Minutes of Council Meeting No. 73

held at 4.30 pm on Wednesday 6 December 2000 in the Council Room

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Present:

Ms W McCarthy (Chancellor)
Adoption of Agenda

Council confirmed the order of the agenda with Items 3 to 8 inclusive listed for discussion. Council noted that Item 12 had been withdrawn from the agenda.

Item 1: Minutes of Previous Meeting
Council received the minutes of Council Meeting No. 72 of Wednesday 4 October 2000.

**Resolution No. C73/1**

Council agreed to accept the minutes of Council Meeting No. 72 as a true record of proceedings with the following amendment:

**Item 4 - Vice-Chancellor's Report: Graduation Ceremonies**

Amend final sentence to read:

"The graduates from the Division of Management and Technology were addressed by Ms Anne Trimmer, President Elect of the Law Council of Australia, ..."

**Resolution Nos. C73/2 and C73/3** are recorded separately in the confidential minute book.

**Item 2 Confirmation of Flying Minutes**

Council was invited to confirm decisions taken by flying minutes of 19 October 2000 to establish the position of Professor of Aquatic Science in the Cooperative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology, and 3 November 2000 to advertise the position of Professor of Graphic Design.

**Resolution No. C73/4**

Council confirmed the establishment of the position of Professor of Aquatic Science for a period of five years on the basis of funding provided by the Cooperative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology.

**Resolution No. C73/5**

Council confirmed the appointment of Dr Gary Jones as Professor of Aquatic Science for a five year term co-terminous with his appointment as Director of Knowledge Exchange with the Cooperative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology.

**Resolution No. C73/6**

Council confirmed the advertisement of an Academic Level E post of Professor of Graphic Design, and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to establish a selection panel for this position, if necessary, in the usual way.

**Item 3 Chancellor's Report**
This matter was considered *in camera* and is recorded separately in the confidential minute book.

**Item 4 Vice-Chancellor's Report**

Council noted the following matters:-

**The Wider Community**

- A selection of works from UC’s art collection was exhibited at the Raglan Gallery and Cultural Centre in Cooma. The works on display included 20 contemporary Australian paintings, ceramics, and Aboriginal prints. The exhibition provided a way of working with local communities and business leaders to promote UC's presence in the region.

- Professor Bonollo represented the Vice-Chancellor and conferred the degree of Master of Defence Studies on the final graduating class of the Army Command and Staff Course at Fort Queenscliff, Victoria on 14 November 2000. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Aitkin, conferred the degree of Master of Defence Studies on the final graduating class from RAAF Fairbairn in a ceremony at the National Library, Canberra on 16 November 2000. Mr James Hanratty, course convener of the Defence Studies course, and Mr Dennett, Secretary of Council, also attended these ceremonies for the University. Next year the Command and Staff Course for all three services will be taught at a new facility under construction by Defence at Weston Creek, where students will study for the University's new degree of Master of Management in Defence Studies.

- 31 of the Australian Olympic Team members had an association with the University of Canberra – and of that number four won medals and eight helped win them. Among the successful was Petria Thomas, who won silver in both the 4x200 metre freestyle relay and the 4x200 metre freestyle relay, and bronze in the 200 metre butterfly. Graduates Jaime Fernandez and Nick Porzig won silver in the Australian men’s rowing eight. Another graduate, Michel Blackburn won a sailing bronze medal in the Laser Class. UC students and graduates also made a significant contribution to the administration of the Games. Resource and Environmental Sciences Technical Officer, Angie Mooney, was one of the 40 whip-crackers who took part in the 2000 Olympic Games opening ceremony.

- Australian Paralympic athletic sports coach and UC graduate Brett Jones coached 20 of the Australian Paralympic sprinters, with a staff of three and four of his own athletes from the Queensland Academy of Sport.

