



Chancellor Update and Council Bulletin May 2025

A message from the Chancellor

Dear colleagues,

University Council had its second meeting of 2025 on 14 April. Prior to the meeting, Council and the Vice-Chancellor's Executive (VCE) attended a joint workshop, facilitated by the Acting Director (Internal Audit) Kris Isles, to review the University's risk appetite and tolerance statements. This workshop provided a valuable opportunity for Council and VCE to confirm shared understanding of risk in the context of the current operating environment.

Council member Amanda Kenafake and I have continued to participate as members of the Shaping Our Future Steering Committee, attending fortnightly meetings, receiving information about the various programs of work underway and providing input and advice on behalf of Council. The Deputy Chancellor and I also continue our weekly meetings with Professor Nelson, with the aim of ensuring the effective partnership between the senior executive and Council as the University undergoes this necessary transformation.

I can also advise that the process of recruitment to the position of Vice-Chancellor has progressed, with a provider to undertake the executive search service procured, and the make-up of selection panel endorsed by Council. As per the Charter of University Governance, the panel includes the Chancellor, Deputy Chancellor and Chair of Academic Board as ex officio members, an independent member of Council, and a co-opted external member.

The details of the key outcomes of the April Council meeting are included below for your information. If you have any questions about the Council Bulletin below, or any other Council-related matters, please feel free to contact me via email to chancellor@unisq.edu.au.

Kind regards

John

Dr John McVeigh

Chancellor

Council Information

The second University of Southern Queensland Council meeting of 2025 was held on Monday 14 April at the Council Chamber, UniSQ Toowoomba campus. The Chancellor Hon Dr John McVeigh is the Chair of Council. UniSQ Eleventh Council member information is available on the [University of Southern Queensland Council](#) webpage.

Strategic Presentations and Reports

- **International Strategy 2025 – 2027**

Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor Ren Yi attended the meeting and presented the [UniSQ International Strategy 2025-2027](#).

- **2024 Student Load Report**

Vice-Chancellor Professor Karen Nelson presented the 2024 Student Load Report – Full Year Overview.

- **University Change Proposal**

Vice-Chancellor Professor Karen Nelson presented the University Change Proposal for Council consideration and discussion.

Reports to Council

The following reports were received at the 14 April 2025 Council meeting:

- **Chancellor's Report**

Chancellor Hon Dr John McVeigh presented an update on events and meetings attended since the last meeting of Council in February 2025.

- **Vice-Chancellor's Report**

A detailed report on the University's activities and achievements to the 27 March 2025 was presented by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Karen Nelson.

- **Student Member Report**

Elected Student Member Esther Shajan provided the Student Member Report to 6 April 2025 for Council to note. The report included an update on Student Senate activities as part of the [UniSQ Students as Partners Framework](#).

- **Academic Board Report**

Academic Board Chair Professor Alexander Kist presented the Academic Board Report to Council from the 11 February 2025 meeting. Items received for discussion and noting included:

- Unconfirmed [Academic Board Meeting Minutes 11 February 2025](#)
 - 2024 UniSQ Animal Ethics Committee Annual Report to Council
 - Academic Board Self-Assessment Survey Working Group final update
 - External Review of Academic Governance Action Plan update
- **Finance and Facilities Committee Report**
Finance and Facilities Committee Acting Chair Brett Delaney presented the Finance and Facilities Report to Council from the 20 March 2025 meeting. Items received included:
 - Unconfirmed Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes 20 March 2025
 - Ipswich Health Building Project Update
 - Student Endowment Fund 2024
 - Monthly Financial Report to 28 February 2025
- **Audit and Risk Committee Report**
Audit and Risk Committee Chair Brett Delaney presented the Audit and Risk Committee Report to Council from the 20 March 2025 meeting. Items received included:
 - Unconfirmed Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes 20 March 2025
 - Workplace Relations Report for the period 1 October 2024 to 24 February 2025
 - UniSQ Health Safety and Wellbeing Quarter 2 Report 1 October 2024 to 31 December 2024 (financial year)
- **Chancellor's Committee Report**
Chancellor's Committee Chair and Chancellor Dr John McVeigh presented the Chancellor's Committee Report to Council from the 20 March 2025 meeting. Items received included:
 - Unconfirmed Chancellor's Committee Meeting Minutes 20 March 2025
 - Senior Executive Remuneration 2025

Council Resolutions

Council resolved to **approve** the following items at the 14 April 2025 meeting:

- Ipswich Health Building Project Update

2025 Call for Agenda Papers

Approved briefing documents must be submitted by close of business on the date the agenda closes to the [Executive Officer \(Council\)](#). Guidelines for the Conduct of Council and Committee Meetings require agenda papers to be distributed at least seven days prior to the meeting. The standing orders of Council permit the tabling of papers only in exceptional circumstances. The 2025 University Meeting Schedule is available on the [Council and Committee Terms of Reference](#) webpage.

Council Bulletins

Information about Council, including Council Bulletins can be accessed on the University of Southern Queensland Council webpage: <https://www.unisq.edu.au/about-unisq/governance-leadership/governance/council>

The University of Southern Queensland acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands and waterways where the University is located. Further, we acknowledge the cultural diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and pay respect to Elders past, present and future.



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