UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING HELD
ON FRIDAY, 25 MARCH 2022
AT 2.15 PM, IN ROOM RR 5-09, ROWLAND REES BUILDING,
CITY WEST CAMPUS

2/2022

ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND OPENING

1.1 PRESENT:

Prof Vicki Waye
(Chairperson)
Dr Rhoda Abadia
Ms Trisha Banga
Prof Craig Batty
Dr David Birbeck
Prof Jon Buckley
Dr Belinda Chiera
Dr Scott Coussens
Prof Joanne Cys
Prof Shane Dawson
Prof Roger Eston
Prof Paula Geldens
Assoc Prof Sheridan Gentili
Dr Georgina Heath
Prof Marnie Hughes-Warrington
Ms Karen Hunt
Mr Richard Irons
Dr Malgorzata Korolkiewicz
Mr Bill Le Blanc
Prof David Lloyd
Prof Jun Ma
Assoc Prof Elspeth McInnes
Assoc Prof Sue Nichols
Prof Sandra Orgeig
Mr Rhys Peden
Ms Gabrielle Rolan
Dr Saras Sastrowardoyo
Mr Simratdeep Singh
Dr Ruchi Sinha
Mr Isaac Solomon
Mr Tom Steer
Assoc Prof Deirdre Tedmanson
Prof Bruce Thomas
Prof Rachael Vernon

Prof Marie Williams
Mr Peter Cardwell (Executive Officer)

APOLOGIES:

Mr Matthew Atkinson
Prof Andrew Beer
Ms Jodieann Daw
Ms Karla Gotting
Mr Brendan Hughes
Dr Sally Lewis
Prof Esther May
Dr Evangeline Mantzioris
Prof Julie Mills
Assoc Prof Barbara Parker
Mr Anet Varghese
Mr Steven Ward
Prof Irene Watson

ALTERNATES:

Prof Lin Crase
(for Prof Andrew Beer)
Ms Danielle Gericke
(for Ms Karla Gotting)
Prof John Medlin
(for Assoc Prof Barbara Parker)
Ms Michelle Theeuf
(for Mr Brendan Hughes)

OBSERVERS:

Ms Tania Kanellos
Ms Shaez Mortimer

1   The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed members, alternates, and observers, in particular Prof Waye welcomed Prof Jun Ma, who was filling a short-term vacancy as the representative of the Professoriate, and Mr Bill Le Blanc, the newly appointed Chief Information Officer. Prof Waye also acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on Kaurna land, and extended her respect to Kaurna elders past, present and emerging, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people present at the meeting.

1.2   TABLED PAPERS

2   There were no tabled papers.

1.3   STARRING OF AGENDA ITEMS

3   Agenda Items 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8.3 were starred for discussion.

1.4   APPROVAL OF UNSTARRED ITEMS

2022/2/34   Academic Board resolved:

that all unstarred items be received and noted or approved without discussion.

Moved: Assoc Prof Deirdre Tedmanson   Seconded: Dr Malgorzata Korolkiewicz

CARRIED

1.5   NOTICE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4   It was noted that no members had given notice of a potential conflict of interest in relation to any items of business on the agenda for consideration at the meeting.

1.6   CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2022/2/35   Academic Board resolved:

to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2022 as a correct record.

Moved: Prof Jon Buckley   Seconded: Assoc Prof Deirdre Tedmanson

CARRIED

ITEM 2 – BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5   There was no business arising from the minutes.

ITEM 3 – CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

6   The Chairperson, Prof Vicki Waye, reported on the March 2022 meeting of University Council.

2022/2/36   Academic Board resolved:

to receive the Chairperson's Report.

