

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY

COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 3.1

MEETING 12/3

VICE-CHANCELLOR

13 JUNE 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 and Attachment 1 - *Vice-Chancellor's Report*.

1. EXTERNAL MATTERS

➤ Federal Government Agenda

Federal Budget

On 9 May 2012, The Australian Treasurer, the Hon Wayne Swan, handed down the 2012–2013 Australian Federal Budget. There were significant announcements on Education, and funding commitments for the key drivers of reform in Australian higher education have been maintained.

The Government notes that in delivering the surplus and new spending initiatives, it has ‘safeguarded the key drivers of productivity’, including its investment in education and research. The recognition of the role that universities play in Australia’s future prosperity is welcome. Universities Australia (UA) will, however, continue to advocate for the increases in investment that have been recognised by the Bradley Review and Base Funding Review as essential for maintaining our world-class university system in an increasingly competitive environment.

The commitment to these reform initiatives, together with some additional investment in participation and equity programs, has meant that the sector has received a small net gain over last year’s position.

UA’s response to the Federal Budget can be found at <http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/page/media-centre/2012-media-releases/higher-education-reform-on-track/>

The Financial Services Unit (FSU) will monitor impacts on the financial health of the University as the appropriate Ministers releases operational details.

Release of 2011-13 Mission-based Compacts

The Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research, Senator the Hon Chris Evans, has approved the release of the 2011-13 Mission-based compacts. Each university’s compact agreement is available at

<http://www.innovation.gov.au/Research/MissionBasedCompacts/Pages/default.aspx>

In addition, a compacts summary report is available at the website, which provides an overview of university missions. The report provides overarching information relating to growth and improving access, research activity, universities' plans to build capacity, pathways for delivery of teaching and learning, and initiatives for collaboration, both locally and internationally.

Federal Minister Visits UTS

On 19 April, the Hon Greg Combet MP, Minister for Industry and Innovation, visited UTS to see first-hand the collaboration between education, industry and government through the UTS campus redevelopment and the Creative Industries Innovation Centre (CIIC). The Minister announced an additional three years' Government funding for the CIIC, which since its launch in February 2009 has provided business advisory services to more than 460 creative enterprises. Minister Combet was given a detailed briefing about the campus master plan and was particularly interested in UTS leadership in industry engagement and collaboration. He also toured the new Immersive Construction Environment (ICE) studio - a collaboration with Autodesk, an industry leader in 3D design, engineering and entertainment software - in the Faculty of Design and Architecture and Building.

Opening of the Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS)

I was invited by Senator Evans to attend the launch of the upgraded SIMS, which is a landmark collaborative research and training institute bringing together scientists from four founding NSW universities – UTS, The University of Sydney, The University of New South Wales, and Macquarie University - as well as other university partners, and state and federal marine and environmental agencies.

The \$20 million upgrade, funded through the Education Infrastructure Fund (EIF) program, makes SIMS one of the world's leading marine research facilities. Major new developments include refurbished laboratories, new research vessels and a new administration building and conference centre.

➤ New University Rankings Show Australia (8th) Punching above its Weight

A new, broadly-based international ranking of higher education shows that Australian universities are some of the most productive, efficient and globally connected in the world, but are still significantly under resourced. In ranking performance, the Universitas 21 report looked at 48 countries and territories across all regions of the world, comparing 20 different measures. The measures were grouped under four headings:

- Resources: Investment by government and private sector (19th)
- Output: Research and its impact, as well as the production of an educated workforce which meets labour market needs (7th)
- Connectivity: International networks and collaboration (4th)
- Environment: Government policy and regulation, diversity and participation opportunities (7th).

