## Communique

## University Council Meeting C254, 15 May 2025

The University of Canberra Council met for the third time in 2025 on Thursday, 15 May.

The Vice-Chancellor’s Report included a comprehensive strategic update including a summary of complaints and grievances, a corporate performance and risk overview accompanied by a KPI dashboard, portfolio updates, and the latest policy developments across the sector. Council was briefed on goals for the Council Strategy Day, which took place on 16 May.

The Chief Financial Officer’s report confirmed that the University is tracking well to the 2025 budget and progressing with planned savings initiatives. Council acknowledged the significant impact that staffing reductions have had on staff and noted that that prioritisation of work was required to reflect the ongoing staff establishment.

Council formally adopted the revised *Code of Governance Principles and Practice for Australia’s Public Universities*, issued by the University Chancellors Council. This updated Code replaces the *Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Public Universities*, with which the University was compliant.

The Chancellor updated the Council on her recent activities including attendance at the University Chancellors Council meeting, discussions with potential industry partners, and ongoing collaboration with the Chief Operating Officer and his team on business process improvement.

The elected student representatives presented a report on behalf of the Student Representative Council (SRC), highlighting recent activities such as the SRC Town Hall. The Chair, Academic Board, reported on the activities of Academic Board and clarified the Board’s role within the University’s governance framework. Additionally, the CEO of UCX Ltd, Ms Sarah Jennet, delivered the organisation’s annual update to the Council.

Finally, the Chancellor offered her thanks to the Chief People Officer, Ms Wendy Flint, on the occasion of her last Council meeting. Noting Ms Flint’s ten years of service to the University, she gave special mention to her exceptional performance during a challenging 2024.

The resolutions passed during the meeting follow.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Prepared by:** | **Submitted by:** |
| Name | Stephanie Payne | Name | Patricia Kelly PSM |
| Position | University Secretary | Position | Acting Chancellor |
| Date | 20 May 2025 | Date | 20 May 2025 |

## Council Resolutions C254, 15 May 2025

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| RESOLUTION C254/7 | The Council resolved to **confirm** as a true and accurate record:1. Unconfirmed Minutes of C252, 13 March 2025
2. Unconfirmed Minutes of C253, 3 April 2025
 |
| RESOLUTION C254/8 | The Council resolved to **adopt** the resolutions of all items not starred in the C254 Agenda of 15 May 2025. |
| RESOLUTION C254/9 | The Council resolved to **accept** the Vice-Chancellor’s Report. |
| RESOLUTION C254/10 | The Council resolved to **accept** the Financial Management Reports for April 2025. |
| RESOLUTION C254/11 | The Council resolved to:1. **note** the report on Cash and Debt Position
2. **note** the report on Debt Authorisation Limit and Funding
 |
| RESOLUTION C254/12 | The Council resolved to **note** the update on 2025 Financial Year Forecast #1. |
| RESOLUTION C254/13 | The Council resolved to **note** the status of progress on savings initiatives. |
| RESOLUTION C254/14 | The Council resolved to **approve** the University of Canberra Modern Slavery Statement. |
| RESOLUTION C254/15 | The Council resolved to **approve** Stage 1 of the revised Delegations of Authority Schedule. |
| RESOLUTION C254/16 | The Council resolved to: 1. **approve** the revised Policy Framework
2. **approve** the recission of the Policy Framework Policy
3. **note** the recission of the Policy Framework Procedure.
 |
| RESOLUTION C254/17 | The Council resolved to **approve** the revised version of the Nominations and Senior Appointments Committee Charter. |
| RESOLUTION C254/18 | The Council resolved to **approve** the closure of Wells Review recommendation 3c Agent Monitoring. |
| RESOLUTION C254/19 | The Council resolved to **approve** the reappointment of Mr Dennis Trewin AO as an independent external member of the Finance Committee until 30 June 2026. |
| RESOLUTION C254/20 | The Council resolved to:1. **adopt** *A Code of Governance Principles and Practice for Australia’s Public Universities*
2. **agree** to the actions required to comply with the Code.
 |
| RESOLUTION C254/21 | The Council resolved to **accept** the Vice-Chancellor’s nomination of Mr Geoff Drummond, Chief Financial Officer, as a Director of the University of Canberra College. |
| RESOLUTION C254/22 | The Council resolved to **approve** the appointment of Mr Glenn Mowbray as an external member of the UCX Board. |
| RESOLUTION C254/23 | The Council resolved to **approve** the amendment of the UCX constitution to allow for payment of non-UC board members for their attendance at UCX board meetings. |
| RESOLUTION C254/24 | The Council resolved to **approve** the updated Academic Board Rules. |
| RESOLUTION C254/25 | The Council resolved to **accept** the Chancellor’s Report. |
| RESOLUTION C254/26RESOLUTION C254/27 | The Council resolved to **accept** the Student Report.The Council resolved to:1. **accept** the Academic Board Report, including:
	1. Academic Governance External Review Update
	2. Agent Performance and Management Practices
2. **approve** the closure of Wells Review action 3c (N.B. Refer to Council Agenda Item 3.4.5)
3. **close** Council’s Action C250/8 that “the Academic Board Faculty Reports be combined with Faculty corporate statistics / finances / workforce / plans and that a template be proposed early in 2025 and this be added to the 2025 workplan“
4. **note** the Unconfirmed Academic Board Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2025.
 |
| RESOLUTION C254/28 | The Council resolved to: 1. **note** the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting held on 15 April 2025
2. **accept** the policy consolidation and policy review update
3. **note** the report on Deep Dive: Safety and Wellbeing.
 |
| RESOLUTION C254/29 | The Council resolved to:1. **note** the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 16 April 2025
2. **note** the Investment Brief provided by JBWere
3. **note** the Quarter 1 2025 Workforce Profile Report.
 |
| RESOLUTION C254/30 | The Council resolved to:1. **note** the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held on 10 April 2025
2. **note** the update on the Campus Development and Asset Management Program.
 |
| RESOLUTION C254/31 | The Council resolved to **accept** the Report from UCX. |
| RESOLUTION C254/32 | The Council resolved to **note** the Chancellor’s approval of a post-humous award and conferral amendments.  |
| RESOLUTION C254/33 | The Council resolved to **note** the update on Faculty and Portfolio 2025 business plans and the 2026 business planning process. |
| RESOLUTION C252/34 | Council resolved to **accept** the revised Conflict of Interest Declaration form. |