- While second year Education student Paul Nicholson missed out on making the Australian Olympic swimming team, he scooped the medal pool at the Australian University Games, picking up six gold, a silver and a bronze in the pool at the University Games, which were held in Ballarat from October 1 to October 6. Paul won the 50, 100 and 200 metre backstroke, the 100
and 200 metre butterfly and the 200 metre individual medley. He also came second in the 50 metre butterfly, third in the 400 metre freestyle and swam the heats of the 100 metre freestyle. UC also achieved bronze medals in the men’s and women’s single sculls, and the women’s pair won gold in rowing, while Kate Adams won the women’s javelin for the second year in a row. UC’s total of 361 points earned the University an overall eighth placing at the Games.

- 140 students came from UC, ANU Yaruna Centre, CIT, Charles Sturt University, Queensland University of Technology, University of Western Sydney, the University of New South Wales and the University of Sydney to take part in the 5th Annual National Indigenous Games which were hosted by UC’s Ngunnawal Centre on October 14 and 15.

- On 26 October 2000, Canberra appointed 16 International Student Ambassadors from the University of Canberra. The appointments were conferred upon the students by ACT Chief Minister Gary Humphries during a function at the Canberra Business Promotion Centre, Regatta Point. The International Student Ambassador Program is an initiative of UC and the Chief Minister’s Department and is the only one of its kind in Australia.

The University

- Organised by the University of Canberra, the 5th Canberra Film International Festival presented 13 feature films, a children’s matinee, a series of renowned indigenous Australian shorts and the Canberra Short Film Festival. The Festival highlighted a range of highly acclaimed international films such as *Himalaya*, the story of yak herding in north-west Nepal, *Yana’s Friends*, which focused on the life of immigrants to Israel, *Genghis Blues*, which followed blind American blues musician Paul Pena to Tuga, north of Mongolia and *Billy Elliot* which has since had a very successful commercial release to outstanding critical acclaim. A special advance screening of the new animated version of *The Magic Pudding* was another feature of the Festival.

- The St Vincent de Paul Society has joined UC to offer a new scholarship to nurture the abilities of indigenous students. The aim of the scholarship is to increase the number of indigenous students and teachers in the education system and enhance the career opportunities for indigenous students.

- Associate Professor Belle Alderman was a finalist in the 2000 Australian Awards for University Teaching, nominated in the Humanities and Arts category.

- Professor Michael Wagner has been elected to a prestigious position on the Board of the International Speech Communication Association. His role is to further international industrial liaison with companies, mainly in the areas of speech recognition, speech synthesis and speech communication generally.

- Final year Graphic Design student, Katherine Dobell combined the images of the Civic carousel
and four men in suits to win the $1,000 *Unexpected Canberra* photographic competition run by the National Capital Authority.

- Third year Earth and Land Science student, Andrew McMahon has won the best student presentation prize at a Canberra and Central West NSW Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy competition and will represent UC at the National Undergraduate Regolith Geology School. His research project was undertaken in Young, after farmers became concerned about salinity damage in the Memagong catchment.

- After winning the ACT Caterer of the Year award, UC Staff Club chef, Sven Hossack-Smith also won the National Site Caterer of the Year Award.

- The University was saddened to learn of the death of Emeritus Professor Don Overheu, who died suddenly at his home in Canberra on 16 October 2000. Professor Overheu was one of the few pioneers of computing in Australia and will be remembered for his contribution to the University and to the development of computing in Australia.

**Item 5 Review of the Canberra Clinical School - UC Submission**

Council received a submission by the Vice-Chancellor to the committee established to review the progress of the Canberra Clinical School. Council noted that the draft submission explored some options for the future of the School and ways in which the University might contribute to medical training, and training for related health professions, in an autonomous and independent Canberra Medical School in the ACT.

The Vice-Chancellor advised Council that the University's submission proposed a collaborative model with an independently managed degree-awarding school governed by a council made up of representatives of its partners. Council noted that the draft submission placed an emphasis on the University's rural outreach, possibilities in indigenous, sports and aviation medicine, and its support for professional education rather than research.

Concern was expressed by several members that collaboration in a Medical School, which would be resource intensive, not be at the expense of current UC programs. Council noted that the Australian National University appeared reluctant to discuss collaboration in this venture. Members observed that the ANU Council had not yet discussed the issue in open session, and observed that it might be useful to forward UC's submission to that Council for its information. It might also be useful to lobby the federal government and the Opposition to draw their attention to the matter and inviting analysis and discussion of the issues.