At 8th place overall, our universities are ranked ahead of countries like the UK, Germany and Japan. We were ranked 19th for level of resources received. The report can be accessed at www.universitas21.com

➤ **UTS Appointments to External Bodies**

- Professor Peter Booth, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, has been appointed to the Advisory Council for the Centre for International Finance and Regulation (CIFR), until 7 May 2014. The CIFR is a newly established academic Centre of Excellence for research and education in the financial sector. It brings together leading Australian universities (including UTS), research centres and financial organisations to assist the financial sector, government and regulators to meet emerging challenges and opportunities locally, regionally and internationally. It is sponsored by the Commonwealth and NSW Governments.
- Congratulations to Professor Shirley Alexander, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Teaching, Learning and Equity), who has been appointed to the Awards Standing Committee of Office of Learning and Teaching, Department of Innovation, Industry, Science, Research and Tertiary Education. Shirley will advise on awards and citations relating to Teaching Excellence. The term of the appointment is 20 March 2012 to 1 January 2014.
- The Director of UTS's Communications Law Centre, Professor Michael Fraser, has been elected Chairman of the Australian Copyright Council. The Council is an independent non-profit organisation, partly funded by the Australia Council for the Arts, to advance the arts and creative industries in Australia by promoting the value of copyright.

➤ **UTS Business School – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) Review**

The AACSB Peer Review Team recently visited the UTS Business School, to make recommendations to the Maintenance of Accreditation Committee regarding renewing of accreditation for a period of five years. The PRT were very impressed with the Business School's continuous improvement achievements and the collegiate way in which they have embraced the key tenets of their Mission driven strategy. The School was commended for its Assurance of Learning (Graduate Attributes) and preparation for the visit. We will be informed of the outcome of the accreditation process in December.

➤ **UTS Shopfront**

UTS Shopfront has received an Honourable Mention in the 2012 MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship, placing it in the top six programs in the world for best practice in community engagement. The MacJannet Prize recognizes exceptional student community engagement initiatives at Talloires Network member universities. Seventy-two nominations were received from 52 universities in 21 countries, and the Selection Committee commended entrants on the quality and scope of their programs.

➤ **UTS Academics Named "Future Leaders"**

Business Events Sydney, the peak organisation that promotes Sydney and NSW as a global event and conference destination, has named two UTS academics among its first four Future Leaders. Chancellor's Post Doctoral Research Fellow, Dr Andrew Hutchinson, Faculty of Science, and Dr Jochen Schweitzer, UTS Business, will be supported to attend global business events relating to their fields, develop networks and identify bid opportunities.

➤ **UTS Alumnus Awarded 2012 Sydney Peace Prize**

Renowned UTS alumnus, Zimbabwean politician Sekai Holland, has been honoured with the 2012 Sydney Peace Prize, recognising her struggle to advance non-violent democracy. I have written to congratulate Ms Holland, and invited her to visit the University when she comes to Sydney later this year to accept her award.

➤ ***Base Funding for Higher Education Forum***

The Centre for the Study of Higher Education hosted a forum, *Base Funding for Higher Education*, in Melbourne on 1 May. Following the Lomax-Smith report on Base Funding, the forum explored issues such as the purpose of public funding, and how changes to base funding will influence other policy areas. The forum was introduced by David de Carvalho, Head of Higher Education Division, Department of Education, Employment, and Workplace Relations; and I was invited to participate in a panel discussion, *Looking forward - practical implications for institutions*.

➤ **19th Education Forum - 16 May 2012**

UTS co-hosted the 19th News Ltd Education Forum on 16 May, at which the NSW Minister for Education and UTS alumnus, the Hon Adrian Piccoli MP, delivered the keynote address. The topic was *Local Schools, Local Decisions*, and the Minister discussed the contentious Local School Local Decisions policy, and the plan to base NSW public school teacher salaries on teaching standards. Sixty guests included representatives of public school peak bodies - community, union, parent, teacher and principal organisations.

➤ **5th Joint UA/University Chancellors' Council – 15 May 2012**

On 15 May, Australia's Vice-Chancellors and Chancellors held their annual meeting at the University of South Australia. VCs and Chancellors were briefed on the main features of the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) legislation, and Provider Standards; the future direction of UA; the new Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Universities; and we discussed the implications of the Federal Budget. The meeting was followed by dinner with Senator the Hon Chris Evans.

➤ **Visit to UTS by Shanghai University (SHU) Delegation**

The partnership between SHU and UTS was formally established in 1994, and we actively collaborate on a range of student mobility, research and training projects. It was a great honour to welcome a senior delegation from SHU to UTS on 6 June, led by Professor Wang Min, Vice President (Research). The purpose of the visit was to continue discussions on current collaboration within the Key Technology Partnership (KTP) framework, to introduce SHU and its research strengths, and to further explore research collaboration and common interest programs.

