

**UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY**

**COUNCIL**

**AGENDA ITEM 3.1**

**MEETING 12/1**

**VICE-CHANCELLOR**

**22 FEBRUARY 2012**

**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

**Purpose**

To report to Council on key developments and events that have occurred since Council's last meeting.

**Recommendation**

Council to receive and note the report, as detailed in Document 3.1 - *Vice-Chancellor's Report*.

## **1. EXTERNAL MATTERS**

### **➤ Federal Government Agenda**

#### ***Federal Cabinet Reshuffle***

On 12 December, the Prime Minister announced a cabinet reshuffle brought about by the resignation of Senator Nick Sherry to the backbench. The size of cabinet has increased from 20 to 22, and the changes directly affect the higher education sector. Senator the Hon Chris Evans has become Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research; and remains in cabinet in line with his position as Government Leader in the Senate. The Hon Greg Combet is Minister for Industry and Innovation, while Industry Minister Kim Carr leaves cabinet, to take on the more junior roles of Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Defence Materiel.

Universities Australia (UA) welcomed Minister Evans' oversight of the newly expanded Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE), noting his work in driving many important post-Bradley reforms aimed at strengthening our sector.

It is a positive outcome to have one Minister responsible for all higher education portfolio issues and, at an institutional level, UTS enjoys a very good relationship with Minister Evans and we can expect to work closely with him and his office. Further, Greg Combet is well respected and a trusted reformer, and the sector is pleased that he will play a senior role in the Innovation portfolio.

In good news for UTS, our alumnus and recently appointed UTS luminary, the Hon Tanya Plibersek, has been promoted into Cabinet and been given the Health portfolio. We look forward to continuing our close working relationship with Tanya in this important portfolio area.

A list of the Gillard Ministry can be found at  
<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/members/minlist.pdf>

#### ***Budget Cuts Relating to the Higher Education Sector***

On 29 November, the Federal Government announced the following cuts as part of the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) that affect the higher education sector.

The Government will reinstate the student contribution amounts for mathematics, statistics and science units of study to Band 2 for all commencing students from 1 January 2013. The total level of funding provided to universities for these units will be maintained. Universities are currently provided with transitional loading for each student place in a mathematics, statistics and science unit as compensation for the previously reduced student contribution amounts. This transitional loading will be phased out as student contribution amounts increase.

Students who commence their course between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2012 will continue to pay a reduced student contribution amount until 31 December 2015, with the Government providing transitional loading for these units. Students who commence their course from 1 January 2013 will be charged the Band 2 rate for any mathematics, statistics and science units of study.

Reward funding relating to student experience and learning outcomes will be discontinued. The Government will continue with the development of the performance measures for student experience and quality of learning outcomes for use in the *MyUniversity* website and to inform continuous improvement by universities. However, the Government has decided not to proceed with the development of the composite Teaching Quality Indicator (TQI).

This measure will result in savings of \$240.8 million over four years.

### ***Review of Base Funding***

On 8 December 2011, Minister Evans released the final report of the Higher Education Base Funding Review. The report offers principles and recommendations for public investment in higher education, and was led by a panel chaired by Dr Jane Lomax-Smith. Professor Peter Booth, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, will meet with Government representatives in February as part of targeted consultations, and put forward the view that UTS broadly supports the report's recommendations. The report can be found at <http://www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Policy/BaseReview/Pages/default.aspx>.

UA is coordinating a submission on behalf of the sector, and I am on the working party overseeing this. The Australian Technology Network (ATN) is also preparing a submission.

### ***MyUniversity Website – Update***

In March 2010, it was announced that the Australian Government would implement a *MyUniversity* website to help inform students about institutions and courses and showcase the quality of Australia's higher education providers. Minister Evans has written to advise me that the website will be available in March 2012 to enable incoming Year 12 students to use it when planning their post-secondary options. The Government is making adjustments to the website to address concerns about accuracy of search functionality, and the data available.