**Resolution No. C73/7**

a. Council strongly endorsed a collaborative model for a Canberra Medical School as
set out in the University's submission to the committee to review the progress of the Canberra Clinical School.

b. Council agreed to forward the submission to the Chancellor of the ANU and to the Secretary of the ANU Council before its next meeting.

Members noted that the Vice-Chancellor would report back to Council on this matter.

The Vice-Chancellor explained the context of the establishment of the Canberra Clinical School and its review. Council noted that a memorandum of understanding had been entered into between the ACT government and the University of Sydney establishing the Canberra Clinical School under the direction of the University of Sydney for an initial 10-year period. The Clinical School was currently in its 7th year.

The ACT government and the University of Sydney had agreed to review the Clinical School and Professor Aitkin had been invited to be a member of the review team. The review had found that the Canberra Clinical School had improved the quality of medical education and practice and the review proposed that at the end of the 10 year period, a transition to a Canberra Medical School take place.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Aitkin, had proposed a collaborative model for a stand-alone Medical School in the ACT which would use the existing Clinical School as a basis for the new Medical School but draw upon the existing expertise of UC and the ANU in conjunction with the University of Sydney. Council was advised that the ANU had so far declined to meet to discuss the possibility of the collaborative model. Council noted that it was generally believed that ANU favoured the establishment of the medical school at the ANU.

Council was advised that the proposal did not appear to have been discussed by the ANU Council or by its Board of Faculties. An opinion was expressed that it was likely the ACT government would favour the collaborative model for the Medical School but there were some indications that establishing the Medical School at the ANU was the federal government's preferred option.

Council noted that the Commonwealth controlled the number of places available in Medicine courses and that the University of Sydney intake was 280 students per annum. Council also noted that medical schools were funded in the ratio 1:4 by Commonwealth/state governments and that the Commonwealth had undertaken to fund 200 additional places in Medicine for rural practice commencing in 2001. Graduates from these places would be bonded to practice in rural areas and funding for the additional places was guaranteed for 5 years. 25 of these places were proposed for allocation to the ACT, initially to the Clinical School. Council was advised that ACT wanted to be able to advise the Commonwealth of its proposal for the 25 places by December 25 thus the review committee would make an interim report before then. The final review report was due on February 15.

Council noted that it was believed that the Royal College of General Practitioners supported a collaborative model for the ACT Medical School and that it might be useful to enlist the support of that
and other professional bodies (eg. AMA) in lobbying for the collaborative model. Council noted a view that University of Sydney staff currently at the Clinical School would not stay on at the Medical School without a collaborative model where the University of Sydney had a role.

Council noted that the issues concerning the Medical School needed to be canvassed in the ACT community and that Council members should use their best endeavours to raise awareness of the issues with federal MPs, Territory MLAs and with the community.

Council also noted that concern was expressed by some Council staff members at the resources required to run a Medical School, and the possible effects on other academic areas of the University.

**Item 6 Strategic Planning**

Council received a paper from Dr Michael Sargent, Deputy Chancellor, proposing a process and timeline for UC strategic planning, and a draft discussion document to assist in ascertaining the views of the University's stakeholders.

Council observed that it might be useful to delay the process for several months, as a February start date would make it more difficult for staff to have an adequate opportunity to participate. Council noted that an April start date might be more suitable, and would also allow additional time for consultation and to develop a more comprehensive discussion document. The amended timeline would still allow completion in September 2001.

*Resolution No. C73/8*

a. Council agreed to delay its strategic planning sessions, the process now to commence in April 2001 with completion expected in September 2001.

b. Council agreed to employ a professional facilitator to assist with its strategic planning sessions.

**Item 7 Staff Education and Fee-Paying Places**

Council received a paper from Mr Adrian Westerman, Executive Director of Corporate Services Division, seeking to establish fee-paying undergraduate places for staff at the University of Canberra, to be funded by the University. Council noted that the University was currently unable to match competitive salaries in employment areas such as the public service, but a change to the policy might attract new staff to the University and encourage existing staff to stay, as well as assist them in furthering their education.