➤ **UTS Glenda Adams Award for New Writing**

The UTS Glenda Adams Award for New Writing (\$5,000) was an initiative of Writing staff and the Dean of FASS in 2004 to promote and celebrate new writing at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards. The prize is named after the Miles Franklin winning author, Glenda Adams, who taught at UTS for 13 years. I have been contacted by Dr Alex Byrne, former UTS Librarian and now NSW State Librarian, advising that the State Library has taken over administering the NSW Premier's Literary Awards. I have reiterated our support for the UTS Glenda Adams Award, and look forward to a long association with the State Library and the NSW Premier's Literary Awards.

2. INTERNAL MATTERS

➤ **UniForum Activity Survey**

UTS, together with 16 other Universities, has signed up for a three year collaborative project which will allow us to benchmark and review the way support services are provided across UTS and in other Universities. Process improvement was identified as an improvement area in our 2009 staff survey results.

The basis of the UniForum program is the Support Staff Activity Survey, which is designed to capture data on the proportion of time that support staff have spent over the last 12 months on specific activities. This will help us understand levels of support provided in different parts of the University, and the breadth of activities staff are involved in. The baseline data collection is underway, and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Services), Anne Dwyer, is overseeing the project and improvements in processes identified as a result.

➤ **Vice-Chancellor's Committee (VCC) Retreat – 24/25 May 2012**

In late May, I held my annual VCC Retreat with senior colleagues. We discussed the future direction of teaching and learning at UTS and how we could position ourselves strongly in a world of increasingly sophisticated forms of online education. Shirley Alexander's Strategic Briefing to Council will cover these topics in more detail. We also had a productive discussion with Alex Murphy, Managing Director of Insearch, and discussed possible new courses and our strategic priorities for 2013.

➤ Visit to UTS by Dr Chau Chak Wing

We were honoured by a visit from Dr Chau Chak Wing, and members of his family, on Tuesday 5 June. Dr Chau visited the site of our new Gehry building, which is to be named in his honour to celebrate his gift of \$20 million towards its construction. Dr Chau and his family reviewed the latest designs for the building and, in particular, designs for naming of the building. The site visit was followed by a small reception, at which Dr Chau, the Chancellor and I signed the agreement that formalised Dr Chau's additional gift of \$5 million for scholarships to provide opportunities for bilateral study at all levels. The first payment of \$2.5 million for the scholarships endowment will be made by 31 August 2012, and the first scholarships will be awarded in 2013.

➤ Research Update

Grant Successes

- Dr Hokyong Shon, Centre for Technologies in Water and Wastewater, has won a further grant of \$295,000 from the National Centre of Excellence in Desalination to continue his work on *the application of forward osmosis desalination for fertilizer application (Fertigation)*. This continues on the significant funding UTS has received as a member of the Centre, to research various pre treatments of saline water prior to desalination.
- Professor Didar Zowghi, School of Software, in partnership with Peking University, has had a project funded through the Australia-China Science and Research Fund. The project, *A Framework for Elicitation and Analysis of Requirements for IT Services and Their Alignment with Enterprise Business Goals*, received \$30,000.

Distinguished Visiting Scholars

The latest Distinguished Visiting Scholars (DVS) have just been announced. The DVS Scheme provides opportunity and support for esteemed international researchers to collaborate with UTS scholars. The following scholars will visit UTS for periods ranging from 2 – 12 weeks:

- Christopher Tomlins, Chancellor's Professor of Law, University of California, Irvine (Faculty of Law)
- Adele Diederich, Professor, Jacobs University Bremen, Germany (UTS Business)
- Trudy Ann Cameron, Raymond F Mikesell Professor of Environmental and Resource Economics, University of Oregon (UTS Business)
- Philip Ursprung, Professor for the History of Art and Architecture, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zurich, Switzerland (Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building)
- CHAN Kwok Bun, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Adjunct Professor of Sociology, Hong Kong Baptist University, University of Macao (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)
- James Anderson, Senior Visiting Fellow, School of Sociology and Emeritus Professor of Political Geography, Queen's University Belfast, Ireland (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)