#### **➤ 2012 ATN (Australian Technology Network) Symposium**

The ATN hosted a symposium on 31 January, which enabled valuable discussion among representatives of member Universities discussed around *The Quality and Standards Agenda in Teaching and Learning*. Minister Evans delivered the keynote address, and I facilitated a panel discussion around External Expectations Around Quality, with key representatives of Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education.

➤ **UA - Cultural Competency Best Practice Framework**

On 10 January, UA released the National Best Practice Framework for Indigenous Cultural Competency in Australian Universities. This provides the Australian higher education sector with theoretical and practical tools to embed Indigenous cultural competency at the institutional level. The framework will provide encouraging and supportive environments for Indigenous students and staff and offer non-Indigenous graduates the knowledge and skills needed to deliver competent services to Indigenous Australians.

The Best Practice Framework was endorsed by Universities Australia and the Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council in late 2011, and will be supported by a series of workshops around Australia throughout 2012. UTS already conforms, and has been cited as an example of best practice.

➤ **New Convenor, NSW Vice-Chancellor's Committee (NSWVCC)**

Professor Janice Reid, Vice-Chancellor, University of Western Sydney, has been appointed as Convenor of NSWVCC. Her term will run from January 2012 to December 2013. Professor Reid takes over from outgoing Convenor, Professor Fred Hilmer AO, Vice-Chancellor, University of NSW, who has led NSWVCC for the past three years.

➤ **Governor-General to be Patron of the Australian Centre for Child and Youth**

The Governor-General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC CVO, has offered to become the Patron of the Australian Centre for Child and Youth at UTS. This, with the Quentin Bryce Law Doctoral Scholarships, helps further to build rich connections, of which we are proud. This is testament to the great work being done by Professor Rosemary Johnston, Director, and her team, particularly in relation to enhancing opportunities for Indigenous youth.

➤ **Professor Hung Nguyen, Finalist, NSW Australian of the Year**

Professor Hung Nguyen, Dean, Faculty of Engineering and IT, was honoured at a gala event in November, as a finalist for NSW Australian of the Year. Professor Nguyen was nominated for his outstanding contribution to the Australian community, evidenced by his work on the Smart Wheelchair developed by the UTS Centre for Health Technologies. We congratulate Professor Nguyen on his nomination, and add our thanks for the work he is doing to improve the lives of those with disabilities.

➤ **Australia Day Honours**

Four prominent Australians with strong links to UTS have been recognised in the Australia Day Honours. Congratulations to:

- Glen Boreham AM, former Managing Director, IBM Australia and New Zealand, and inaugural Chair, VC's Advisory Board
- Graham Jahn AM, Director, Planning and Regulatory Services, City of Sydney, and Adjunct Professor of Architecture at UTS, and former member of the Physical Infrastructure Committee

- The Honourable Kevin Lindgren QC AM – Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Law
- The Honourable Helen Wai-Har Sham-Ho OAM – former member of Council; China Research Centre Advisory Board member.

➤ **Melbourne College of Divinity Achieves Specialist University Status**

The Melbourne College of Divinity has achieved recognition as the country's first specialist university. Under Commonwealth legislation, specialist universities self-accredit, and offer undergraduate and postgraduate courses of study that meet the Qualification Standards in a maximum of two broad fields of study. The number of Australian Universities now officially numbers forty.

## 2. INTERNAL MATTERS

➤ **Research Update**

*Intelligent Collaboration with Leading China University*

A new era of increased research collaboration is beginning between UTS and Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) through a joint research centre in Intelligent Systems. The new centre was formally launched 2 November 2011, is co-funded by both institutions, and establishes long-term and sustainable research collaboration, including joint PhD supervision, staff exchanges and joint research projects. Professor Chengqi Zhang, Director of UTS's Quantum Computation & Intelligent Systems Research Centre (QCIS), has been appointed as a co-director of the Centre. Based in China, the Centre will provide the ability for exchange for academics and students of UTS.

*Distinguished Visiting Scholars Program*

The outcomes of the latest round of the Distinguished Visiting Scholars applications have been finalised. This is a program funded from the UTS Research budget. Thirteen Distinguished Visiting Scholars have been approved for the first round of 2012, sharing over \$100,000 funding to come to UTS as part of this knowledge exchange initiative. We look forward to welcoming the following Distinguished Visiting Scholars.

*Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences*

**Professor Philip Mirowski, University of Notre Dame, Indiana**

UTS host: Cosmopolitan Civil Societies, Jeremy Walker

*Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology*

**Professor Hamido Fujita, Iwate Prefectural University, Japan**

UTS host: School of Software, Jie Lu

**Professor Limsoon Wong, National University of Singapore**

UTS host: Advanced Analytics Institute, Jinyan Li and Longbing Cao

**Professor Philip Yu, University of Illinois, Chicago**

UTS host: Advanced Analytics Institute, Longbing Cao

*Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Health*  
**Distinguished Professor Adeline Nyamathi, UCLA**  
UTS host: Health Services and Practice, John Daly

*Faculty of Science*

**Emeritus Professor John Raven, University of Dundee**  
UTS host: Plant Functional Biology and Climate Change Cluster, Peter Ralph  
**Professor Marilyn Huestis, National Institutes of Health and University of Baltimore**  
UTS host: Centre for Forensic Science, Shanlin Fu  
**Professor Brendan Wren, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine**  
UTS host: ithree, Ian Charles

*UTS Business School*

**Professor William Lazonick, University of Massachusetts**  
UTS host: Centre for Corporate Governance, Thomas Clarke  
**Professor Joel Horowitz, Northwestern University, Illinois**  
UTS host: Centre for the Study of Choice, Jordan Louviere  
**Professor Eric Johnson, Columbia University**  
UTS host: Centre for the Study of Choice, Sandra Burke  
**Professor Christos Pitelis, Cambridge University**  
UTS host: Centre for Management & Organisation Studies, Stewart Clegg  
**Professor George Foster, Stanford University, California**  
UTS host: Management and Accounting Discipline Groups, Paul Jonson

*UTS Partnership Grants*

The results of the UTS Partnership Grants for 2012 have also been announced, with \$224,000 of funding allocated to 11 research teams for projects commencing in 2012. This scheme aims to build the strength of our ARC Linkage bids, and is an important aspect of the Research Strategy 2010 – 2015.

The Lead Chief Investigators for the successful teams were:

- **Professor Patricia Davidson:** Strategies to decrease pain through implementing a dual clinical pain pathway Stop Pain Path Phase 1. **Industry partner: HammondCare**
- **Professor Longbing Cao:** Effective profiling and detection of at-risk taxpayers to strengthen ATO compliance. **Industry partner: ATO**
- **Professor John Ellis:** Development of monoclonal antibodies against surface antigens proteins of *Dientameoba fragilis* for use in diagnostic assays. **Industry partner: St Vincent's Hospital**
- **Dr Michelle DiGiacomo:** Aboriginal families navigating childhood disability. **Industry partner: Aboriginal Medical Service Western Sydney**
- **Associate Professor Kumbesan Sandrasegaran:** Investigation of the improvement of sustainable management of groundwater resources through use of the next generation water quality loggers. **Industry partner: Ecoséal Developments**
- **Associate Professor Simon Darcy:** The Jeenee project: empowering training and support for independence and disability citizenship through personal digital assistants and virtual technology. **Industry partner: Community Connections Australia**

- **Associate Professor Peter Aubusson:** Extending the museum 'family': including the non-traditional audience. **Industry partner: The Powerhouse Museum**
- **Dr Tim Prior:** Engaging peri-urban communities in bushfire preparation and biodiversity protection. Industry partner: **Nature Conservation Council of NSW**
- **Dr Deborah Edwards:** Using Smart Phones and integrated methodology in a field trial to understand tourist dispersal beyond gateway cities. **Industry partner: Destination New South Wales**
- **Professor Paul Ashton:** Empty Spaces: reusing space for creative enterprise incubation, community renewal and regional development. **Industry partner: Arts NSW**
- **Professor Thomas Clarke:** Diversity and Performance on Boards and Directors: An international comparison of regulatory intervention and corporate and professional Initiatives. **Industry partner: Boardroom Partners.**

### *2012 UTS Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellows*

The UTS Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Scheme aims to support the research strategy by attracting and retaining excellent researchers who will strengthen the national and international profile of UTS research. This year, Professor Attila Brungs, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) has announced 16 Fellowships, the largest number to date. The large number reflects the quality of submissions received.

