

University of Canberra

Minutes of Council Meeting No. 51

held on Wednesday 16 April 1997

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Minutes of Council Meeting No. 51

held on Wednesday 16 April 1997 at 4.30 pm

Present:

- Ms W McCarthy (Chancellor)
- Professor D Aitkin
- Associate Professor B Alderman
- Associate Professor C Annice
- Ms R Brooks
- Ms W Dunne
- Mr J Hanratty
- Ms G McFeat Lin
- Mr P McGhie
- Mr H Powell
- Mr J Radik
- Dr S Rickard
- Mr M Rosser
- Dr H Watson
- Mr G Dennett (Secretary)

Apologies:

- Ms P Cooper
- Mr I Macintosh
- Ms K Price
- Dr M Sargent
- Ms A Trimmer

In Attendance:

- Dr J Grant

- Professor I Moses
- Professor R Tomasic
- Ms H Maxwell

Welcome to New Members

The Chancellor welcomed to their first meeting three of the five new members of Council, Dr Suzanne Rickard, Mr Michael Rosser and Dr Hugh Watson (apologies had been received from Dr Michael Sargent and Ms Anne Trimmer) and reappointed member, Mr Jack Radik (an apology had been received from reappointed member, Mr Ian Mackintosh).

Adoption of Agenda

Council confirmed the order of the agenda with Items 2 to 9 inclusive and items 11 and 12 listed for discussion.

Item 1: Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council received the [minutes of Council Meeting No. 50](#) held on 28 February 1997.

Resolution No. C51/1

Council agreed to accept the [minutes of Council Meeting No. 50](#) as a true record of proceedings.

Matters Arising From the Minutes:

Item 9: Florence Leung Memorial

The Chancellor reported that she and Associate Professor Annice had visited the Kirinari Early Childhood Centre and talked to staff and children. The Director of the Centre had been asked to write to the Chancellor concerning priorities for the Centre. The Vice-Chancellor reported he was awaiting the final outcomes of the talks before proceeding with his taskforce.

Item 2: Vice-Chancellor's Report

The Wider Context | [The University](#) | [For Noting](#)

The Vice-Chancellor reported that the diversity of the higher education system had been most apparent in the past six weeks: two of the older universities (Melbourne and Sydney) had announced that they would be taking fee-paying Australian students next year, subject to the

Government's rules about such enrolments, and that other universities (Flinders and SCU notably) had elected not to offer admission for fees for Australian applicants. The Vice-Chancellor reported that neither UC nor ANU had made any move as yet and that ANU was adopting a 'wait and see' attitude. The Vice-Chancellor believed that UC must make a decision about fees before very long, but was somewhat ambivalent about what the University should do.

Council discussed the question of offering places in undergraduate courses to full fee-paying Australian students. The Chancellor reassured members that there would be consideration of this issue in a formal way at one of the next two Council meetings as, if it was decided to introduce payment of fees by Australian undergraduate students enrolling in 1998, a decision would need to be taken by mid-July. Council discussed the desirability of issuing a statement on the Council's position now, that is, that a policy is yet to be determined.

The University

[Position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor](#) | [Position of Dean, Faculty of Management](#) | [Final meeting of Dr Grant](#)

The Vice-Chancellor reported that, since the last Council meeting, the University had been visited by the West Committee. The Committee, he believed, had gone away with a good impression of the University, its staff and students. In response to a question concerning those invited to meet with the West Committee during its visit, the Vice-Chancellor reported that the visit's program and the composition of the group of people invited to meet with the Committee had been determined by the Committee itself and the University had followed the Committee's wishes. The Vice-Chancellor reminded Council that, while the University was preparing a submission to the Committee, anyone could do so.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that, because 1997 was the first of the years in which the University would be receiving less government funding, a lot of interest had attended enrolment numbers. International student numbers were fewer than planned and fee-paying Australian postgraduate student numbers better than anticipated. The Vice-Chancellor also reported that a representative cross-University taskforce, chaired by the Dean of the Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering, Associate Professor Graham Pollard, was examining the innovative possibilities available to the University community to change what the University does in a way that saved money but not jeopardise quality. The Vice-Chancellor advised that the University's financial position for 1997 would be better known in August and that, in the meantime, the financial management of the University was being conducted in a most prudent manner.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that, during 1997, a number of reviews would be conducted. The Faculty of Management and the Faculty of Environmental Design would be reviewed in the regular cycle of Faculty reviews. The Vice-Chancellor also reported that he had set up a review of the languages endeavours of the University (the Modern Languages unit of the Faculty of