- Mirosław Skibniewski, James Clark Chair, Professor of Construction Engineering and Project Management, University of Maryland (Faculty of Engineering and IT)
- Witold Pedrycz, Professor and Canada Research Chair, University of Alberta (Faculty of Engineering and IT)
- Dan Schonfeld, Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago (Faculty of Engineering and IT)
- George Loewenstein, Herbert A Simon Professor of Economics and Psychology, Carnegie Mellon University (UTS Business)
- Neeraj Arora, Professor and John P Morgridge Chair in Business Administration, University of Wisconsin-Madison (UTS Business)
- Frieda Ekotto, Professor of Comparative Literature and Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)
- Dr Gregory Levitin, Senior Expert, The Israel Electric Corporation (Faculty of Engineering and IT)
- Dr Ing. Sander C.J. Bakkes, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (Faculty of Engineering and IT)

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Reference Group

Congratulations to the following UTS academics, who have been appointed to the NHMRC's Postdoctoral Reference Group:

- Dr Sally Inglis, Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Health
- Associate Professor Margaret Fry, Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Health
- Dr Iain Duggin, the ithree Institute
- Dr Rosetta Martiniello-Wilks, School of Medical and Molecular Sciences
- Dr Nham Tran, School of Medical and Molecular Sciences

This group has been established to provide feedback to NHMRC on issues of relevance to the crucial years in a researcher's career after obtaining a PhD.

American Academy of Nursing

Professor Christine Duffield, Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Health, will be admitted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in October this year. This is a great honour, recognising Professor Duffield's contribution to the working life of nurses and patient care.

International Water Association (Asia Pacific Region) Awards

Professor Vigi Vigneswaran and team (Dr Hokyong Shon and Jaya Kandasamay), School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, recently won the best Applied Research Project at the International Water Association (Asia Pacific Region) Project Innovation Awards, for their project, *Titanfloc for innovative water purification and sludge recycling*. The Project Innovation Awards is a prestigious global competition which recognises and celebrates innovation and excellence in water engineering projects around the world.

Collaboration with CSIRO

The Transparent Electrodes for Plastic Electronics Research Cluster, launched in May, is a partnership between UTS, the University of Queensland, Flinders University and the CSIRO; which aims to produce affordable, flexible optoelectronic devices, such as displays and lighting. Emeritus Professor Geoff Smith, School of Physics and Advanced Material, is cluster leader, and says these green technologies could potentially be used in a range of everyday commercial products like plastic solar cells, flexible displays, lamps and medical sensors.

➤ International and Development Update

International Engagement

- The UTS - Sogang University Diploma of Business pathway program has been selected by Australian Education International, as one of three most successful educational collaboration programs between Australia and Korea. This is a testimony of the quality of the program and close partnership between UTS, Sogang and the management agent IEN, which adds significant credibility to the pathway program and enables UTS to further develop the Korean market while facing intense competition from the US and Canada amid the adverse effects of a high Australian dollar.
- In April, Professor Attila Brungs, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), and International Engagement (IE) team, undertook a Japan Key Technology Partnership (KTP) visit to Kyushu University, Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Kanazawa University and Meiji University. Possibilities for research collaboration were particularly strong with Nara and Kanazawa, and the IE team are now engaging UTS academic staff to further develop collaboration with these two universities.
- In May, the UTS Beijing team, University Graduate School and the Faculty of Engineering and IT, undertook a visit to our Chinese KTPs - Huazhong University of Science & Technology (HUST), Shanghai University (SHU) and Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT). New research linkages with HUST in the area of robotic technology were explored, and senior level commitment from HUST and the Hubei Provincial Government was obtained towards the HUST - UTS Joint Research Centre on Authentication Technology proposal. While deepening UTS's collaboration with the China Scholarship Council in recruiting high-performing Chinese PhD students, this visit also improved UTS communication with KTPs' graduate schools in the management of the dual degree PhD programs.

