

**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF MEETING 21/1 OF
ACADEMIC BOARD – 31 MARCH 2021**

Meeting 21/1 of the Academic Board of the University of Technology Sydney held at 9am on Wednesday 31 March 2021 via Zoom:
<https://zoom.uts.edu.au/j/85845139101>

PRESENT: Professor Anthony Dooley (Chair), Dr Vitali Alekseev, Professor Shirley Alexander, Professor Debra Anderson, Associate Professor Matthew Arnold, Professor Monica Attard, Professor Ian Burnett, Professor Suzanne Chambers AO, Mr Kurt Cheng, Professor Thomas Clarke, Dr James Cleverly, Associate Professor Alexandra Crosby, Professor Alan Davison, Dr Daniel Demant, Professor Chris Earley, Associate Professor Maxine Evers, Dr Rosalie Goldsmith, Mr Michael Gonzalez, Professor Lesley Hitchens, Associate Professor Jane Hunter, Professor Francesca Iacopi, Mr Bevin Liu, Professor Michael McDaniel, Professor David McGloin, Ms Charlotte McHenry, Ms Indra McKie, Ms Jan McLean, Professor Elizabeth Mossop, Dr Christina Nikitopoulos, Mr Aidan O'Rourke, Professor Andrew Parfitt, Ms Jessica Pierce, Associate Professor Lisa Pont, Ms Aishwaryalakshmi Rajeev, Ms Farah Rehman, Associate Professor Julie Robert, Associate Professor Jochen Schweitzer, Professor Xiangjing Sean He, Associate Professor Lynn Sinclair, Ms Brooke Smith, Professor Joanne Tipper, Dr Ramona Vijayarasa, Dr Nicole Vincent, Mr Iain Watt, Professor Stuart White, and Ms Jacqui Wise.

Mr Bill Paterson (University Secretary), and Ms Komal Jagad (Executive Officer).

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Richard Birrell (Deputy University Secretary and Deputy Director), Professor Noel Castree (Associate Dean (Research)), Ms Tracie Conroy (Director, Centre for Social Justice and Inclusion for item 7.4), Ms Josi Mischczuk (Senior Curriculum Services Coordinator in attendance for items 4.1 and 7.1) and Ms Elbreg Zwaan (Senior Governance Support Officer).

APOLOGIES: Professor Attila Brungs, Professor Sara Denize, Professor Kate McGrath, Professor Peter Scott, Professor James Wallman and Professor Glenn Wightwick.

ABSENT: None.

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 WELCOME/APOLOGIES

RESOLVED AB/21-1/1 – Welcome/Apologies

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 1.1 – *Welcome to Academic Board members* and its attachment; and
- .2 note the apologies received from members and agree that these members be excused for their absence.

Note for the record

As it was the beginning of a new two-year term, in the absence of the Vice-Chancellor, the University Secretary opened the meeting on the Vice-Chancellor's behalf and invited the Provost to introduce the recently elected Chair Professor Anthony Dooley to preside over the meeting.

The Provost congratulated the Chair for being elected to the position and provided a brief introduction to the Chair noting that the Chair took up the position of Head of the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences at UTS in January 2016.

The Provost added that the Chair of Academic Board is an important senior position of the university and also is an ex officio member of Council. The Provost welcomed the Chair and invited the Chair to preside over the meeting from that point.

The Chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgment of Country and of the Traditional Owners.

The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting (including new staff, students and attendees) and thanked members for participating via Zoom. The Deputy Chair and Academic Board committee Chairs and Deputy Chairs were also welcomed.

The Chair reminded members about the important role of Academic Board and its members to ensure that the voice of academia is incorporated in governance proceedings within UTS, especially in the current challenging post COVID-19 environment and a rapidly changing landscape of the sector.

The apologies as listed above were received and leave of absence from the meeting granted.

There were no declarations of interest.

1.2 MINUTES

Confirmation of the minutes of meeting 20/5 held Wednesday 11 November 2020

RESOLVED AB/21-1/2

Academic Board resolved to confirm the minutes of meeting 20/5 of Academic Board held on Wednesday 11 November 2020, as detailed in Document 1.2, as a true record, after incorporating changes noted below.

Note for the record

Following amendments were noted and approved by Academic Board:

All changes are in bold and underline. Deletions are in strikethrough.

