

QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

COUNCIL

REPORT – 27 February 2020

Council met on 27 February 2020, and noted or considered the following items.

Vice-Chancellor and President's Report to Council – February 2020

Council considered the Vice-Chancellor and President's Report which is available at the following address: <https://qutvirtual4.qut.edu.au/group/staff/governance/organisational-structure/chancellery/vc/reports-to-council> (QUT staff access only).

Business arising: Council nominations to University committees (Item 8.3, 25 November 2019)

Council noted nominations made by the Chancellor, on behalf of Council, for Dr Susan Pond and Mr Peter Howes to serve on Risk and Audit Committee, and Ms Jenny Parker and Ms Monica Bradley, to serve on Finance and Planning Committee.

Proposed strategic and planning discussions for Council in 2020

Council noted the proposed approach to Council's strategic planning discussions in 2020, including a regular two yearly cycle of discussions with executive deans of faculties.

2019 Annual Financial Report

Council received a presentation on key features of the 2019 financial results including operating margin, investment returns, and cash flow. The audit process undertaken by the Queensland Audit Office was also noted. Council approved the 2019 Annual Financial Statements.

Semester 1, 2020 Admissions Update

Council considered the admissions update for Semester 1, 2020, including comparative application, offer, and acceptance statistics and other performance data. Council noted the effect of the 2020 reduced cohort on first preferences, the approach to OP cut-offs for first semester admissions, postgraduate research student admissions data, and QUT's overall performance relative to other Brisbane universities.

Report on evaluation of Council performance in 2018-2019

Council considered the report of the evaluation of Council's performance in 2018-2019. The report had found that Council was mature, efficient and cohesive and that there was good support for the executive team to drive performance. Recommendations highlighted in discussion included promotion of student input, Council visibility, and the relationship of elected members with their stakeholder groups. A draft action plan would be prepared and presented to Council's next meeting.

QUT Council governance reform process

Council considered an update on governance reform processes, noting matters including discussions with State Government, the legislative timetable, the State Government election cycle, issues concerning and the proposed response to the clash with Council reconstitution in November 2020, and the approach to further consultations and communications on reforms.

Proposed revisions to MOPP D/3.1, Intellectual property, including review of delegations

Council approved, with immediate effect, revisions to policy MOPP D/3.1, Intellectual property, and to delegations relating to commercialisation of intellectual property, to address the role of the Vice-President (Business Development).

Revised MOPP B/8.3, Public interest disclosure management

Council approved the revised policy MOPP B/8.3, Public interest disclosure management, to address Commonwealth whistleblower reforms, and updated standards issued by the Queensland Ombudsman.

Approval of Power of Attorney for leasing and similar matters

Council approved the establishment of a Power of Attorney, to be exercised by the Executive Director, Facilities Management, for leasing and similar transactions in circumstances where internal approvals had been secured.

Proposed revisions to MOPP A/4.1, Organisational structure

Council approved amendments to MOPP A/1.4, Organisational structure, subsequent to the Vice-Chancellor and President's approval of a name change for the Division of Resources, to Finance Business Solutions Division.

Conferral of Professor Emeritus title

Council resolved to confer the title of Professor Emeritus on Professor Stephen Towers, with immediate effect.

Items for information

- Chancellor's Report to Council
- Post Meeting Action Sheet for Council's 25 November 2019 meeting
- Council Annual Work Plan and Items Pending 2020
- Draft QUT Annual Report to Parliament 2019
- Disclosed interests for Council
- Annual report on use of QUT Seal during 2019

Reports from Committees

Council noted reports from Council sub-committees as follows.

Alumni Board – 26 November 2019

Finance and Planning Committee – 6 February 2020