

# QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

## COUNCIL

### REPORT – 20 August 2020

Council met on 20 August 2020, and noted or considered the following items.

#### **Vice-Chancellor Report to Council – August 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).

#### **Update on QUT re-positioning**

Council considered a verbal update on QUT re-positioning, noting external considerations such as current COVID-19 case numbers in Australia; and proposed changes to the higher education sector funding model. Council also noted the internal response such as the recruitment chill, variation to enterprise bargaining agreements, and analysis of current activities and services.

#### **Reorganisation of faculty structures**

Council approved, subject to the University complying with its consultation obligations under the Enterprise Agreements, the transition from six faculties and two institutes, to five faculties as follows: Faculty of Business and Law; Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice; Faculty of Engineering; Faculty of Health; and Faculty of Science.

#### **QUT's response to Job-ready Graduates Package**

Council considered a presentation outlining QUT's response to the Job-ready Graduates Package which had been announced by the Commonwealth Government. Council noted key features of the package, including the stated goal of attracting students into areas where there was expected to be future demand for jobs. Changes to cluster funding for certain disciplines and courses were designed to encourage students towards disciplines such as nursing, teaching, health, IT and STEM. Other significant aspects of the package included the free movement of places between sub-bachelor, bachelor and postgraduate level programs, and the removal of the "research premium" from the funding model.

#### **Financial Management Report (June 2020 year to date)**

Council noted the Financial Management Report, including progress made in mitigating identified financial risks.

#### **Corporate Performance Report June 2020**

Council noted the Corporate Performance Report June 2020 on the University's Key Performance Indicators.

#### **Rankings 2020 Mid-Year Update**

Council noted the report, Institutional Rankings 2020 Mid-Year Update.

#### **Update on governance reform and revised committee terms of office**

Council noted a consultation plan for the 15 member model for governance reform and addressed the following matters relating to committee terms of office:

- approval of extension of terms of office for the Council sub-committees, Chancellor's Committee, Finance and Planning Committee, Risk and Audit Committee, and Alumni Board, to 30 September 2021;
- approval of the extension of terms of office for University Academic Board and its sub-committees to 31 December 2021; and
- endorsement of the deferral of the two yearly committee self-assessment process for Council sub-committees, and for University Academic Board and its sub-committees, to the end of the revised committee terms.

Council also noted that extension of terms of office and timing for committee self-assessment processes for management committees, due to be conducted at the end of 2020, would be considered and determined by the Vice-Chancellor, and completed by the end of 2021.

## **QUT preparedness for management of non-academic misconduct**

Council considered a paper outlining QUT's approach to management of non-academic misconduct, in light of issues at other universities. Matters highlighted included processes for de-escalation of cases through management as minor misconduct, and the Registrar's responsibility for imposition of penalties, which ensured consistency and proportionality.

## **QUT 2021 committee meeting schedule**

Council noted the 2021 QUT committee meeting schedule.

## **QUT's engagement with the Pacific Region**

Council noted QUT's strategy in the Pacific region.

## **Appointment of Adjunct staff to the University**

Council noted procedures for the appointment of Adjunct staff to the University.

## **Items for information**

- Chancellor's Report to Council
- Council action list
- Post Meeting Action Sheet for Council's 30 June 2020 meeting
- Council Annual Work Plan and Items Pending 2020
- Latest disclosed interests for Council

## **Reports from Committees**

Council noted reports from Council sub-committees as follows.

Chancellor's Committee – 30 June 2020

Finance and Planning Committee – 6 August 2020

Risk and Audit Committee – 22 July 2020

University Academic Board – 27 July 2020