Congratulations to these early career researchers, who will work with the following Faculties for three to four year periods:

- Dr Catherine Burke, Science
- Dr Dana Cordell, Institute for Sustainable Futures
- Dr Min-Hsiu Hsieh, Engineering and IT
- Dr Benjamin Johnston, Engineering and IT
- Dr Olivier Laczka, Science
- Dr Gang Lei, Engineering and IT
- Dr HaoLiu, Science
- Dr Trish Luker, Law
- Dr Tuan Nghia Nguyen, Engineering and IT
- Mr Franklin Obeng-Odoom, Design, Architecture and Building (Mr Obeng-Odoom's thesis has been submitted, and the fellowship is dependent upon doctorate being granted)
- Dr Katherina Petrou, Science
- Dr Talis Putnins, Business
- Dr Xanthe Spindler, Science
- Dr Hollis Thomas Taylor, Arts and Social Sciences
- Dr Seet Rui (Simon) Ting, Engineering and IT
- Mr Jonathan Wardle, Nursing, Midwifery and Health (Mr Wardle's thesis has been submitted, and the fellowship is dependent upon doctorate being granted)

## ***2011 NSW Science and Engineering Awards***

On 23 November, two leading UTS researchers were recognised at the 2011 NSW Science and Engineering awards. **Professor Geoff Smith** was joint winner in the Invention category, while **Professor Chengqi Zhang** won the Engineering and Information and Communications Technology category.

Professor Smith was recognised for his pioneering work into sustainable and energy efficient technologies, especially his contributions to green roofing systems, window and lighting technologies.

Professor Zhang heads up UTS's Centre for Quantum Computation and Intelligent Systems and is a world leader in data mining. One area Professor Zhang was recognised for was the research partnership he and his team have developed with Centrelink.

These awards are also testament to the breadth and quality of research at UTS, and demonstrate the impact it is having in NSW and beyond. Previously called the NSW Scientist of the Year Awards, the NSW Science and Engineering Awards reward cutting-edge research that provides economic, health, environmental or technological benefits for NSW.

### **➤ Teaching, Learning and Equity Update**

#### ***2011 Learning and Teaching Awards***

At its meeting on 5 December 2011, the Teaching and Learning Awards and Citations Selection Committee considered the applications received for the 2011 UTS Teaching and Learning Awards and Citations. Congratulations to the following members of staff, whose outstanding contributions to learning and teaching have been recognised.

#### **Teaching and Learning Awards**

<b>Winners</b>	<b>Award</b>
David Bond, Peter Wells and Robert Czernkowski (Business)	Teaching and Learning Award for Team Teaching (\$5,000)
Michael Olsson, Theo Van Leeuwen and Eurydice Aroney (Arts and Social Sciences)	Teaching & Learning Award for Strengthening the UTS Model of Learning (\$5,000)
Anthony Brown (Arts and Social Sciences)	Teaching and Learning Award for Individual Teaching (\$3,000)
Laurel Dyson (Engineering and IT)	Teaching and Learning Award for Widening Participation (with particular reference to First Year Experience and indigenous students) (\$3,000)
Andrea Leigh (Science)	Teaching and Learning Award for Early Career Teaching (\$3,000)
Robyn Gallagher (Nursing, Midwifery and Health)	Teaching and Learning Award for Postgraduate Supervision (\$3,000)



## Teaching and Learning Citations

Winners	Citation
Peter Alexander (Casual Academic)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)
Walid Bakry (Casual Academic)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)
Mary Coupland (Science)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)
Melissa Edwards and team (Business)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)
Behzad Fatahi (Engineering and IT)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)
Maureen Henninger (Arts and Social Sciences)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)
Shannon Kennedy Clark (Casual Academic)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)
Kirsten Orr (Design, Architecture and Building)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)
Jennie Small and Kerry Hunter (ELSSA)	Teaching & Learning Citation (\$1,000)