- Professor Dayong Jin and ~~her~~**his** team, for their successful research into coronavirus testing

1.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

1.4 RECEIPT OF TABLED PAPERS

There were no tabled papers.

1.5 STARRING OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

RESOLVED AB/21-1/3 – Starring of items

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 pre-star items 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5 and 7.4; and
- .2 adopt the remaining unstarred items as approved.

Note for the record

The following items were pre-starred: 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5 and 7.4.

Members were invited to star further items for discussion. No further items were starred.

2 REPORTS FROM THE CHAIR/DEPUTY CHAIR AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

***2.1 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR/DEPUTY CHAIR**

RESOLVED AB/21-1/4 – Report from the Chair/Deputy Chair

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 2.1 – *Report from the Chair/Deputy Chair* and its attachments;
 - .2 recommend that Council note the Academic Board Annual Report 2020 as detailed in **Attachment 1** of Document 2.1;
 - .3 note the executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Board on 5 November 2020 to approve (via executive action) that the Diploma in Innovation is conferred to Student ID 12554402, independently of the student's core degree, under exceptional circumstances, noting that Student ID 12554402 has fulfilled the course requirements for the Diploma in Innovation, as recommended by the Faculty Board in Transdisciplinary and Innovation (via Faculty Board Chair's executive action);
 - .4 note the executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Board on 5 November 2020 to approve the grading of awards for graduands in November 2020 as listed in the following schedules presented by the faculties:
 - Schedule 1 – Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
 - Schedule 2 – UTS Business School
 - Schedule 3 – Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building
 - Schedule 4 – Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
 - Schedule 5 – Faculty of Health
 - Schedule 6 – Faculty of Law
 - Schedule 7 – Faculty of Science
 - Schedule 8 – Graduate Research School
 - Schedule 9 – Faculty of Transdisciplinary Innovation
 - Schedule 10 – Graduate School of Health
- .1 that graduands in their respective courses of the eight faculties and the Graduate Research School and Graduate School of Health indicated in recommendation 4. above, as listed in Schedules 1-10 be admitted to the appropriate degrees or awarded the appropriate diplomas and graduate certificates as designated; and
 - .2 that graduands, as designated, be awarded the University Medals;

- .5 note the executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Board on 9, 16 and 23 November 2020; 28 January 2021; 22 and 24 February 2021; and 2 March 2021 to appoint members to Academic Board and following committees, as detailed in **Attachment 2** of Document 2.1:
- Professional Experience Appeals Committee
 - Board of Studies for Institute for Sustainable Futures
 - Research Committee
 - Graduate Research School Board
 - Teaching and Learning Committee
 - Graduate Research Students' Appeals Committee
 - Appeals Non-Disclosure Committee;
- .6 note the executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Board on 12 January 2021 to approve (via executive action) that the Master of Engineering (Extension) (C04277) be conferred posthumously to Student ID 13410891, as recommended by the Faculty Board in Engineering and Information Technology, and in accordance with Student Rules 13.2.1 (3) and 13.4.3;
- .7 note the executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Board on 19 January 2021 to approve the grading of awards for graduands in January 2021 as listed in the following schedules presented by the faculties:
- Schedule 1 – Faculty of Health
 - Schedule 2 – Graduate Research School
- .1 that graduands in their respective courses of the Faculty of Health and the Graduate Research School indicated in recommendation 7. above, as listed in Schedules 1-2 be admitted to the appropriate degrees or awarded the appropriate diplomas and graduate certificates as designated; and
- .2 that graduands, as designated, be awarded the University Medals;
- .8 note the executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Board on 2 March 2021 to approve the grading of awards for graduands in March 2021 as listed in the following schedules presented by the faculties:
- Schedule 1 – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
 - Schedule 2 – UTS Business School
 - Schedule 3 – Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building
 - Schedule 4 – Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
 - Schedule 5 – Faculty of Health
 - Schedule 6 – Faculty of Law
 - Schedule 7 – Faculty of Science

- Schedule 8 – Faculty of Transdisciplinary Innovation and Connected Intelligence Centre
- Schedule 9 – Graduate School of Health

.1 that graduands in their respective courses of the eight faculties and the Graduate School of Health indicated in recommendation 8. above, as listed in Schedules 1-9 be admitted to the appropriate degrees or awarded the appropriate diplomas and graduate certificates as designated; and

.2 that graduands, as designated, be awarded the University Medals;

.9 note the 2021 Forward Plan as detailed in **Attachment 3** of Document 2.1.