Communication and the TESOL Centre of the Faculty of Education). The need for a review had arisen from the development of the New Academic Program and had been considered by VCAC. The Vice-Chancellor advised that the review panel would comprise Emeritus Professor Dick Johnson, Professor Roland Sussex of the University of Queensland, Professor David Ingram of Griffith University and Professor Marie Carroll, the Deputy Chair of Academic Board, and that the panel would meet before June and report to Council shortly thereafter.

Council noted reported concerns about the proposed amalgamation of the Modern Languages unit and the TESOL Centre and the proposed review. The Chancellor reported that she had been approached by a member of the Modern Languages unit and a member of the staff of the TESOL Centre. She indicated that these representatives now accepted that the composition of the review panel was appropriate and that the process of the review (including the determination of the terms of reference of the review panel) would allow all views to be heard.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Ingrid Moses, had been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of New England to take effect 1 July 1997. The Vice-Chancellor reported that, in the four years that Professor Moses had been at UC, she had been an extraordinarily useful, capable and "right-fitting" person for this University and that much of the University's quality resulted from her work.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that the University would be advertising in newspapers on Saturday 19 April 1997 to replace both the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and the Dean of the Faculty of Management, Associate Professor Jim McMaster, whose term of office would expire at the end of the year.

Position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Council discussed the process to be adopted by the Council in filling the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor to be vacated by Professor Moses on 1 July 1997.

Council canvassed the options: advertising publicly in the newspapers and/or conducting an executive search; creating a small selection committee of perhaps five members with a reference group or a larger selection committee with a reference group; deciding the size of such a reference group; deciding whether a University visit would be offered to short-listed applicants and the various formats such a visit could take; and the role the Dean/Faculties should have in the selection process.

Resolution No. C51/2

Council agreed -

to advertise the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor in national newspapers on Saturday 19 April

1997; to adopt the mechanism of a small selection committee comprising the Chancellor as Chair, the Deputy Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, Associate Professor C Annice as an academic staff member of Council and one of the student members of Council - name to be advised; and to offer to interviewed applicants the opportunity to meet as wide a cross-section of the University as possible.

Position of Dean of the Faculty of Management

Council received and discussed a copy of the proposed advertisement to be published in national newspapers on Saturday 19 April 1997 advertising the position of Dean of the Faculty of Management. Council discussed whether to offer an incoming Dean a tenured Chair in the University.

Resolution No. C51/3

Council agreed that the advertisement for the position of Dean of Faculty of Management should not include the possibility of a tenured Chair within the University.

Council confirmed that the selection panel for the Dean of the Faculty of Management would comprise the Deputy Chancellor as Chair, the Vice-Chancellor, a Dean from another Faculty elected by the Deans, an academic staff member of the Faculty chosen by the Faculty, a student member of Council, an academic staff member of Council and two experts from outside the University identified by the Vice-Chancellor in consultation with the Faculty.

Final meeting of Dr Grant

Finally, the Vice-Chancellor reported that this was the last Council meeting of Dr John Grant, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), who would be retiring on 15 May 1997. The Vice-Chancellor reflected that he had first met Dr Grant when Chair of the Australian Research Council when Dr Grant was a First Assistant Secretary of the then Department of Employment, Education and Training. Dr Grant had come to the University in the late 1980s to occupy the position of Assistant Principal - Academic Planning and Services, later titled Assistant Vice-Chancellor - Academic Planning, then Pro Vice-Chancellor (Services) and finally Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration). The Vice-Chancellor reported that Dr Grant was a person with a great capacity to give good advice and that having good advice was a most blessed and reassuring thing for a Vice-Chancellor. The Vice-Chancellor recognised Dr Grant as someone with a fundamental commitment to this University and reported he would miss his daily friendship.

[Vice-Chancellor's Eulogy]

"John Grant came to the University on 1 September 1988 after a distinguished career in the field of education with the Commonwealth Government, finishing as Acting First Assistant Secretary, Higher Education Division, Department of Employment, Education and Training. His first post

her was as Assistant Principala, Academic Planning and Services, and when the University achieved its present status he became Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Academic Planning. On 1 January 1994 he was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) and held that post until his retirement.