UTS International

- This year's Global Exchange Fair, held on 8 May, attracted 15 of our global exchange partner universities to promote mobility opportunities to our students. This is the largest number of partners who have attended to date.

- The UTS:BUiLD program continues to be a great success:
 - Faculty of Law and BUiLD student, Janani Muhunthan, has been selected to join the Child Rights Taskforce in Geneva as their Youth Reporter in June 2012
 - UTS:BUiLD will be sending our first cohort of 10 students to our KTP, Shanghai University. The two-week study tour study tour will give UTS students the opportunity to develop a global perspective on business and management, with a focus on Asia's role in the global business sphere
 - In August, BUiLD students will travel to the USA to meet with other elite student teams from around the world, to celebrate global entrepreneurship and compete for the VT KnowledgeWorks Global Challenge Trophy
 - On 7 May, we held the first exhibition of photo-essays by our BUiLD students.

➤ **Creative Innovation Update**

- The first Creative Innovation Labs will be held from Sunday 15 – Thursday 19 July, with a total of 100 spaces across three dynamic labs. The CI Labs are primarily using new spaces in UTS, to help augment the profile of the University as a place where creative innovation can be found in all areas, disciplines, and faculties. All UTS students and staff who are accepted into the Labs will be eligible for the UTS Creative Innovation Scholarship, to cover the cost of participation.
- On 24 May, Professor Kees Dorst, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building led a three-hour workshop on design-led innovation and the Frame Creation methodology. Twenty participants from UTS, government and SMEs identified by the CIIC, attended the prelude workshop for the CI Labs in July.
- The second of three public lectures addressing creativity and innovation, was held on 23 May. UTSpeaks: Shapeshifters – Culturing Innovation, featured:
 - Dick Rijken – UTS Guest Innovator/Shapeshifter in residence, co-director of STEIM in The Netherlands and expert on EU creative and culture policy
 - Craig Davis – Chief Creative Officer of Publicis Mojo, co-founder of global powerhouse 'brandkarma.com' ; Adjunct Professor, UTS Business School
 - Theresa Anderson – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.
- The CI team is in preliminary discussion with one of Sydney's most dynamic entrepreneur groups, Fishburners, for a pilot program of Creative Innovation Internships.
- UTS will host Digital Sydney, a NSW digital economy initiative, for a 12 month period. A director has been recruited, with a community engagement coordinator to soon follow. Hosting Digital Sydney increases the UTS profile as an organisation where industry, education and government are collaborating in the development of the workforce of the near future.

➤ **Student Achievements**

- After the 2012 Rowing Nationals, UTS have been named best club in NSW. UTS finished second overall on the medal count at the 2012 Nationals, making them the only NSW club to be placed in the top 10 in Australia. This effort by UTS athletes at the titles has led to eight rowers being selected for National Team trials and Olympic selection.

Events

Autumn Graduation Ceremonies

I would like to thank members of Council who attended graduation ceremonies, and the Graduation Dinner. Student attendance rates were up, and almost 4000 graduated over 20 ceremonies. It was delightful to welcome graduates and their families to the revitalised Greenhalgh Theatre (Kuring-gai) and the Great Hall (City), and to send graduates out into the world as our newest ambassadors. An Honorary Doctorate was awarded to former politician, the Hon Bruce Baird; Senior Legal Counsel, Mr Brian McFadyen, was named a Fellow of the University; retired staff member, Joan Tranter, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award; and our occasional speakers included Thomas Keneally, renowned writer, and Phillip Lowe, Assistant Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia.

2012 Elite Athlete Program (EAP) Launch

On 18 April we launched this year's EAP, which has built upon the strength and direction of past years. We inducted 63 Elite Athletes and 49 Emerging Athletes; including three Olympians, three World Champions, 10 World Championship competitors, seven World University Games Competitors and 38 Australian Team members. UTS is a member of the Elite Athlete Friendly University Network, and our athletes receive financial support, gym membership, and academic support.