### ***Make it Real Summer School 2012***

The Make it Real Summer School program is a key component of the U@Uni Schools Outreach Program, and has been developed in partnership with the NSW Department of Education and Communities and participating schools. The on-campus program aims to boost enthusiasm for HSC and tertiary study, demystify university and raise personal aspirations. The program targets both low SES students and students from Indigenous backgrounds, with a focus on students who are first in family to attend university. The first summer school was held in January 2009, and has been growing in size and popularity over the last few years.

This year, from 9-20 January, over 150 Year 11 students from 18 NSW Priority Schools in the South Western Sydney region participated in five summer schools in filmmaking, science, nursing, design and robotics. They experienced the university environment first-hand and gained self-confidence by learning and solving problems in a team environment. On Friday 20 January, a graduation ceremony was held for the summer school graduates. Over 300 guests attended including families, friends, school principals, teachers and NSW Department of Education representatives. Participants are overwhelmingly positive about their Summer School experience, and feedback from schools is that the program has increased the confidence and ambition of many of the participants.

### ***Bridges to Higher Education Project***

UTS and four other Sydney-based universities are set to work together to increase the numbers of students from low socio-economic backgrounds in higher education, with the announcement of \$21.2 million in Federal Government funding over four years for the *Bridges to Higher Education* project. *Bridges to Higher Education* is a unique collaboration bringing together the collective resources and experience of UTS, the University of Western Sydney, the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, and the Australian Catholic University. UWS is the lead university on the project.

A comprehensive suite of programs already in operation at the five universities will be significantly expanded as a result of the four-year project. It will also develop new, innovative and integrated programs that draw on academic strengths of the respective partners, maximising the use of the virtual environment through activities such as virtual visits and connected classrooms, community TV programs, and other web-based and online initiatives.

### ***Award for IT Careers Project***

At the recent 3rd Mobile Learning Research Workshop (sponsored by the Centre for Human Centred Technology Design Research (HCTD) at UTS), UTS won the anzMLearn Best Project Award 2011 for research into students' learning processes while undertaking the IT Careers Project. Congratulations to Marijke Wright, Student Services Unit; Sophie Abel (casual academic); Jennifer Choy (casual academic); and Laurel Dyson, Faculty of Engineering and IT.

### **➤ Creative Industries Update**

UTS has entered into an agreement with NSW Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services to host Digital Sydney for a 12 month period commencing this January. The agreement was negotiated by Anne Dwyer and Hael Kobayashi, and was signed by Mark Paterson, NSW Director General on 23 December, 2011. UTS will receive 250K from NSW DTIRIS to host Digital Sydney, which is an economic development initiative, and key platform of the NSW government's digital economy plan. Through a directory, online community and institutional support, individuals and businesses in the digital sector can connect with clients, collaborate with peers, show off their work and collectively build the reputation of the region. It is considered a prototype for how cities can lead in digital innovation in the second decade of the 21st century. UTS is hosting Digital Sydney as a significant step in building its profile in Creative Innovation.

### **➤ Sustainability Update**

UTS's first audit of the University's general and paper waste was undertaken over ten days in 2011. The audit was conducted by an external auditor, and demonstrates that UTS is recycling approximately 82% of campus general and paper waste.

In more good news, implementation of a permanent styrene recycle program in the Tower has resulted in approximately 1.5 tonnes of polystyrene being diverted from landfill for reuse).

### **➤ Academic Promotions**

#### ***Promotion to Professor***

Earlier this year, all academic staff were invited to apply for promotion to Professor on the basis of personal merit. Four applications were received, three applicants were interviewed and three applicants were promoted.

Congratulations to the following staff members, who have been promoted to Professor effective 1 January 2012. I thank them for their commitment to UTS.