He has displayed superb talents as an administrator: openness, a capacity to listen and to negotiate, a feeling for the needs of others, good manners, a complete commitment to the University, excellent judgement and a great quality of friendship. He is widely known and widely liked, within the University and outside it. He has built up excellent relationships between the University and other organisations in Canberra, and has been seen as a completely trustworthy representative of the University. Finally with Professor Moses and myself he has been part of the 'vice-chancellorship' of the University, a good friend and ally whose contribution to the quality of the University is everywhere. He will be greatly missed."

For Noting

Awards and Appointments

- The ACT Branch of the Australian Psychological Society had presented awards to: Michelle Trainor, top student in her second year of B App Sci (Applied Psychology), and Christopher Shanahan, who had topped the Graduate Diploma in Applied Psychology in 1996. Christopher had also been awarded the Australian Psychological Society prize for 1996.
- Associate Professor Belle Alderman had won the 1996 Dromkeen Medal, for her contribution to the appreciation and development of Children's Literature, through the development of the Lu Rees Archives, a collection of Australian children's literature based at the UC library.
- Student Lyndall Russell had been awarded the prize for Most Outstanding Medical Laboratory Student and had been presented with her prize at the Southwest Division Meeting of the Australian Institute of Medical Laboratory Scientists on 15 March 1997.
- The University of Canberra's involvement in Canberra's 1997 Word Festival, which had been held between 21 and 24 March 1997, had featured UC staff members chairing two sessions, the University sponsoring another and two writing workshops being sponsored by the UCU.
- Associate Professor Graham Taylor had been appointed as a member of the International Advisory Panel for the University of Malaysia, Sarawak.
- Associate Professor Ken McQueen had won the 1996 A B Edwards Medal. The medal was awarded annually by the Australian Geological Society for the best paper on economic geology published in the Australian Journal of Earth Science.
- Professor Brian O'Keefe had been inducted into the Hall of Fame in the Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian in Washington, DC on 9 April 1997. An Adjunct Professor in communications engineering, Brian O'Keefe had been recognised as an expert in the field of navigational systems and was one of only 40 to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

- The unconventional contribution of Frank Hicks to Sociology had been recognised in the presentation of the 'Distinguished Service Award' of the Australian Sociology Association Health Section in December 1996. The award was designed to recognise unconventional contributions to the discipline and drew attention to Mr Hicks' continuing interest in the implications of electronic communication in the health field.
- Following postings in Korea, Vietnam and Cambodia, UC graduate Linda Maclean had been appointed recently as Ambassador to Myanmar (Burma).
- Former TESOL student, Dr Pham Gia Khiem, had been appointed Minister for Science, Technology and Environment in Vietnam. After his studies at UC, Dr Khiem had become Vice-Minister with responsibility for foreign aid flows to Vietnam, and was interested in further cooperation between Australia and Vietnam.

Item 3: Committee Membership

[Audit](#) | [Buildings & Site](#) | [Commercial Advisory](#) | [Equal Opportunity](#) | [Finance](#) | [Honorary Degrees](#) | [Legislation](#) | [Student Conduct](#) | [Appeals](#) | [Student Services](#) | [Union Board](#) | [Academic Staff Promotions](#)

Council received and considered a paper on the membership of Council committees, noting that, with the filling of Council vacancies, it was now in a position to fill vacancies on a number of committees.

Resolution No. C51/4

Council filled vacancies and confirmed membership of Council committees as follows:

Audit Committee

- Mr P McGhie (Chair)
- Dr H Watson
- Mr M Rosser
- Professor B Andrew

Buildings and Site Committee

- Associate Professor B Alderman (Chair)
- Vice-Chancellor or Deputy Vice Chancellor
- Associate Professor G Pollard
- Associate Professor K Wellman
- Associate Professor R Barton

Commercial Advisory Board

- **Mr P McGhie (Chair)**
- **Vice-Chancellor**
- **Mr A Westerman**
- **Two of the following external members with commercial expertise:**
 - **Mr I Mackintosh**
 - **Mr H Powell**
 - **Dr M Sargent**
 - **Ms A Trimmer**
- **Two members of academic staff to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor on the advice of the Academic Board**