We have several athletes in both individual and team sports who are currently ranked in the top five in the world:

- Trudi Stout – Water Skiing
- Scott Robertson - Diving
- Sarah Peattie – Touch Football
- Alyssa Healy – Australian Women's Cricket Team (currently ranked 1st in the world)
- Patrick Cummins – Australian Men's Cricket Team (currently ranked 3rd in Test Cricket and 1st in One Day Internationals)

Residences Cup Sports Day

On Saturday 19 May, the Tower Concourse, Alumni Green and the Multi-Purpose Sports Hall were given over to our resident students for their Annual Residences Cup Sports Day. Over 250 residents, in their respective team colours, attended throughout the day; it was a great opportunity for them to meet with their fellow residents and make new friends over challenges including chess, soccer, volleyball, and tug o' war. I joined the enthusiastic onlookers, and presented prizes at the end of the day. Gumal Ngunang were the deserving Cup winner, although Geegal, the smallest residence, had the largest cheer contingent.

Official Opening of the Great Hall

On 31 May, I joined 200 alumni at the official opening of the revitalised Great Hall. We invited our recently graduated alumni to the opening, as the building works meant they had to graduate off campus. This was a great opportunity to showcase our changing campus to our newest ambassadors, and they were very enthusiastic about the direction in which UTS is headed. Earlier in the day we opened the space to all UTS staff, who took the opportunity to inspect the refurbishments.

Celebrating Excellence in Learning and Teaching at UTS

On 17 May, I hosted the inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Learning and Teaching Showcase in the Great Hall, where we recognised the ability of our academics to engage and inspire our students, via their commitment to creativity and innovation. Award winners were presented a trophy specifically designed by second year Industrial Design student, Antoine Ryan. A full list of winners is available at http://www.iml.uts.edu.au/grants-awards/uts_awardfinalists.html

Appointments and Departures

Chief Information Officer

UTS recently appointed Christine Burns to the role of Chief Information Officer. Christine has over 18 years' experience in information technology and knowledge management; most recently as the Director, IT and Knowledge for the law firm Ashurst Australia (formerly Blake Dawson), where she managed a large team through significant change. In 2008 she finished doctoral research which focused on the use of technology in support of corporate online learning. Her research has stimulated a strong interest in the use of social media and collaboration technologies.

Christine begins with us on 18 June, and will be head of the Information Technology Division, reporting to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Services). She will drive the development of new strategies to support significant change and growth in technology infrastructure and services at UTS over the coming years.

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY

COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 3.1

MEETING 12/3

VICE-CHANCELLOR

13 JUNE 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

➤ Federal Government Agenda

New CEO, Australian Research Council (ARC)

Professor Aidan Byrne has been appointed as the new head of the ARC. Professor Byrne is an eminent scientist, specialising in nuclear physics, who brings a wealth of research and management experience to the position of CEO. His most recent appointment was Dean of Science and Director of the College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences at ANU. He has held positions with the University of Melbourne and as a von Humboldt fellow in Germany, before returning to ANU as a Research Fellow in 1989.

Federal Minister Visits UTS

On Tuesday 5 June, the Hon Anthony Albanese, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, visited UTS in the company of Dr Chau Chak Wing, and members of his family. Dr Chau visited the site of our new Gehry building, which is to be named in his honour to celebrate his gift of \$20 million towards its construction. Dr Chau and his family reviewed the latest designs for the building, including designs for naming of the building. The Minister responded very positively to progress on our campus master plan. The site visit was followed by the signing of the agreement that formalised Dr Chau's additional gift of \$5 million for scholarships to provide opportunities for bilateral study at all levels. The first payment of \$2.5 million for the scholarships endowment will be made by 31 August 2012, and the first scholarships will be awarded in 2013.

➤ UTS WHO Collaborating Centre Re-designation Celebration

The UTS WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development celebrated their re-designation as a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre on 7 June, 2012. In achieving World Health Organization Collaborating Centre (WHO CC) status in January 2008, the Faculty became one of seven nursing and midwifery collaborating centres in the Western-Pacific region. A collaborating centre's primary role is to implement WHO's mandated work and program objectives, and develop and strengthen institutional capacity in countries and regions. Designation is given for a maximum of four years, after which the institute must apply to be redesignated. The WHO CC achieved redesignation at the beginning of 2012.