Moved: Prof Vicki Waye (from the Chair)

CARRIED

ITEM 4 – VICE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

7   The Vice Chancellor, Prof David Lloyd, introduced his written report, which was taken as read, by drawing members' attention to two matters. Prof Lloyd reported that:

7.1   The recovery was underway, and classes had commenced with 1500 international students enrolled, and most of them arriving and studying onshore. A further increase in international student enrolments was anticipated as Study Period 3 approached, particularly given that there was still a large cohort of students from India who had not yet received their visas and were deferring until mid-year. The keen interest in studying at UniSA and returning to student life on campus was demonstrated at the University's recent International Welcome Ceremony held on 21 February 2022. Attendance numbers had surpassed expectations with the full capacity of 490 initial online registrations received, and an additional 110 students turning up on the day. Some of the students had been studying with the University for up to two years from their home country and not set foot on a UniSA metropolitan campus before.

7.2   The recent election of a Labor Government in South Australia meant that their policy of exploring university merger possibilities would soon be actively pursued. Labor's policy taken to the state election suggested that South Australian universities were individually too small and under resourced to achieve top university rankings. The new government planned to establish a University Merger Commission to chart a path for the future. It would include the leadership of the three universities and be headed by an eminent commissioner with higher education experience. The task of the Commission would be to determine how the state could be best served by the university sector and determine "the path toward a successful merger that would achieve an internationally recognised top 100 university in South Australia to ensure the highest quality research was funded in the state and the best and brightest students and staff were attracted." If the Commission concluded that university merger(s) should go ahead it would be put to the Councils of the three public universities for determination.

2022/2/37   **Academic Board resolved:**

        to receive the Vice Chancellor's Report.

        Moved: Prof Vicki Waye (from the Chair)

            CARRIED

ITEM 5 – THE AUSTRALIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR: FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

8   The Executive Director of the Australian Technology Network (ATN), Mr Luke Sheehy, gave a special presentation on the Australian higher education sector. The main points from the presentation were:

8.1   The ATN comprised six universities including: the University of South Australia (UniSA), Curtin University, Deakin University, Newcastle University, RMIT University and the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS). The ATN was the second largest university grouping in Australia with over 200,000 students. In the past two years the grouping had admitted Deakin University and the University of Newcastle and lost Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

8.2   The ATN was an important grouping of universities with a strong commitment to: access and equity, teaching and learning and real partnerships with industry and government. ATN policy wins during the term of the 46th Parliament included: a $1 billion research funding boost, $250 million in short course funding, $300 million for additional places on top of Job-ready Graduates, 20,000 additional places being offered by the Labor Party Opposition, as well as reforms to critical infrastructure protections and UFIT Guidelines. The grouping's own initiatives were also hitting the mark: ATN Frontiers – industry-focused higher degree research (HDR) training, now part of ATSE's Elevate program; Designing Your Future - building opportunities for disrupted workers; Trailblazer Universities with both Curtin and Deakin short-listed; Joint Statement with IRU to set out skills challenges for the next government; Joint Statement with Ai Group calling on the government to join the ATN to establish a Skills Forum; Skills for Tomorrow paper with Ai Group, TDA and AlphaBeta; Solutions Summit; International Education Roundtable; and the Micro-credentials Symposium.

8.3   The ATN had developed a very good and constructive relationship with Coalition Government ministers such as the Minister for Education in the first Morrison Government and now Trade and Investment Minister, Hon Dan Tehan, current Minister for Education and Youth, Hon Alan Tudge and Minister for Employment and Workplace Skills, Hon Stewart Robert, and had worked tirelessly with the government in an effort to change some of their policies which were in urgent need of repair The ATN had been considered, practical and innovative in its policy contributions across a range of areas such as the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Review, research and commercialisation, rebuilding international education, and this was respected on both sides of politics. The grouping's story was about ATN universities' ability to create opportunities for school leavers, career changes, transforming cities, evolving jobs and entrepreneurial businesses, and was ready to work with either a Coalition or a Labor Government.

