



Council Bulletin April 2026

Message from the Chancellor

Dear colleagues,

It has been a busy first quarter of 2026 for UniSQ Council, with the commencement of our new Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Paul Mazerolle. As with all members of Council, Professor Mazerolle completed an induction prior to attending his first meeting, to support his understanding of the roles and responsibilities of Council in the context of the [UniSQ Act](#) and the broader legislative and governance environment within which our University operates.

Council has met twice so far this year. The February meeting focussed on consideration of the University's 2025 Annual Financial Statements and Annual Report, in line with Queensland Government requirements. The second meeting of the year was held on 20 April, where Council discussed a wide range of matters. In June, Council and the Vice-Chancellor's Executive will attend a joint strategic session to focus on key issues, which will be followed by our regular Council meeting, held at our Ipswich campus.

Since the release of the [Expert Council on University Governance - Final Report and Principles](#) in late 2025, Council has, with the support of the University Secretary, undertaken a review of UniSQ's current compliance with the Principles. These principles will be written into Commonwealth regulation through the Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards), and universities will be required to report publicly against the Principles, with TEQSA asked to evaluate their performance. At its April meeting, Council noted existing compliance across a number of the Principles, and approved 24 recommendations which will enable the achievement of compliance, or improved compliance, with all of the Principles. This is important work that will strengthen the governance of our University which is focussed on ensuring the primacy of education and research for the public good.

The key outcomes of the April Council meeting are included below. If you have any questions about this 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 MEETING INFORMATION

A meeting of the Council of the University of Southern Queensland was held in the Council Chamber, Toowoomba campus, and via Zoom, on **Monday 20 April 2026**, commencing at 12.30 pm AEST. Current Council member information is available on the [12th Council Membership](#) website.

STRATEGIC PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Respect at Uni Presentation

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Education) Professor Glen Coleman and Chief People Officer Linda Murphy presented an overview of findings from the Australian Human Rights Commission *Racism@Uni* survey, including UniSQ university-level results and proposed next steps.

International Strategy

Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor Ren Yi presented a strategic update on the University's international portfolio, including discussion on international student experience, research performance, and the external operating environment.

2025 Student Load Report

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Education) Professor Glen Coleman presented the 2025 Student Load Report. The report highlighted stabilisation in enrolments across 2025, and Council discussed considerations associated with future Commonwealth funding arrangements.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Chancellor's Report

Council received and noted the Chancellor's Report, including an update on leadership transition and continuity.

Vice-Chancellor and President's Report

The Vice-Chancellor and President's Report was received, outlining progress in organisational stabilisation, staff engagement, regional initiatives, infrastructure investment, and delivery of strategic priorities. The Vice-Chancellor's Report informs Council on the development, overall operations and attainments of the University as required under the UniSQ Governance Charter.

Academic Board Report

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

- Academic Board Report April 2026
- Academic Board Meeting Minutes 7 April 2026

Finance and Facilities Committee Report

Finance and Facilities Committee Chair Amanda Kenafake presented the Finance and Facilities Report to Council. Items received included:

- Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes 26 March 2026
- Finance Flash Report – March 2026
- Monthly Financial Report to 28 February 2026
- Full Year Financial Report to 31 December 2025

Audit and Risk Committee Report

Audit and Risk Committee Chair Brett Delaney presented the Audit and Risk Committee Report to Council. Items received included:

- Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes 26 March 2026
- Risk Management Report and Material Risk Report March 2026
- Cybersecurity Quarter 4 2025 Report
- Internal Audit Charter

Chancellor’s Committee Report

Chancellor’s Committee Chair and Chancellor Hon Dr John McVeigh presented the Chancellor's Committee Report to Council. Items received included:

- Chancellor’s Committee Meeting Minutes 26 March 2026
- TEQSA Compliance Attestation – Statement of Regulatory Expectations Workplace Obligations
- Respect at University and Antisemitism University Report Card
- Council’s Representative on Student Guild Board

Expert Council on University Governance - Initial Principles Compliance Assessment

The University Secretary Julie Shinnars advised Council that the Expert Council on University Governance Principles would be embedded into the Higher Education Standards Framework Threshold Standards in 2026, with universities required to report publicly against the Principles. Council resolved to approve the recommendations arising from the initial assessment of UniSQ compliance.

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Council resolved to approve the following items:

Internal Audit Charter

Recommendations arising from the initial internal assessment of UniSQ compliance with the Expert Council on University Governance Principles

The 2026 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. For further information please contact the [Governance Secretary](#).

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.

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