Note for the record

The Chair thanked members for participating in the Academic Board surveys and noted that further feedback will be requested from members on survey response themes at the next meeting.

The Chair highlighted the Academic Board annual report for 2020 (which will be presented to the Council's meeting in April), and the key/priority items of the Board's draft forward plan.

Members were thanked for attending the Academic Board induction.

***2.2 REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

RESOLVED AB/21-1/5 – Report from the Vice-Chancellor

Academic Board resolved to receive and note the report as detailed in Document 2.2 – *Report from the Vice-Chancellor*.

Note for the record

In the absence of Vice-Chancellor Professor Attila Brungs, Professor Andrew Parfitt, the Provost spoke to this report. Following matters were noted by the Board:

- **COVID-19 update:** With the ease of restrictions by NSW Government, the Phase 3 of UTS's campus reactivation began on 22 February (Autumn Session) with significantly more teaching and learning activities, student services and staff on campus. UTS is constantly monitoring the latest government announcements and health advice, and putting in place the necessary measures to manage any health risks in a sustainable and consistent way. The UTS community was reminded of being mindful of staff and students' health and safety and ensure relevant safety protocols

were followed. UTS is committed to the concept of ‘hybrid working’ and ‘hybrid teaching’ but also enabling best use of the excellent on-campus facilities available.

- **Employer of Choice for Gender Equality:** UTS has been recognised as an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality (EOCGE) by the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) for the nineteenth consecutive year. The citation is both a recognition, but also a driver of further change as we must acknowledge that there are many barriers still to dismantle. The Athena SWAN presentation (at the 21/1 Academic Board meeting) will further elude on this.
- **Master Builders Association Awards:** UTS Central won the Overall Outstanding Construction Award for NSW, and awards in two categories – Best Tertiary Building over \$200 million, and Best Use of Glass. UTS Central was a finalist at the 2020 National Excellence in Building and Construction Awards, where it won Best Education Facility.
- **Foreign relations:** Public universities (including UTS) fall within the scope of the newly enacted Australia’s Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act, which stipulates universities to notify the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of certain international agreements from March 2021. UTS has actively put in place measures to support our new obligations and has initiated a variety of activities to ensure compliance.
- **Academic Freedom of Expression Policy:** The final report of Emeritus Professor Sally Walker AM’s review of Australian universities’ alignment with the Model Code on freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom recommended by the Honourable Mr Robert French AC in his 2019 Review of Freedom of Speech in Australian Higher Education Providers was released. The key issues in relation to the findings of the report were noted, as covered in the report.
- **Congratulations** were extended to:
 - the winners of the 2020 UTS Learning and Teaching Awards and Citations and UTS Vice-Chancellor’s Awards for Research Excellence
 - Dr Amanda White from the UTS Business School on being recognised in the 2020 Australian Awards for University Teaching
 - Professor Katherine Biber from the UTS Law Faculty on being recognised in the inaugural and highly competitive Australian Legal Research Awards
 - Marine scientist Dr Jennifer Matthews and biomedical engineer Dr Jiao Jiao Li on being chosen to join the Australian Superstars of STEM program in 2021-22.

Academic Board noted an update on Federal Cabinet re-shuffle, UTS staff changes, Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching Undergraduate Survey Results and UTS’s engagement with the NSW Government on the pilot program for overseas students to return to Australia via the secure corridor.

3 PRIORITY ISSUES

*3.1 UTS Corporate Plan 2020 – End of Year Performance Report

RESOLVED AB/21-1/6 – UTS Corporate Plan 2020 – End of Year Performance Report

Academic Board resolved to receive and note the report as detailed in Document 3.1 – *UTS Corporate Plan 2020 – End of Year Performance Report* and its attachment.

Note for the record

The Provost provided an update on the UTS Corporate Plan 2020 – End of Year Performance Report noting that the 2020 Corporate Plan was approved by Council in November 2019 and outlines the 2020 priorities and key supporting activities that underpin the implementation of our three-year UTS 2027 strategic initiatives and the associated performance indicator targets for UTS.

