

## Council Bulletin February 2025

### A message from the Chancellor

Dear colleagues,

University Council had its first meeting of 2025 on 17 February. Prior to the meeting, Council and the Vice-Chancellor's Executive (VCE) held a joint half-day workshop, which provided an opportunity for in-depth discussion regarding the Shaping Our Future program of work. VCE has the full support of Council as the various work streams and projects get underway, and through our regular weekly meetings with the Acting Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Chancellor and I will continue to provide advice and support as this complex program of transformation rolls out.

The term of the current 11<sup>th</sup> UniSQ Council ends on 6 October 2025, which means that the process of constituting the 12<sup>th</sup> Council is underway. The membership of UniSQ Council is legislated via the *University of Southern Queensland Act 1998* and consists of various categories of membership, including: five members who are appointed by the State Minister for Education; three additional members who are appointed by Council itself; and two staff members and one student member who are elected to membership. I will continue to keep you updated regarding this process, noting that nominations for the two staff elected positions will be called for in July this year. If you would like to know more about the membership of Council or the role of elected members, please refer to the [UniSQ Council website](#).

As advised in my December 2024 Bulletin, Council has commenced the process of recruiting to the position of Vice-Chancellor. The Deputy Chancellor, Chief People Officer and I have met with a number of potential executive recruitment providers and are currently working on the information package that will eventually be provided to prospective candidates. As this process unfolds over the coming months, I will provide you with regular updates.

The details of the key outcomes of the February Council meeting are included below for your information. If you have any questions about the Council Bulletin below, or any other Council-related matters, please feel free to contact me via email to [chancellor@unisq.edu.au](mailto:chancellor@unisq.edu.au).

Kind regards

John

Dr John McVeigh  
Chancellor

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## Council Information

The first University of Southern Queensland Council meeting of 2025 was held on Monday 17 February at the Council Chamber, UniSQ Toowoomba campus. The Chancellor Hon Dr John McVeigh is the Chair of Council. UniSQ Eleventh Council member information is available on the [University of Southern Queensland Council](#) webpage.

## Strategic Presentations and Reports

- **External Review of Corporate Governance**

Director Governance and University Secretary Julie Shidders presented the planned timeline for the next External Review of Corporate Governance.

## Reports to Council

The following reports were received at the 17 February 2025 Council meeting:

- **Chancellor's Report**

Chancellor Hon Dr John McVeigh presented an update on events and meetings attended since the last meeting of Council in December 2024.

- **Vice-Chancellor's Report**

A detailed report on the University's activities and achievements to the 3 February 2025 was presented by Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Karen Nelson.

- **Elected Student Member Report**

Due to timing no report received this meeting cycle.

- **Academic Board Report**

Due to timing no report received this meeting cycle.

- **Finance and Facilities Committee Report**

Finance and Facilities Committee Chair Chris Bazley presented the Finance and Facilities Report to Council from the 6 February 2025 meeting. Items received included:

- Unconfirmed Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes 6 February 2025
- Union Institute of Language Springfield Campus Pty Ltd Quarter 4 Report
- Approval Authority for Fee Setting
- Monthly Financial Report to 31 December 2024.

- **Audit and Risk Committee Report**

Audit and Risk Committee Chair Brett Delaney presented the Audit and Risk Committee Report to Council from the 6 February 2025 meeting. Items received included:

- Unconfirmed Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes 6 February 2025

- Risk Management Report December 2024
  - Cyber Security Quarter 4 Report
  - Internal Audit Charter
  - Payroll Compliance Update.
- **Chancellor’s Committee Report**

Chancellor’s Committee Chair and Chancellor Dr John McVeigh presented the Chancellor's Committee Report to Council from the 6 February 2025 meeting. Items received included:

    - Unconfirmed Chancellor’s Committee Meeting Minutes 6 February 2025
    - 2024 UniSQ Annual Report
    - Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) Executive Summary and Industry Benchmark Reports for UniSQ for 2023-2024
    - UniSQ positive Duty Gender Equity Action Plan.
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### **Council Resolutions**

Council resolved to **approve** the following items at the 17 February 2025 meeting:

- Annual Financial Statements of the University of Southern Queensland and Controlled Entities for the period ending 31 December 2024 and authorises signing of the accounts on the date the audit opinion is issued
  - Approval Authority for Fee Setting
  - Monthly Financial Report to 31 December 2024
  - Internal Audit Charter
  - External Review of Corporate Governance – planned timeline.
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### **2025 Call for Agenda Papers**

Approved briefing documents must be submitted by close of business on the date the agenda closes to the [Executive Officer \(Council\)](#). Guidelines for the Conduct of Council and Committee Meetings require agenda papers to be distributed at least seven days prior to the meeting. The standing orders of Council permit the tabling of papers only in exceptional circumstances. The 2025 University Meeting Schedule is available on the [Council and Committee Terms of Reference](#) webpage.

### **Council Bulletins**

Information about Council, including Council Bulletins can be accessed on the University of Southern Queensland Council webpage: <https://www.unisq.edu.au/about-unisq/governance-leadership/governance/council>

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 future.



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CRICOS: QLD 00244B, NSW 02225M | TEQSA: PRV12081