Members were advised that Council Resolution No. C52/4 endorsed a statement that the University of Canberra would not charge fees to undergraduate domestic students, and that Mr Westerman's paper was requesting that an exception to the policy be made in this instance.
Resolution No. C73/9

Council:

a. endorsed the concept that University staff be encouraged to continue their education by enrolling in University of Canberra courses;
b. noted its decision as set out in Resolution No. C52/4 and agreed that, as an exception to this decision, the University might establish fee-paying undergraduate places for its own staff only;
c. noted that this decision was not to be seen as a precedent for the introduction of any other fee-paying domestic undergraduate places;
d. requested that appropriate staff study guidelines be developed for Council to note.

Mr Kleeman and Mr Hayward asked that their dissent be recorded.

Item 8 Reports of Academic Board

Council received a report of Academic Board Meeting No. 00/6 and dealt with the following matters:

1. Terms of Reference for the University Admissions Committee

Council noted that Academic Board had approved revised Terms of Reference for the University Admissions Committee.

2. Change to Courses of Study Rules

Council noted that the current paragraph 11.(3) of the Courses of Study (Degrees of Master) Rules 1995 placed unnecessary constraints on developing courses customised for a particular client or purpose, particularly those courses which are of one year or less duration, or those which may be delivered through non-traditional modes such as via the Internet. Members noted that it was proposed to amend the paragraph to allow, in exceptional circumstances, enrolment for different periods which may or may not be based on the traditional term 'semester' and which may allow for enrolment of a different duration.

Resolution No. C73/10

Council agreed to amend the Courses of Study (Degrees of Master) Rules 1995 to allow Academic Board to approve exceptions to paragraph 11.(3), and agreed that corresponding changes be made to the other Courses of Study Rules.

3. Granting of Awards - Doctor of Philosophy
Resolution No. C73/11

Council agreed to exercise its authority under Rule 7 (2) of the Conferring of Awards Rules 1995 and admit the following student to the award of Doctor of Philosophy, subject to the student's compliance with the Statutes and Rules of the University:

Dianne JOLLEY (884406)

4. Accreditation of Courses

Resolution No. C73/12

Council agreed to amend the Courses and Awards Statute 1995 to add the following awards with effect from 1 January 2001:

- Graduate Certificate in Electronic Business
- Graduate Diploma in Regional and Local Government Management

Council received a report of Academic Board Meeting No. 00/7 and dealt with the following matters:

1. Chair of Academic Board

Council noted the Vice-Chancellor's nomination (under Section 21 of the University of Canberra Act 1989) of Professor Marie Carroll as Chair of Academic Board for a second term, commencing at the beginning of Semester 1, 2001 until the end of Semester 2, 2002.

2. Schedule of Meeting Dates for 2001

Council noted that Academic Board resolved to retain the current practice of having meetings of normally 2 hours duration and to adopt the following schedule of meeting dates for 2001:

- 05 February
- 26 March
- 07 May
- 25 June
- 13 August
- 08 October
- 19 November

3. Changes to Courses of Study Rules
Council noted that consideration had been given to assessing a thesis for the award of an appropriate masters degree in circumstances where the thesis had been assessed as not meeting the requirements for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Council noted that Academic Board had considered it was inappropriate for a subsumable relationship to exist between the two awards, nor did they consider that a masters degree should be used as an exit award from a PhD course. The transfer between a doctoral program and a masters program following examination of the thesis should always be considered as an exception and on a case by case basis. Masters degrees should not be seen as a 'failed' doctoral degree.

**Resolution No. C73/13**

Council agreed that the *Courses of Study (Degrees of Master) Rules 1995* be amended to permit consideration of the award of a masters degree to a student enrolled in a doctoral program in circumstances where the requirements for a doctoral degree have not been met following examination of a thesis.

4. **Use of the Term 'Research Centre'*

Council noted that Academic Board had resolved to approve the use of the term "Research Centre" exclusively for University-designated areas of research priority.