8.4   The ATN presented three key policy areas where universities, business and government could work together to secure future prosperity and security. These were: "securing our skills future, creating our own ideas and capability, and leading the global skills boom." Australia's skills future would be secured if the Government worked in partnership with industry and universities to develop the skilled workers, secure jobs, and prosperous communities that would drive our progress. By harnessing Australia's own ideas and capability, it would be possible to make the most of the country's skilled workforce, deliver on national priorities, and build secure and trusted foundations. Australia could lead the global skills boom by providing high-quality and innovative education and attracting and retaining the most talented and entrepreneurial students. A three-way partnership between universities industry and government was a crucial part of delivering better outcomes for industry, existing workers, students, and the economy. It would focus on:

        8.4.1   Rebuilding Australia's economy and ensuring businesses had a strong supply of skilled workers.

        8.4.2   Student outcomes, including opportunities for rapid upskilling and reskilling, work-integrated learning, part-time work in industry, and ultimately improved graduate outcomes.

        8.4.3   Priority areas such as engineering, technology and healthcare and adaptive and innovative solutions to fill skills gaps like short courses to upskill overseas qualified workers, recognition and portability of short course to transfer existing workers into priority jobs, and preferential migration pathways.

8.5   Post-election the ATN would focus on: sustainability of discovery-to-commercialisation research pathways, strategic growth of high-quality domestic provision, and sustainable support for community engagement and university infrastructure. The pandemic had

focused attention on state issues and state governments, even in higher education. While state governments could do and were doing important things – the substantive reforms (and dollars) in teaching and research came from the Commonwealth. There would be a rejuvenation and reassertion of national leadership and strategic direction after the Federal election, and the ATN would need to be ready for that. There were still unexplored and unrealised opportunities for reform such as recognising and shared shorter credentials, commercialisation and industry partnerships, making the most of existing and new intellectual property, effective collaboration across the post-school landscape, high-quality, and high-value international provision at home and abroad, the transformative power of research graduates in industry, and ensuring that all First Nations Australians could access a place in post-school education and succeed.

2022/2/38   **Academic Board resolved:**

to receive and note the report on the Australian Higher Education Sector.

Moved: Prof Vicki Waye (from the Chair)

CARRIED

ITEM 6 – AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT PROJECT UPDATE

9   The Co-Chairs of the Authentic Assessment Project (AAP), Assoc Prof Sheridan Gentili, Director: Teaching Innovation Unit, and Prof Abelardo Pardo, Dean of Programs: UniSA STEM, provided Academic Board with an update on the AAP. Some of the main points from the presentation were:

   9.1   Authentic Assessment was an alternative to traditional standardised testing and core to enabling students to become work-ready graduates. It was assessment that was focused on realistic practices, scenarios, and contexts, as well as developing students' capacity to apply higher order thinking skills in an increasingly complex employment environment, preparing them to face the challenges of the future world of work. Authentic learning activities as assessment led to richer staff-student engagement, contributing to meaningful feedback, and better learning outcomes. Assessment was effective when students saw the task or activity as plausible, meaningful, and relevant – authentic with integrity and legitimacy.

   9.2   The *Academic Enterprise Plan 2021-2025* (AEP) Strategic Priority 2 – *Leading with Our Programs* – signalled the University's intent to strengthen the nationally significant role it played in the preparation of agile coursework and research graduates, through investment in contemporary curriculum design and delivery across a range of teaching modalities. The Authentic Assessment Project (AAP) was a key strategic project of the AEP. It aimed to facilitate a programmatic review of how UniSA's approach to assessment could support the recognition of, and movement towards, more authentic forms of assessment, developing graduate qualities and job-ready skills for the University's students. In consultation with industry stakeholders and program advisory groups, the project sought to ensure that assessments would be relevant and contribute to the readiness of students for their chosen future careers. During 2022, the project priorities would include the update of systems, policies and processes, the establishment of an authentic assessment community of practice, staff communication and support. It was anticipated that prioritisation of assessment related changes would commence in early 2023, and by 2025 all assessments at UniSA would be deemed as authentic based on the Assessment Scenario.

2022/2/39	Academic Board resolved:

to receive and note the report on the update on the Authentic Assessment Project.

Moved: Prof Vicki Waye (from the Chair)

CARRIED

ITEM 7 – MATTERS FROM ACADEMIC STRATEGY, STANDARDS AND QUALITY COMMITTEE (ASSQC) 2/2022

7.1 UNISA BUSINESS

7.1.1 NEW PROGRAM – BACHELOR OF DIGITAL BUSINESS (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/40	Academic Board resolved:

to approve the introduction of the Bachelor of Digital Business (on-campus version) for implementation ahead of the first intake of students in Study Period 2, 2023.

