

**THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
COUNCIL MINUTES**

The 505th meeting of the Council was held at **3.30pm (AEST) on Thursday 9 April 2026** via videoconferencing.

Members present

1. Chancellor, the Hon Julie Bishop
2. Pro-Chancellor, Dr Larry Marshall
3. Acting Interim Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joan Leach
4. Ms Alison Kitchen AM
5. Ms Padma Raman PSM
6. The Hon Wayne Martin AC KC
7. Mr Andrew Metcalfe AO
8. Professor Juliana Ng
9. Mr Bruce Pan
10. Mr Charley Ellwood
11. Professor Alexander Mikheyev
12. Professor Lyndall Strazdins
13. Professor Tony Connolly

Apologies

14. Interim Vice-Chancellor, Professor Rebekah Brown
15. Mr Rob Whitfield AM
16. Ms Megan Easton
17. Ms Tanya Hosch AM

In attendance

1. Mr Michael Schwager, COO
2. Mr Michael Lonergan, CFO
3. Ms Lisa Macrides, Senior Advisor, Office of the Chancellor
4. Ms Bhavani Balakishnan, Chief of Staff, Office of the IVC
5. Ms Leslie McDonald, Manager Corporate Governance & Policy, UGO

Secretariat

1. University Secretary, Mr Phillip Tweedie

1 PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Announcements and Apologies

- The Chancellor thanked members for making the time to attend this out of session meeting. She noted:
 - that Professor Joan Leach is joining the meeting as Acting Interim Vice-Chancellor while the Interim Vice-Chancellor is on leave.
 - the Convene resolution regarding the 31 March Council minutes has passed and the minutes are now published on the Council website.
 - that today's meeting will focus on the University's response to the ANAO report on ANU financial management.
 - that the CFO will give an update under AOB on the status of the 2025 Financial Statements and the ANAO Closing Letter.

- Wayne Martin KC was granted a leave of absence for the 24 April Council meeting.

Disclosure of Material Personal Interest

- No members disclosed any interests in relation to items on the agenda.

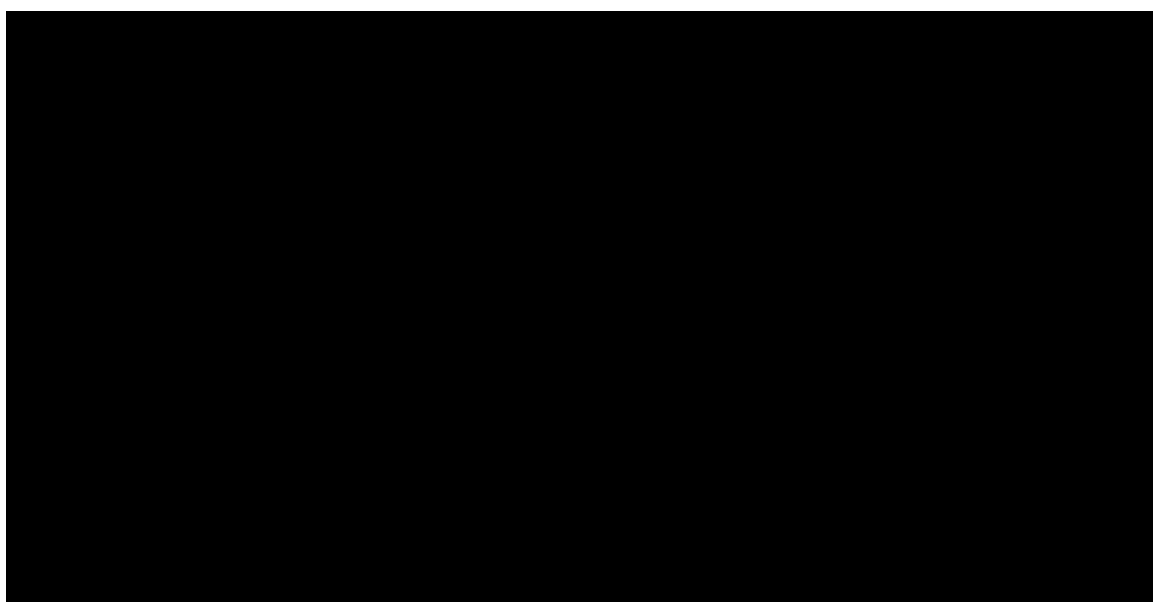
Arrangement of Agenda


- The Chancellor noted that due to the short agenda no matters were proposed to be unstarred or re-arranged.
- Several items were raised for Other Business.

PART 2 – KEY BUSINESS ITEMS

2 ANU RESPONSE TO ANAO REPORT

- The Chancellor noted:
 - At the Council meeting on 31 March a small working group of Council members was appointed, together with the COO and the CFO to finalise a response to the ANAO Report for Council's consideration.
 - The working group met on 2 April to discuss how to progress the development of the response, joined by Rob Whitfield as the former Chair of the Finance Committee. The group has provided Council with a final draft response.
 - Her thanks to the Chair and members of the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee who provided Council with their views, which are included in the papers.





Resolved:

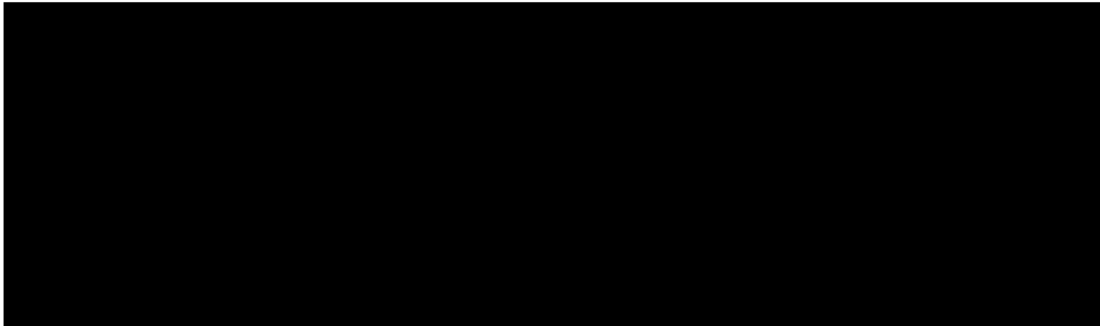
Council **noted** that the Pro-Chancellor will finalise the response to the ANAO report on ANU Financial Management for out-of-session resolution tomorrow, ahead of submission to the ANAO by COB 10 April 2026.

PART 3 – OTHER BUSINESS

3 OTHER BUSINESS

- The following items of other business were discussed:

ASIC Case

- The Chancellor referred members to a recent ASIC case (Australian Securities and Investments Commission v Bekier (Liability Judgement) which contains findings that may be useful in terms of our own practice, particularly for board papers and minutes. A paper will come to the next meeting of Council.
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Resolved:

Further to the resolution of 31 March, Council again **condemned** the unauthorised disclosure of confidential Council material.

2025 Financial Statements

The CFO provided an update on the 2025 Financial Statements.

Resolved:

Council **noted** that an out of session resolution will be circulated in the next few days seeking Council approval of the 2025 Financial Statements.

4 NEXT MEETING

Council **noted** that the next scheduled meeting will be held on 24 April 2026.

The meeting closed at 4.51pm (AEST)

The Hon Julie Bishop
Chancellor
The Australian National University

Date