The Board noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the overall performance in 2020 has been below expectations, however, there have been several areas that have showed positive results, as outlined in the report, which are commendable and testament of the extraordinary efforts of the UTS community. The progress against the initiatives was impacted by COVID-19, but overall initiatives performed well, though amendments were made to some initiatives to respond to our changed environment.

The Fit for 2027 project was initiated to ensure UTS continues to operate sustainably and is able to deliver our strategic objectives over the coming years.

The Provost reminded members about the importance and relevance of the strategy, especially in the post COVID-19 environment, in the context of the changing international and financial landscape for universities.

*3.2 UTS Corporate Plan 2021 Report

RESOLVED AB/21-1/7 – UTS Corporate Plan 2021 Report

Academic Board resolved to note the report as detailed in Document 3.2 – *UTS Corporate Plan 2021 Report* and its attachment.

Note for the record

Academic Board noted a presentation on the 2021 priorities and overview in relation to UTS 2027 and Fit for UTS 2027 covering the following topics:

- UTS response to COVID-19

- COVID-19 impact on corporate planning cycle/timeline
- Overview of UTS 2027 projects for 2021 (33 business cases submitted of which 13 were fully funded, nine were milestone based funded projects, five were funded through other initiatives, and seven were not funded)
- Overview of key priorities for 2021 and the Fit for UTS 2027 projects.

Academic Board noted the following feedback on the 2021 Corporate Plan.

- The UTS corporate planning process was commendable for its breadth and detail especially in ensuring that UTS is well placed in responding to rapid changes in the market and technology. UTS has demonstrated leadership in Australia in a number of areas including social justice and Indigenous matters.
- It was noted that the Provost will work with the Chair of Academic Board to ensure the Board has opportunity to input into the corporate planning process.
- The proposed measure of further 100 to 150 FTE job losses in addition to those lost through the recent VSP process would need to be managed and implemented carefully with relevant change management plans to ensure that the solidarity of UTS community and its values are not diminished.

It was noted that this process will involve comprehensive consultation and will be carried out respectfully in line with relevant industrial commitments.

***3.3 2020 Annual report on Indigenous Education and Research Objectives**

RESOLVED AB/21-1/8 – 2020 Annual report on Indigenous Education and Research Objectives

Academic Board resolved to receive and note the report as detailed in Document 3.3 – *Indigenous Education and Research Strategy – 2020 Annual Progress Report* and its attachment.

Note for the record

Professor Michael McDaniel, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Leadership and Engagement) presented on the achievements and challenges of the Indigenous Education and Research Strategy (IERS) in 2020 and highlighted the importance of shared responsibility of the UTS community for embedding Indigenous interests in all strategic areas of UTS.

2020 achievements included:

- UTS is seen as one of the leading universities in the sector
- increased Indigenous student participation by headcount
- a marginal decline in Indigenous commencements in spite of COVID-19

- increase in Indigenous undergraduate student success rates, postgraduate commencements, postgraduate coursework retention rates and parity
- Research growth is positive – especially Higher Degree by Research (HDR) participation, retention rate and retention rate parity.

Academic Board noted:

- that undergraduate commencements declined and some targets to be achieved by 2023 (eg Indigenous participation, Indigenous HDR participation, undergraduate success rate parity) are slow in progress and impacted further by COVID-19
- concerns that embedding of Indigenous Graduate Attributes (IGAs) in UTS courses was slow and patchy – some faculties have done excellent work in this area
- an overview of the recent initiatives undertaken to promote IGAs implementation
- a summary of Indigenous research initiatives including appointment of Distinguished Professor Larissa Behrendt as Associate Dean (Indigenous Research) and expansion of Jumbunna capability.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Leadership and Engagement):

- thanked everyone for supporting this important strategy and for the excellent outcomes in various areas
- encouraged members of the UTS community to engage with the strategy, to ensure UTS meets relevant targets.

4 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

***4.1 Courses Accreditation Committee Report**

RESOLVED AB/21-1/9 – Courses Accreditation Committee Report

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 4.1 – *Courses Accreditation Committee Report* and its attachments;

New courses/course arrangements

Accreditation

- .2 approve the accreditation of the following new online courses (offered via Online Program Management (OPM)) as detailed, for recommendations .2.1, as detailed:

Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building (Online Program Management (OPM))

- .2.1 C04441 Master of Urban Planning
C04439 Master of Urban Design
C06145 Graduate Diploma in Urban Planning
C06144 Graduate Diploma in Urban Design
C11343 Graduate Certificate in Urban Planning and Design

from Session 5 (August) 2021 – 31 December 2025.