7.2 UNISA CLINICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

7.2.1 PROGRAM AMENDMENT – BACHELOR OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH (HONOURS) (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/41	Academic Board resolved:

to approve the amendment to the entry requirements for the Bachelor of Biomedical Research (Honours) with effect from Study Period 1, 2023.

7.2.2 PROGRAM AMENDMENT – UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN AGED CARE (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/42	Academic Board resolved:

to note the out of session approval by the Provost and Chief Academic Officer to change the entry requirements of the Undergraduate Certificate in Aged Care with effect from Study Period 3, 2023.

7.2.3 PROGRAM EVALUATION AND REACCREDITATION REVIEW REPORT – MASTER OF NURSING (NURSE PRACTITIONER (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/43	Academic Board resolved:

to receive the Program Evaluation Review and approve the reaccreditation of the Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner) until 2028 inclusive.

7.3   UNISA CREATIVE

7.3.1   PROGRAM AMENDMENT – GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DYNAMIC EFFECTS AND LIGHTING (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/44   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the delivery of the Graduate Certificate in Dynamic Effects and Lighting at the Rising Sun Pictures Queensland Studio from Study Period 5, 2022.

7.4   UNISA EDUCATION FUTURES

7.4.1   PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL – GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION (ISLAMIC EDUCATION) (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/45   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the withdrawal of the Graduate Diploma in Education (Islamic Education) effective from Study Period 1, 2023.

7.4.2   PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL – MASTER OF EDUCATION (MMER) (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/46   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the withdrawal of the Master of Education (MMER) effective from Study Period 1, 2023.

7.5   UNISA JUSTICE AND SOCIETY

7.5.1   PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL – BACHELOR OF ARTS (ABORIGINAL CULTURES & AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY) (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/47   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the withdrawal of the Bachelor of Arts (Aboriginal Cultures & Australian Society) effective from Study Period 1, 2023.

7.6   UNISA STEM

7.6.1   PROGRAM EVALUATION AND REACCREDITATION REVIEW REPORT – BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (LBSC) (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/48   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve that the Bachelor of Science (LBSC) be re-accredited until 2024 inclusive and that during that time a major review be undertaken with the support of the STEM Program Advisory Board.

7.6.2 PROGRAM EVALUATION AND REACCREDITATION REVIEW REPORT – BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (LBVT) (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/49   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the reaccreditation of the Bachelor of Environmental Science until 2027 inclusive.

7.6.3 PROGRAM AMENDMENT AND WITHDRAWAL – BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE (HONOURS) AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS) (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/4/50   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the major program amendment to the Bachelor of Applied Science (Honours) and the withdrawal of the Bachelor of Science (honours) (LHSC) effective from Study Period 1, 2023.

7.6.4 PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL – BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (HONOURS) (CIVIL) (MECHANICAL), BACHELOR OF BUSINESS (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/4/51   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the withdrawal of the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Civil) (Mechanical), Bachelor of Business effective from Study Period 1, 2023.

7.7 OTHER MATTERS

7.7.1 SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS FOR REVIEW IN 2022 UNDER ACADEMIC POLICY A35A – QULITY ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT: PROGRAMS, COURSES AND TEACHING ARRANGMENTS (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/4/52   Academic Board resolved:

> to note the final revised schedule of programs for review under Academic Policy A35A in 2022.

7.7.2 STUDENT MOBILITY POLICY AND PROCEDURE (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/4/53   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the proposed new Student Mobility Policy and Procedure.

7.7.3 WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING POLICY (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/4/54   Academic Board resolved:

> to approve the proposed new Work Integrated Learning Policy.

7.7.4 ACADEMIC STRATEGY STANDARDS AND QUALITY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021 (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/4/55   **Academic Board resolved:**

     to receive and note the ASSQC Annual Report 2021.