- Paula Hamilton, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Sandra Schuck, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Steven Djordjevic, Faculty of Science

### ***Promotion to Associate Professor***

Interviews for promotion to Associate Professor took place on 29 November 2011. Congratulations to our newest Associate Professors:

- Deborah Adelaide, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Robert Crawford, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Anthony Macris, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Liam Morgan, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Peter Docherty, Business
- Gordon Menzies, Business
- Heather McDonald, Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building
- Kirsten Orr, Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building
- Linda Leung, Institute for Interactive Media and Learning
- Damien Giurco, Institute for Sustainable Futures
- Christopher Riedy, Institute for Sustainable Futures
- Tony George, Faculty of Science
- Sarah Lal, Faculty of Science
- Bronwyn O'Brien, Faculty of Science
- Yakov Zinder, Faculty of Science

### **➤ Cessation of UTS/AUQA Quality Audit Project**

Following the cancellation of our Cycle 2 Quality Audit in 2012 by TEQSA, the UTS/AUQA Quality Audit Project will officially cease in January 2012. It will be replaced during 2012 by a TEQSA Registration Project, with details to follow once we understand more of this process. I wish to thank all staff, students and Council members who have been directly involved with audit preparations. The process identified a range of quality improvement priorities.

### **➤ Improving the Safety of Our Local Environment**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources), Patrick Woods, has instigated a precinct security committee involving UTS, ABC, TAFE, the Powerhouse Museum and local police. The group is working together to improve the precinct security in our area, rather than working as individuals entities looking after separate areas. We have also introduced Security Patrols of the UPN (Ultimo Pedestrian Network) by UTS Security. This has resulted in an active reduction of violence related incidents involving UTS students on the UPN.

### ➤ **Walkley Awards for Excellence in Journalism**

Six of our outstanding alumni have also been recognised in the recent Walkley Awards for Excellence in Journalism. Congratulations to:

- Rita Williams, Master of Arts in Journalism (2002)
- Suzanne Smith, Graduate Diploma in Communication (1993)
- Caroline Meldrum-Hanna, Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Journalism), Bachelor of Laws (2007)
- Yaara Bou Melhem, Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Journalism), Bachelor of Laws (2008)
- Eleanor Bell, graduand, Bachelor of Journalism
- Tony Krawitz, BA (Hons) Communication (2000)

### ➤ **Inaugural Chair in Poetry**

Leading Australian poet Robert Adamson has been appointed the inaugural CAL Chair in Australian Poetry at UTS. Modelled on the Oxford Professor of Poetry, the position is intended to promote the recognition and enjoyment of Australian poetry nationally and internationally. Funded by the Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) for three years, the CAL Chair in Australian Poetry is the first of its kind in Australia.

Robert Adamson has been a poetry teacher, publisher, editor, writer in residence at Australian universities and overseas lecturer. He is the author of twenty-one collections of poetry, and has recently won both the Blake Poetry Prize and the 2011 Patrick White Award.

### ➤ **Student Achievements**

- UTS's latest Endeavour Awards scholarship recipients include two winners of the Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards. Suphinya Panyasi from Thailand has begun PhD studies in education at UTS, while UTS engineering student Jonathon Meagher will study in India at Anna University in Chennai. Prime Minister Julia Gillard congratulated the award recipients, saying the awards are offered to the best scholars, researchers and emerging leaders from Australia and participating economies in the Asia region, and recognise that the award holders are the leaders of the future.
- At the annual UTS Union Blues awards in December, stellar UTS athletes Alyssa Healy (cricket) and Gavin Woods (water polo) were honoured as 2011's Sports Woman and Man of the Year.

### ➤ **Events**

#### ***Thank You to Our Peer Networkers***

A highlight of the festive season is hosting the annual party for our wonderful Peer Networkers. Peer Networkers are a select group of experienced UTS students who are recruited for their communication skills, teamwork, motivation and willingness to contribute to the University community.

Peer Networkers volunteer their time to facilitate a minimum of two Orientation Programs and are often involved in a range of other Student Life Programs and Events. On 28 November, I presented certificates, employer statements and references to 60 of this year's Peer Networkers who have just finished their studies and will graduate in Autumn.