5. **Accreditation of Courses**

**Resolution No. C73/14**

Council agreed to amend the *Courses and Awards Statute 1995* to add the following award:

Master of Management in Defence Studies

6. **Granting of Awards - Doctor of Philosophy**

**Resolution No. C 73/15**

Council agreed to exercise its authority under Rule 7 (2) of the *Conferring of Awards Rules 1995* and admit the following student to the award of Doctor of Philosophy, subject to the student's compliance with the Statutes and Rules of the University:

Marian SCARRABELOTTI (944591)

**Item 9 Report of Finance Committee**
Council received the report of the Finance Committee. Council noted that the University remained on target for a surplus result due to off shore teaching, primarily in Hong Kong, and planned underspending in the Divisions. Council noted that maintenance and refurbishment expenditure would increase as major works get underway.

**Item 10 Change of School Name**

Council received a paper from the Secretary advising that the Division of Management and Technology had requested that the name of one of its constituent Schools, the School of Electronics Engineering and Applied Physics, be changed to the School of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering to more closely reflect what the School teaches.

*Resolution No. C73/16*

Council exercised its power under Section 8 of the *University of Canberra Act 1989* to determine that the School of the University named the School of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering be designated an "other body" in place of the School of Electronics Engineering and Applied Physics, and that the Head of School be designated for the purposes of Section 20(d) of the Act relating to membership of Academic Board, and that the change be effective from the commencement of Semester 1, 2001.

**Item 11 Appointment of Standing Chair of Appeals Committee**

Council received a paper from the Vice-Chancellor regarding the appointment of a new Standing Chair of the Appeals Committee, the committee established by the General Staff Grievance Procedures. Council noted that the person appointed as Standing Chair was to be acceptable to both the unions and the University, and that the three most prominent unions had agreed to the person nominated. Council was advised that the remaining two unions had not responded, which was taken to be acquiescence.

*Resolution No. C73/17*

Council appointed Dr John Grant as Standing Chair of the Appeals Committee, the committee established by the General Staff Grievance Procedures, the appointment to be for three years commencing on 1 January 2001.

**Item 12 Appointment of Special Professor**

This item was withdrawn.

**Item 13 Appointment Of Adjunct Professors**
Council received proposals, including a brief curriculum vitae for each candidate, for the appointment of adjunct professors in the National Institute of Governance.

**Resolution No. 73/18**

Council agreed to appoint as follows:

- Mr James Porter as Adjunct Professor of Governance
- Ms Alison McClelland as Adjunct Professor of Governance
- Professor Julian Disney as Adjunct Professor of Governance

each appointment for an initial period of three years.

**Item 14 Nomenclature for New Associate Professors**

**Resolution No C73/19**

Council approved nomenclature for newly promoted Associate Professors as follows:

- Karen Cashel: Associate Professor in Nutrition and Public Health
- Jennelle Kyd: Associate Professor in Biotechnology
- Gwynneth Singleton: Associate Professor in Politics

**Item 15 Report of Buildings and Site Committee**

Council received and noted the report of the Buildings and Site Committee meeting held on 15 November 2000.

**Item 16 Issue of Obligation Certificates**

Council received a memorandum from the Secretary attaching a list of students to whom Obligations Certificates had been issued for substantial and long-standing debts for Library fines and charges.

**Item 17 Use of The Seal**
Council received and noted a report from the Vice-Chancellor on the use of the University seal.

**Item 18 Other Business**

**A Dr Douglas F Waterhouse**

Council received and noted with great sadness a paper from the Secretary informing them of the recent death of the Foundation Chairman of the Council of the former Canberra College of Advanced Education (CCAE), Dr Doug Waterhouse. Council was unanimous in asking that the Chancellor write to the family of Dr Waterhouse expressing its condolences and its appreciation of the significant role played by Dr Waterhouse during his seventeen-year term as Chairman of the CCAE. Council noted that Dr Waterhouse had been previously recognised by the University when the Waterhouse Building was named in his honour.

**B Next Meeting**

Council noted that as the planning activity scheduled for 10 February was being postponed until the middle of the year it would be possible to hold the Council meeting in February on the Wednesday 7 February rather than on Friday 9 February. Council noted that the Secretary would consult members regarding the most suitable date on which to hold the February meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.20 pm.