Equal Opportunity Committee

- **Vice-Chancellor (Chair)**
- **Associate Professor C Annice**
- **A representative of campus industrial unions nominated by the unions**
- **Ms A Shaddock**
- **Associate Professor J Rayner**

Finance Committee

- **Mr I Mackintosh (Chair)**
- **Vice-Chancellor or nominee**
- **Two of the following members of staff with appropriate expertise:**
 - **Associate Professor C Annice**
 - **Ms W Dunne**
 - **Mr J Hanratty**
- **Mr M Rosser**

Honorary Degrees Committee

- **Chancellor (Chair)**
- **Vice-Chancellor**
- **Professor R Tomasic**
- **Professor M Carroll**
- **Dr S Rickard**
- **Professor J James**

Legislation Committee

- **Ms A Trimmer (Chair)**
- **Vice-Chancellor or nominee**
- **Professor R Tomasic**
- **Mr R Steins**
- **Mr J Radik**

Student Conduct Committee

- **Professor B Andrew (Chair)**
- **Professor K Taylor**
- **The Vice-Chancellor or nominee**
- **Ms R Brooks**
- **Ms B Chambers**

Student Conduct Appeals Board

- **Mr M Rosser (Chair)**
- **Associate Professor C Annice**
- **Ms G McFeat Lin**

Student Services Committee

- **Dr S Rickard (Chair)**
- **Associate Professor V Le**
- **Associate Dean of Students**
- **President of the SA or the President of CUPA (by agreement)**

Union Board

- **Mr J Radik (Chair)**

University Promotions Committee

- **Professor A Cripps (Chair)**
- **Professor K Kennedy**
- **Associate Professor E Martin**
- **Dr J O'Brien**
- **Ms L Warne**
- **Deputy Vice-Chancellor**
- **A nominee of the Vice-Chancellor being a person external to the University who has significant academic and professional standing in the community (for Level D promotions only)**

Council noted the list of those in attendance at each committee with speaking rights as set out in the agenda paper.

Item 4: West Submission

Council received and considered a draft of the University's submission to the review of higher education financial and policy, to be chaired by Mr Roderick West. The Vice-Chancellor

reminded Council that the submission was due with the Committee by 24 April 1997 and that any comments that Council members wished to make on the draft should be forwarded to him as soon as possible.

Resolution No. C51/5

Council endorsed the submission and invited the Vice-Chancellor to submit a revised version on Council's behalf when it was finalised.

Item 5: Strategic Plan for 1998-2000

Council received and considered a paper prepared by the Vice-Chancellor on the progress made towards the formulation of a new strategic plan, considered necessary following the election of the new government and its subsequent Higher Education Budget Statement. The Vice-Chancellor advised that the new planning document would build on the 1992 *Strategic Directions* and would marry long-term objectives with short-term management considerations, especially in the financial area.

Resolution No. C51/6

Council agreed to meet at 5.30pm on Friday 16 May 1997 and on Saturday morning 17 May 1997 on campus for a planning session on the future directions of the University.

Item 6: Award of Honorary Degree

Council considered this item *in camera*.

Council received and considered a paper prepared by the Vice-Chancellor inviting Council to consider the award of an honorary degree at the 1997 ceremonies for conferring of awards.

Resolution No. C51/7

Council exercised its power under rule 9 (1) of the Honorary Degree Rules and admitted Romaldo Giurgola AO to the honorary degree of Doctor of the University and authorised the Chancellor to confer the honorary degree on Professor Giurgola in the course of the 1997 conferring of awards ceremonies.

Item 7: Report of Academic Board

[Faculty Review](#) | [Granting of Awards](#) | [Completion of PhD](#) | [Change of Award Title](#)

Council received and considered the report of Academic Board meeting no. 97/2.

Review of the Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering

Council received and accepted the Panel's report for the Review of the Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering and the Faculty response to the report.

Council noted that the Faculty would be taking steps to implement report recommendations and that Council would be advised of progress in due course.

Granting of Awards

Resolution No. C51/8

Council exercised its powers under Rule 6 of the Conferring of Award Rules and authorised the Chancellor to confer awards at the next conferring ceremonies on those students to whom Academic Board has granted awards, subject to the students' compliance with the Statutes and Rules of the University.