## ➤ **Appointments and Departures**

### ***Members of Council***

You will be aware that Patricia Azarias has resigned from Council, following her acceptance of a PhD place at UTS. Patricia has made a tremendous contribution since joining Council in November 2010, and we thank her for her expertise as a member of the Audit and Risk Committee, as well as offering our best wishes for her studies.

We welcome Tony Tobin, who has been appointed as a Council member by the Minister of Education. His term will run to 31 October 2014.

### ***Dean, Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Health***

Professor John Daly has accepted a second term as Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Health. John has performed outstandingly in his four years with UTS, leading the Faculty as it enhances its positioning in Sydney and nationally. Key challenges ahead are developing a broader health agenda, to consolidate the strong standing of teaching and learning and research; developing a strong postgraduate program profile; and strengthening staff development.

### ***Adjunct Professor, School of Pharmacy***

Pharmaceutical industry leader John Montgomery has been appointed as an Adjunct Professor of Pharmacy. Professor Montgomery will be associated with UTS: Pharmacy on a part-time basis and contribute to the ongoing national and international development and promotion of the school. The three year appointment commenced in December 2011.

### ***Director, HRU***

A new Director of the Human Resources Unit has been appointed for a five year term. Jennifer Lagoon is an HR leader with experience in both the tertiary and private sectors. Most recently she was HR Director of Culture and Performance at AMP, and previously Head of HR at Flinders University Union and Director of HR at the University of Adelaide.

### ***Director, GSU***

Bill Paterson has accepted the position of Director, GSU. Bill has been with UTS for many years, and is currently Executive Director, Faculty Administration, in the UTS Business School. Bill will start in his new position on 27 February.

### ***Joan Tranter Retires***

Highly regarded staff member, Joan Tranter, Equity and Diversity Coordinator, retired at the end of last year, after 11 years at UTS. We wish Joan the best for what will be a very busy retirement. UTS Council has awarded the Distinguished Service Medal to Joan in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the UTS community; the award will be presented at a graduation ceremony in Autumn.

**UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY**

**COUNCIL**

**AGENDA ITEM 3.1**

**MEETING 12/1**

**VICE-CHANCELLOR**

**22 FEBRUARY 2012**

**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**

**Purpose**

To report to Council on additional key developments and events that have occurred since the dispatch of the last Vice-Chancellor's Report to Council.

**Recommendation**

Council to receive and note the supplementary report, as detailed in Document 3.1, *Vice-Chancellor's Supplementary Report*.

## **REPORT**

### **1. EXTERNAL MATTERS**

#### **➤ Professor Jill McKeough Appointed to Head Copyright Inquiry**

As advised in an email to members of Council, Professor Jill McKeough has been appointed by the Federal Attorney-General Nicola Roxon as Commissioner in charge of the Australian Law Reform Commission's (ALRC) Inquiry into Copyright Law. Professor McKeough is a highly regarded academic, researcher and writer with a special focus on intellectual property – including copyright, designs, patents, trademarks, confidential information, biotechnology and indigenous cultural heritage. She will take leave from UTS to join the ALRC for the duration of the inquiry.

During her absence, Professor Lesley Hitchens will be Acting Dean of Law until the end of June; and Bronwyn Olliffe from July until the end of December.

#### **➤ UTS Top Ranked for Impact in Economics and Business**

As reported in Campus Review recently, the InCites Global Comparison has ranked UTS as the top institution in Australia for citations per paper in the field of Economics and Business. UTS published 149 papers in Thomson Reuters indexed journals between 2005 and 2009, achieving 2.5 citations per paper.

#### **➤ Australia's University Cities are among World's Best**

Influential rankings provider QS (Quacquarelli Symonds Limited) has released a report which found that Australian cities are among the most attractive study destinations in the world. The company took into account student mix, affordability, quality of living and employer activity, as well as their own QS World University Rankings to arrive at the top fifty list of the 'Best Student Cities'. Australia has more cities than any other country listed in the top 50, making it one of the world's most favourable study environments, according to QS. With cost of living being a barrier to students studying in Australia, Universities Australia has called for the introduction of nationally consistent public transport concessions along the lines recommended by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG).