

# COUNCIL NON-CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES



Minutes of the 534<sup>th</sup> meeting of **COUNCIL** held at **2pm** on **Monday 8 April 2024** in Boardroom 307, Level 3, Chancellery and via Microsoft Teams

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**PRESENT**

Mr David Gonski AC, Chancellor  
Professor Attila Brungs, Vice-Chancellor and President  
Dr Jennifer Alexander  
Dr Raji Ambikairajah  
Ms Maxine Brenner  
The Hon Elizabeth Cheeseman  
Mr Jeremy Ellis  
Mr Matthew Grounds AM (*via Teams*)  
Mr Mark Johnson  
Professor Scott Kable, President of the Academic Board  
Professor Christine Mathies  
Mr Warwick Negus, Deputy Chancellor  
Professor Justine Nolan  
Ms Catherine Rowe

**APOLOGIES** Mr Joshua Karras

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr David Cross, Chief of Staff, VCO  
Professor Merlin Crossley AM, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Quality  
Professor Nicholas Fisk AM, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research & Enterprise  
Professor Colin Grant, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Global  
Ms Clair Hodge, General Counsel  
Professor Sarah Maddison, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience  
Scientia Professor Vlado Perkovic, Provost  
Professor Verity Firth, Vice-President, Societal Impact, Equity and Engagement  
Scientia Professor George Williams AO, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Transformation, Planning & Assurance

Dr Ann-Maree Moodie, External review

Present for item 5.4  
Ms Michelle Steel, Interim Chief People Officer

**SECRETARY**

Mr James Fitzgibbon, Director of Governance and University Secretary  
Ms Rebecca Brockman, Senior Manager, Governance

*For convenience, items were taken out of agenda order.*

## PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### 1. Welcome, apologies and leave of absence

The Chancellor acknowledged the Bedegal people that are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which UNSW's main campus is located and paid his respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

The Chancellor welcomed members and attendees and noted apologies received.

### 2. Declarations of interest and conflicts of interest

The Chancellor invited members to disclose any interests or conflict of interests relevant to items for discussion at the meeting.

The Chancellor noted the following interests declared since the last Council meeting:

- Jeremy Ellis advised that he commenced as a research assistant at the Gilbert & Tobin Centre of Public Law at UNSW.

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the declarations and conflicts of interest provided at the meeting.

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting and business arising (other than business on this agenda)**

**3.1 Minutes of the Council meeting held on 12 February 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held 12 February 2024 were confirmed subject to one amendment, references to Dr Scott Eastman be corrected to Dr Scott East.

**RESOLVED**

Council approved the minutes of its meeting held on 12 February 2024 as an accurate record and authorised the Chancellor to sign them.

**3.2 Matters arising and business carried forward**

The Chancellor discussed the Matters Arising and Business Carried Forward Report, noting the following:

- Items 1-5 are addressed on the Agenda.
- Item 6 would be managed via the Council agenda schedule.

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the report on matters arising and business carried forward.

**4. Adoption of items for noting and approval, and starring of items**

The Chancellor invited members to star items 12-14 if they wanted them discussed. No items were starred.

**RESOLVED**

Council adopted unstarred items 12-14 for approval and noting.

**MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY**

**5. Report of the Vice-Chancellor (VC) and President to Council**

**6. Reports on the proceedings of the Academic Board (AB)**

**6.1 Report to Council by President of the Academic Board**

The AB President, Professor Kable, took the reports on the AB proceedings as read and provided a presentation on 2024 sector benchmarking across academic governance:

- Chair's position, election, appointment, term and tenure, role load (FTE)
- Deputy Chair's role load (FTE),
- Secretariat for Academic Board
- Academic Board budget
- Academic Board size and composition
- Committees
- Faculty Boards

- Meetings (length and number)
- Functions

Professor Kable advised the external review of academic governance is underway and currently ahead of schedule.

Attendance at the recent Chairs of Academic Boards and Senates meeting had proven valuable in discussing academic risk. A working group has been established with Chairs of Academic Boards and TEQSA Officers. Professor Kable undertook to report to a future meeting of Council.

Academic Risk is woven throughout the organisation, there is not one defined owner.

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the report of the President of the Academic Board.

**6.2 Unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Board meeting held on 19 March 2024**

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the confirmed minutes of the Academic Board meeting held on 19 March 2024.

**6.3 Report on the establishment of Award Programs  
(Degree, Diploma, Certificate or other)**

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the Academic Board (AB) approval of its Report on the Establishment of Award Programs (Degree, Diploma, Certificate or Other) at its meetings held on 19 March 2024.

7. **Proceedings of the Finance & Strategy Committee**
8. **Proceedings of the Audit Committee**
9. **Proceedings of the Information Technology Committee**
10. **Proceedings of the Safety & Risk Committee**
11. **Proceedings of the Honorary Degrees Committee**

**Items for Approval and Noting**

**12. Report on Approved Policy Documents**

**RESOLVED**

Council received and noted the Report of Approved Policy Documents for the period 6 February to 25 March 2024.

**13. Amendments to Mentem Constitution**

**RESOLVED**

Council approved the proposed amendments to the constitution of Horizons Future Learning Pty Ltd t/as Mentem, with immediate effect.

**14. Renaming of Block F on the UNSW Paddington Campus**

**RESOLVED**

Council approved the renaming of Block F on Paddington campus after former staff member Carol Longbottom, as per the parameters of the 'Celebrating UNSW Women Project'.

**Business without notice**

The Chancellor acknowledged the contribution of Professor Nick Fisk, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprise and wished him well in future endeavours.

Next Council meeting: Monday 3 June 2024

SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD

Presiding Member  
Mr David Gonski AC  
Chancellor