ITEM 8 MATTERS FROM RESEARCH LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (RLC) 2/2022

8.1   **RESEARCH DEGREE COMPLETION OF REQUIREMENTS (UNSTARRED ITEM)**

2022/2/56   **Academic Board resolved:**

     to receive and note the report from Research Degrees Committee.

8.2   **THE RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE CHANGE PROPOSAL: ENABLING RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS FOR ENTERPRISE 25 AND BEYOND (UNSTARRED ITEM)**

2022/2/57   **Academic Board resolved:**

     to receive and note the Research and Enterprise Change Proposal endorsed by RLC.

8.3   **RANKINGS: UNISA STRATEGY ON A PAGE, 2022 UPDATE**

10   The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Enterprise), Prof Marnie Hughes-Warrington, reported on progress against UniSA *Rankings on a Page Strategy* (RPS), which aimed to improve the University's research standing in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), Times Higher Education (THE) and Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) rankings. The two rankings' indicators identified as a potential focus for improvement at UniSA by Research Leadership Committee (RLC) in 2020 continued to be a priority for the University. Firstly, reputation, with suggested initiatives in the areas of marketing, visiting fellowships, adjunct policy and procedures, and support for prestigious prize nominations. Secondly, citations, with suggested initiatives in the areas of measures of success, academic promotion materials, international collaborations, and dissemination and communicating impact. In alignment with UniSA KPIs, the University was strengthening its international rankings performance. A range of ten initiatives was underway, from prioritising research-intensive recruitment in areas of strong rankings performance aligning with the University's key programs to ensuring its research could be located and attributed correctly to UniSA.

11   Prof Hughes-Warrington noted that in 2022, RLC extended analysis to identify actions that would help the University to potentially accelerate its progress in achieving *Enterprise 25* ambition 2 even faster so that UniSA's top 20 accredited programs would all rank among the very best in Australia and feature on the QS Top 100 subject listings internationally. RLC had identified the subjects for which UniSA had rankings of 200 and above in the QS, THE and ARWU rankings. It had then identified potential actions for subjects which were ranked from 101-150, sometimes across multiple rankings. It was hoped that these suggestions, as well as the updated RPS, reinforced the positive progress the University was making to ensure that UniSA was appreciated globally for its strengths in research and education.

2022/2/58   **Academic Board resolved:**

     to receive and note the Rankings Strategy 2022 update endorsed by RLC.

8.4 NEW READ & PUBLISH AGREEMENTS SUPPORTING OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/59   Academic Board resolved:

to receive and note the new read and publish agreements endorsed by RLC.

8.5 STRATEGY TO GROW THE MASTERS BY RESEARCH STUDENT INTAKE AT UNISA (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/60   Academic Board resolved:

to approve the proposal to increase the University's Masters by Research cohort.

8.6 RESEARCH LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022 (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/61   Academic Board resolved:

to receive and note the RLC Annual Report 2021.

ITEM 9 - BUSINESS

9.1 NEW GRANT – JOANNE MEGAN NURSING PLACEMENT GRANT (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/62   Academic Board resolved:

to approve the new Joanne Megan Nursing Placement Grant.

9.2 NEW GRANT – LEAHURST FOUNDATION FINAL YEAR MIDWIFERY PLACEMENT GRANT (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/63   Academic Board resolved:

to approve the new Leahurst Foundation Final Year Midwifery Placement Grant.

9.3 NEW GRANT – LEAHURST FOUNDATION FINAL YEAR NURSING PLACEMENT GRANT (UNSTARRED ITEM)

2022/2/64   Academic Board resolved:

to approve the new Leahurst Foundation Final Year Nursing Placement Grant.

ITEM 10 – CLOSURE

12   The Chairperson thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 3.30 pm.

ITEM 11 – NEXT MEETING

13   The next meeting of Academic Board would be held on Friday, 27 May 2022, at 2.15 pm in Room RR 5-09, Rowland Rees Building, City West Campus. Closing date for papers – Tuesday, 16 May 2022.

PETER CARDWELL
EXECUTIVE OFFICER