

Council Bulletin September 2025

A Message from the Chancellor

Dear colleagues,

The recruitment process for the position of Vice-Chancellor and President continues, with interviews occurring across September. I will keep you all posted as this process moves towards an outcome.

The term of the 11th Council concludes on 6 October 2025, with a range of processes underway to renew the various membership categories for the 12th Council which will commence its term on 7 October. I am able to provide an update on the categories of membership – which are specified in the [UniSQ Act](#) - as follows:

- **Appointed Members:** Members in this category are appointed by the Qld Minister for Education and the Arts as the Governor-in-Council (GIC) on confidential recommendation of Council. Council has provided its recommendations to Minister Langbroek, and we now await his confirmation of appointment. I will update you once these appointments are confirmed.
- **Elected Members:** There are three members in this category, each elected by and from an electorate specified in the UniSQ Act. As notified by the University Secretary as Returning Officer, I welcome the following Elected Members to the 12th Council:
 - Dr Sarah McKibbin – Elected Academic Staff Member
 - Dr Samantha Rose – Elected Professional Staff Member
 - Mr Josh McKeiver – Elected Student Member.
- **Additional Members:** The UniSQ Act specifies that there are additional members of Council, one of who must be a graduate of the University. At its August meeting, Council resolved to appoint the following Additional Members:
 - Mr George Fox
 - Ms Heidi Dugan.

Details of the August Council meeting are included in the Bulletin below. If you have any questions about the Bulletin, 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 fourth University of Southern Queensland Council meeting of 2025 was held on Monday 18 August at UniSQ Toowoomba campus. The meeting marked the final meeting of the University of Southern Queensland 11th Council with the term of office ending on 6 October 2025. Current Council member information is available on the [University of Southern Queensland Council](#) webpage.

Strategic Presentations and Reports

- **Engagement Strategy:** Pro Vice-Chancellor (Engagement) Shawn Walker presented an update on the key strategic activities and initiatives to support the development of the new UniSQ Engagement Strategy.
- **Horizon 3 Future Strategy:** Vice-Chancellor Professor Karen Nelson and the Director Planning & Office of the DVC Enterprise Services Julianna Dawidowicz presented a progress and development update of the new University Vision and Statement of Strategic Ambition 2026-2030.
- **University Organisational Change and Culture Report:** Vice-Chancellor Professor Karen Nelson and Director (People Strategy) Trudi Davidson presented an update to Council on the measures in place to monitor and sustain the University's organisational culture.

Reports to Council

The following reports were received at the 18 August 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 June 2025.

Vice-Chancellor's Report

Vice-Chancellor Professor Karen Nelson presented an overview of activities, achievements, and issues for the period June to July 2025. The Vice-Chancellor's Report informs Council on the development, overall operations and attainments of the University as required under the Charter of University Governance.

Academic Board Report

Academic Board Chair Professor Alexander Kist presented the Academic Board Report to Council. Items received included:

- Academic Board Meeting Minutes 27 May 2025
- Annual Summary Report on Program Outcomes 2024.

Finance and Facilities Committee Report

Finance and Facilities Committee Acting Chair Brett Delaney presented the Finance and Facilities Report to Council from the 17 July 2025 meeting. Items received included:

- Unconfirmed Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes 17 July 2025
- Finance Flash Report July 2025
- Union Institute of Language Springfield Campus Pty Ltd Operational Plan and Running Report

- Monthly Financial Report to 31 May 2025, including Student Services and Amenities Fee 2024 Allocation Report.

Audit and Risk Committee Report

Audit and Risk Committee Chair Brett Delaney presented the Audit and Risk Committee Report to Council from the 17 July 2025 meeting. Items received included:

- Unconfirmed Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes 17 July 2025
- Risk Management Report to 4 June 2025, including updated Risk Appetite Statements
- Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference update, including minor updates to the Internal Audit Charter and Council Delegations Schedule.

Chancellor's Committee Report

Chancellor's Committee Chair and Chancellor Hon Dr John McVeigh presented the Chancellor's Committee Report to Council from the 17 July 2025 meeting. Items received included:

- Unconfirmed Chancellor's Committee Meeting Minutes 17 July 2025
- Environmental, Social and Governance Report – 2024 Shaping Sustainability Report
- 2024 Report on the Prevention of Discrimination, Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct (Students).

Council Resolutions

Council resolved to approve the following items at the 18 August 2025 meeting:

- Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference update, including minor updates to the Internal Audit Charter and Council Delegations Schedule.

2025 Call for Agenda Papers

The 2025 University Meeting Schedule is available on the [Council and Committee Terms of Reference](#) webpage. 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. Approved briefing documents must be submitted by close of business on the date the agenda closes to the [Executive Officer \(Council\)](#).

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 emerging.