➤ New University Rankings – Analysis

Recently, both QS and Times Higher Education (THE) have released new league tables, ranking universities that are less than 50 years old:

1. The *QS Top 50 Under 50* ranks the universities that have been established since 1962 according to their position in the 2011 QS World University Rankings (using 2010 data).
2. The *THE 100 under 50* uses the same 13 performance indicators as the THE World University Rankings, but with a reduced weighting for subjective indicators of academic reputation. The weighting against the five headline performance categories remain the same as for the World University Rankings¹:
 - a. Research: volume, income and reputation (30%)
 - b. Citations: research influence (30%)
 - c. Teaching: the learning environment (30%)
 - d. International outlook: people and research (7.5%)
 - e. Industry income: innovation (2.5%).

UTS, as part of the ATN, heavily lobbied QS to develop this new ranking, the outcomes of which were released in May. This release influenced THE to conduct a similar rankings exercise, which was released within days of the QS announcement. These league tables provide:

- Excellent branding for UTS
- Clear demonstration of Australian Higher Education excellence – given the inclusion of so many Australian universities in the tables
- Validation to the previous Government’s investment in younger universities
- A strong argument against research concentration in just a few universities.

UTS performed extremely well, positioned **29** in QS and **88** in THE. The difference between the two positions is based on differing methodologies – THE relies on more research and less reputational metrics than QS. Our relative position in the QS world university rankings is 286 (down from 257 the previous year), and we do not appear in the THE Top 200 list. These results are due to a number of factors, including:

- Recent entry of other Asian universities
- An increase in the weighting of research metrics in the new THE methodology (when they commenced analysis with Thomson Reuters)
- Increase in the rigours of the reputational survey, and a widening of the pool of peer reviewers. Note that the difference in survey structure between QS and THE (time to complete, as well as approach to contacting reviewers) disadvantages newer universities such as UTS. Generally, Australian universities are disadvantaged in comparison to other nations with respect to staffing numbers.

The comparative positions of Australian universities are attached in Table 1. Note that a number of them have performed better than UTS – this is reflective of their relative positioning in the world rankings exercises, and also due to their considerable investments into research five to ten years ago. Given the modest UTS investment in income, this performance is pleasing (especially noting those universities that appear below us in the QS results).

Note that the THE 2011 rankings exercise (on which this new league table is based) uses 2009 performance data. It is unlikely that we will see improvement to our positioning in THE in 2012, due to this data lag.

Table 1. Australian Universities appearing in the QS and THE league tables

University	<i>QS Top 50 under 50</i>	<i>THE 100 under 50</i>
Macquarie University	16	=33
RMIT University	20	93
University of South Australia	23	65
Curtin University	24	=75
Queensland University of Technology	28	40
University of Technology, Sydney	29	88
University of Wollongong	30	=33
University of Newcastle	33	45
Flinders University	36	=78
La Trobe University	44	=81
Griffith University	49	
Charles Darwin University	-	48
Deakin University	-	=78
Griffith University	-	=81

2. INTERNAL MATTERS

➤ Staff Survey Update

We have just finished collecting data in the 2012 Staff Survey. The response rate this year was an unprecedented 90% - a massive 25% increase on the last survey conducted in 2009. The number of casual staff who responded also increased from 195 to 530. During the next month, responses will be analysed by the Voice Project and delivered to UTS in a report, and communication of the results will commence at local and University levels. From the survey results, UTS's top priorities will be identified and recommendations for positive change will be developed and communicated to staff.

➤ **UTS Alumnus Honoured in Australian Alumni Awards**

The Australian Alumni Awards, open to Indonesian citizens who have studied in Australia, were announced in Jakarta on 2 June by the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia. The Excellence in Education Award was presented to UTS alumnus, Dr Nurul Barizah, Vice Dean for Cooperation, Development and Information System, Faculty of Law - Universitas Airlangga.

➤ **UniJobs Lecturer of the Year Award**

Dr David Bond, Accounting, has been named a UniJobs Lecturer of the Year 2011. More than 4,500 lecturers were nominated from all over the country. The awards, now in their fifth year, are an initiative of UniJobs.com.au, and aim to reward the efforts of diligent academic staff that have helped enrich the lives of students and work colleagues.