(file: TBC) [1746]

Noting: The courses are offered online with the OPM partner, Keypath

Reaccreditations

- .3 approve course accreditation for the reaccreditation of the following courses as detailed, for recommendations .3.1 to .3.3:

Short reaccreditation

Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

- .3.1 C04309 Master of Professional Engineering

from Autumn 2021 until 31 December 2025

(file: UR15/314) [OCAP #1509]

Faculty of Health

- .3.2 C09057 Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science (Honours)

from Spring 2021 until 31 December 2025

(file: UR11/1181) [OCAP #1497]

- .4 approve the correction of course reaccreditation period for three (3) courses as outlined below (changes in strikethrough, bold and underline):

University Academic Programs Office on behalf of the Faculty of Science

- .4.1 C10275 Bachelor of Medicinal Chemistry

C10354 Bachelor of Medicinal Chemistry Bachelor of Creative Intelligence and Innovation
C09077 Bachelor of Medicinal Chemistry

Until 31 December ~~2024~~2022.

(file: UR14/478) [BC #1344, CA #1345]

Other matters for noting

- .5 note the following new external articulation arrangements:

UTS Business School

- .5.1 **Mahidol University (MU), Bangkok, Thailand**

C04382 Master of Marketing
C04383 Master of Marketing (Extension)

(files: UR08/923) [OCAP #1488]

- .5.2 **Soochow University, Suzhou, China**

C10026 Bachelor of Business

(files: TBC) [OCAP #1613]

Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building

- .5.3 **UTS COLLEGE (Previously UTS Insearch)**

C10310 Bachelor of Property Economics
C10320 Bachelor of Property Economics Bachelor of Arts in International Studies

(files: TBC) [OCAP #1652]

Faculty of Transdisciplinary Innovation

- .5.4 **UTS COLLEGE (Previously UTS Insearch)**

C04372 Master of Data Science and Innovation

(files: TBC) [OCAP #1662]

- .6 note the following changes to external articulation arrangements:

UTS Business School

- .6.1 **SHU-UTS SILC Business School, Shanghai University, China**

C10226 Bachelor of Business

(files: UR08/509) [OCAP #1664]

Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building

.6.2 Singapore Polytechnic

C10004 Bachelor of Design in Architecture

(files: UR07/499) [OCAP #1300]

- .7 note the appointment of the Courses Accreditation Committee's Deputy Chair;
- .8 note that the Course Accreditation templates have been updated with a new question aiming to collect information about Indigenous Graduate Attribute (IGA) and Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ICILOs); and
- .9 note the information provided in the Memo: OPM Courses and the EEL Framework.

Note for the record

In the absence of Professor Sara Denize, Chair of Courses Accreditation Committee (CAC), Associate Professor Julie Robert provided an overview of the recommendations and recommended the course accreditation approval of the five new Online Program Management courses for from Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building and two course reaccreditation approval for two courses from faculties of engineering and information technology, and health.

Academic Board noted that the committee is undertaking further work on ensuring that the Indigenous Graduate Attribute are embedded well in UTS courses and an update on this project will be provided to Academic Board at a future meeting.

4.2 Executive Committee of Academic Board Report

RESOLVED AB/21-1/10

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 4.2 – *Executive Committee of Academic Board Report* and its attachments;
- .2 approve changes to the composition of Courses Accreditation Committee as detailed in **Attachment 1** of Document 4.2;

- .3 approve a once-off transition process to implement the proposed staggering, as detailed in this report;
- .4 note that, upon approval of recommendation .2, an election will be scheduled as soon as practical, to fill the new elected staff position;
- .5 note the 2020 Annual Report on Academic Board members' meeting attendance as detailed in **Attachment 2**;
- .6 note the 2020 Annual Report on course accreditation approvals by Executive Committee of Academic Board as detailed in **Attachment 3**; and
- .7 note the approval by Executive Committee of Academic Board of the accreditation of various courses as detailed in this report.

***4.3 Graduate Research School Board Report**

RESOLVED AB/21-1/11 – Graduate Research School Board Report

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 4.3 – *Graduate Research School Board Report* and its attachments;
- .2 approve the amendment to the composition of the Graduate Research School Board as detailed in Document 4.3;
- .3 note the recipients of the Chancellor's Award and Chancellor's List 2020 as detailed in **Attachment 1** of Document 4.3;
- .4 note the Graduate Research School Board Annual Report 2020 as detailed in **Attachment 2** of Document 4.3; and
- .5 note the Graduate Research School Board Forward Plan 2021 as detailed in **Attachment 3** of Document 4.3.

Note for the record

The Chair welcomed Professor Joanne Tipper, as the new acting Dean for Graduate Research School and Chair of Graduate Research School Board (GRSB).

Professor Tipper, Chair of GRSB outlined the rationale for composition change of GRSB.

Congratulations were extended to the following recipients of the Chancellor's Awards and Chancellor's List 2020.

Chancellor's Award	Faculty	Thesis title
Thanh Huong Nguyen	Business	Information and Noise in Stock Markets: Evidence on the Determinants and Effects Using New Empirical Measures
Chancellor's List	Faculty	Thesis title
Daniele Sian Hromek	Design, Architecture and Building	The (Re)Indigenisation Of Space Weaving Narratives of Resistance to Embed Nura [Country] In Design
Kai Wu	Engineering and Information Technology	Fast and Accurate Estimation of Angle-of-Arrival in Millimetre-wave Large-scale Hybrid Arrays
Melissa Brunner	Health	#Twittermind - Social Media Use by People with Communication Difficulties after Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
Vanessa Echeverria Barzola	Connected Intelligence Centre	Designing Feedback for Collocated Teams using Multimodal Learning Analytics
Manju Menon	Arts and Social Sciences	Making New Environmental Knowledges: Debating the Effects of Large Dams in Northeast India
Alexa Kaufer	Science	Retracing The Evolutionary History Of The Trypanosomatidae: The Use Of Kinetoplast DNA In Molecular Systematics, Species Identification And Diagnostics
Bronwyn Cumbo	Institute of Sustainable Futures	Child Participation Beyond the Adult Realm: Participatory Design in Nature-play Contexts
Rachel Bolton	Institute of Sustainable Futures	Classification as a Technique of Jurisdiction: Categories of Tree Protection in New South Wales' Legal History

***4.4 Research Committee Report**

RESOLVED AB/21-1/12 – Research Committee Report

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 4.4 – *Research Committee Report* and its attachments;
- .2 approve the Research Committee Terms of Reference changes as detailed in **Attachment 1** of Document 4.4;
- .3 note the Research Committee 2020 Annual Report as detailed in **Attachment 2** of Document 4.4;
- .4 note the Research Committee 2021 Forward Plan as detailed in **Attachment 3** of Document 4.4;
- .5 note the update on the development of Principles and Guidelines for Accepting Research Funding; and
- .6 note the appointment of Professor Debra Anderson to the position of Research Committee Deputy Chair for 2021.

Note for the record

Professor Debra Anderson, Deputy Chair of Research Committee (RC) spoke to the report in the absence of Professor Kate McGrath, Chair of RC.

Academic Board noted:

- the rationale for the proposed changes to the RC Terms of Reference, which makes RC the primary governance body overseeing consulting and Cooperative Research Centres
- a progress update on the Development of Principles and Guidelines for Accepting Research Funding, which will be presented to Academic Board at a future meeting.

***4.5 Teaching and Learning Committee Report**

RESOLVED AB/21-1/13 – Teaching and Learning Committee Report

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 4.5 – Teaching and Learning Committee Report and its attachments;

- .2 approve the proposed changes to the Coursework Assessment Policy as outlined in **Attachment 1** of Document 4.5;
- .3 recommend Council to approve the proposed changes to section 8 of the Student Rules as detailed in **Attachment 1** of Document 4.5;
- .4 approve the proposed changes to the Admissions and Recognition of Prior Learning Policy as detailed in **Attachment 2** of Document 4.5;
- .5 recommend Council to approve the proposed changes to sections 6, 13 and Schedule 1 of the UTS Student Rules as detailed in **Attachment 3** of Document 4.5;
- .6 note the TLC 2020 Annual Report as detailed in **Attachment 4** of Document 4.5;
- .7 note the Teaching and Learning Committee 2021 Forward Plan as detailed in **Attachment 5** of Document 4.5; and
- .8 note the appointment of Associate Professor Maxine Evers to the position of TLC Deputy Chair for 2021.

