule.

Council noted that there were a number of changes to the schedule arising from the review of committee terms of reference, including items to ensure compliance with the Australian Universities Code for Vice-Chancellor and Senior Staff Remuneration and the Code for Upholding Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom.

Honours and acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of outgoing members

Council acknowledged with acclamation the significant contributions made to the Council and Deakin University by members of Council concluding their terms on 31 December 2021:

- Mr Tiarnan Cleary, elected student member in 2021
- Ms Miranda Douglas-crane, member since 2013
- Ms Philippa Kelly, member since 2010 and Deputy Chancellor from 2019 to 2021.

Conclusion of year's business

In concluding its business for the year Council expressed its deep appreciation of the work of University staff, the Academic Board, the University Executive and the Vice-Chancellor in 2021.

The Chancellor expressed great confidence that, despite the challenging last two years, the University was strongly positioned to deliver on the ambition and the objectives of the strategic plan *Deakin 2030: Ideas to Impact*.