Completion of PhD

Resolution No. C51/9

Council admitted Mr Rhys Leeming of the Faculty of Applied Science to the award of Doctor of Philosophy, for the thesis entitled *Evaluation of the use of coprostanol as a tracer for sewage effluent in Australian aquatic environments*.

Change of Award Title

Resolution No. C51/10

Council agreed in principle to amend the Courses and Awards Statute to reflect the change of award title from "Graduate Diploma in Computing Studies" to "Graduate Diploma in Computing". The matter was referred to the Legislation Committee.

Item 8: Report of Finance Committee

Council received and noted the report of the Finance Committee Meeting of 6 April 1997 including the 1996 Annual Financial Statements, the Period 3, 1997 Financial Statements and the Capital Management Plan.

The Acting Chair of the Finance Committee, Mr P McGhie, advised that the Australian National Audit Office had reported the accounts of the University to be well kept with no matters of significance requiring attention. Council congratulated Mr A Westerman, the University's chief accountant, for this outcome.

Resolution No. C51/11

Council agreed to accept the report of the Finance Committee of 9 April 1997.

Resolution No. C51/12

Council authorised the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor to sign the 1996 Financial Statements on Council's behalf for submission to the Minister as part of the Annual Report.

Resolution No. C51/13

Council endorsed the method adopted for valuation of the Library.

Resolution No. C51/14

Council endorsed the Capital Management Plan and noted that the priorities for 1998 would be brought back to Council for further discussion.

Item 9: Role of the Registrar

Council received and considered a paper prepared by the Vice-Chancellor proposing changes to be made to university legislation to reflect the changed circumstances of the position of Registrar, the duties of which had been spread to different offices following changes to the administrative structure of the University.

Resolution No. C51/15

Council agreed in principle to amend the statutes and rules of the University to remove references to the position of Registrar. Council referred the matter to the Legislation Committee for appropriate amending legislation to be prepared.

Item 10: Report of Academic Staff Committee

Council received and noted the 1996 Report of the Academic Staff Committee.

Item 11: Report of Buildings and Site Committee

Council received and noted the Report of the Buildings and Site Committee.

Item 12: Report From Equal Opportunity Committee

Council received and noted the 1996 Report to the Affirmative Action Agency.

Item 13: Appointment of Head of School of Professional and Community Education

Council noted the appointment of Ms Barbara Chambers to the position of Head of the School of Professional and Community Education in the Faculty of Education for an initial period of three years commencing on 7 July 1997.

Item 14: Appointment of Directors of the UC Superannuation Fund Limited

Council received and considered a paper prepared by the Vice-Chancellor concerning the appointment of a Director of the UC Superannuation Fund Limited to replace Dr J Grant and the renewal of the appointment of Mr William Soding.

Resolution No. C51/16

Council appointed Mr Adrian Westerman as a Director of the University of Canberra Superannuation Fund Ltd with effect from 17 April 1997.

Resolution No. C51/17

Council reappointed Mr William Soding as a Director of the University of Canberra Superannuation Fund Ltd for three years with effect from 17 April 1997.

Item 15: Issue of Obligations Certificates

Council received and noted, in confidence, a memorandum from the Accounts Receivable Officer advising the particulars of students who had certificates issued by the Vice-Chancellor under section 4 of the *Obligations Statute 1995*.

Item 16: New Members of Council - Curriculum Vitae

Council received and considered a paper prepared by the Secretary of Council advising that the Governor-General had appointed seven members of Council, each for a four-year term

commencing on 7 April 1997.

Council noted the reappointments of Mr Ian Mackintosh and Mr Jack Radik and the appointment of five new members: Dr Suzanne Rickard, Mr Michael Rosser, Dr Michael Sargent, Ms Anne Trimmer and Dr Hugh Watson.

Item 17: Transfer of Jurisdiction - Hansard Transcripts

Council received and noted Hansard transcripts of 20, 25 and 26 March 1997 relating to the enactment of legislation to transfer jurisdiction for the University from the Commonwealth to the ACT.

Item 18: Annual Report

Council received and noted the draft 1995 Annual Report of the University. Council noted that the text could be amended in the light of comments received from Council members.

Item 19: Use of the Seal

Council received and noted a report from the Vice-Chancellor on the use of the University Seal.

The meeting concluded at 7.30pm.

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