Note for the record

Professor Shirley Alexander, Chair of Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) provided an overview of the proposed changes to the:

- UTS Student Rules and Coursework Assessments Policy (and related procedures) in response to the changes to the process for submission, ratification and publication of results
- UTS Student Rules and Admissions and Recognition of Prior Learning Policy to support new qualification types approved in late 2020.

The TLC priorities for 2021 were outlined by the Chair, as detailed in the report.

4.6 Appeals committees of Academic Board — 2020 annual report

RESOLVED AB/21-1/14

Academic Board resolved to receive and note the report as detailed in Document 4.6 – *Appeals Committees of Academic Board – 2020 Annual Report*.

5 FACULTY/BOARD MATTERS

5.1 Composition change — Faculty Board in Arts and Social Sciences

RESOLVED AB/21-1/15

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 5.1 – *Composition Change – Faculty Board in Arts and Social Sciences* and its attachment; and
- .2 approve the proposed amendments to the composition of the Faculty Board in Arts and Social Sciences as detailed in **Attachment 1** of Document 5.1.

6 PRESENTATIONS

No presentations.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Annual Report on Award Course Approval Decisions and Register of Admission Standards

RESOLVED AB/21-1/16

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 7.1 – *Annual Report on Course Approval Decisions and Register of Admission Standards for 2020* and its attachments;
- .2 note the changes to course names and award titles, approved by the Provost, as the Vice-Chancellor's delegate, in 2020, as detailed in **Attachment 5**; and
- .3 note the changes to the Register of Admission Standards, as detailed in:
 - A. Register of Admissions Selection Criteria – **Attachment 6**
 - B. Register of English Language Requirements – **Attachment 7**
 - C. Register of External Articulation Arrangements – **Attachment 8**
 - D. Register of Foundation Studies Courses – **Attachment 9**.

7.2 Elections Report

RESOLVED AB/21-1/17

Academic Board resolved to receive and note the report as detailed in Document 7.2 – *Elections Report*.

7.3 Responsible Academic Officers

RESOLVED AB/21-1/18

Academic Board resolved to:

- .1 receive and note the report as detailed in Document 7.3 – *Responsible Academic Officers* and its attachment; and
- .2 note the Responsible Academic Officers appointed for 2021 as detailed in **Attachment 1** of Document 7.3.

*7.4 Athena SWAN Midterm Review Report

RESOLVED AB/21-1/19 – Athena SWAN Midterm Review Report

Academic Board resolved to receive and note the report as detailed in Document 7.4 – *Athena Swan Midterm Review Report* and its attachment.

Note for the record

Ms Tracie Conroy, Director, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion from the Centre for Social Justice and Inclusion (CSJI) presented the Athena Swan Midterm Review Report to the Board.

Ms Conroy provided an overview of the UTS Athena SWAN program and the mid-term evaluation as outlined below:

- In 2018, UTS was accredited Athena SWAN Bronze Award and committed to completion of 68 Action Items, laid out in the UTS Athena SWAN Action Plan 2018-2022. As a result of constraints during the COVID-19 pandemic, the timeframe for completion has been extended to 2023.
- The mid-term evaluation was carried out to determine whether the Action Plan items were fit for purpose and to inform further implementation of the Action Plan.
- The review report demonstrated that the Action Plan was progressing well, with 80 per cent (56 out of 68) of Athena Swan Action Items either complete or in the process of being implemented. An important item that has not been progressed is the collection of staff diversity data. Collection of this data is necessary to fulfil Athena SWAN Silver application planning.

The Board noted a presentation on the mid-term review, which focused on the following topics:

- analysis of percentage of academic female staff from 2016-2020 (across science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology; science and non-STEM areas)
- approach and methodology of the review
- key findings and recommendations across different areas (including awareness/impact, recruitment and retention, workplace culture, diversity and inclusion, governance and senior support)
- next steps in evaluation (requirements for application for Silver Award).

The Director, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion encouraged members of the UTS community to use the UTS Diversity Dashboard, which is available to senior staff via the Business Intelligence portal.

8 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

CLOSURE

The Chair thanked all members for their attendance and participation.

The Chair closed the meeting at 11am.

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR

DATE