

Adelaide University Council Meeting – Summary of the meeting held on Tuesday, 30 June 2026

Vice Chancellor's Report

The Vice Chancellor provided a report to Council covering the following matters:

- Inaugural Adelaide University Address, which was to be delivered by the VC on 1 July 2026 at Elder Hall and online;
- Vice Chancellor Engagement Event Series, bringing together First Nations leaders, industry and community representatives, alumni and donors and education partners;
- Adelaide University Donor Thank You Event, which provided an opportunity to engage with Adelaide University's most valued supporters in our philanthropic community;
- The EU Deputy Heads of Mission Roundtable to strengthen international research, innovation, defence and industry collaboration, held on 12 May 2026;
- Continued development of the strategic partnership with Qantas following establishment of its Adelaide Product Innovation Centre, supporting graduate pathways, AI and technology research, and workforce development;
- An update on the Enterprise Agreement negotiations;
- That Adelaide University achieved the strongest national performance in the Australia's Economic Accelerator (AEA) program, including securing of \$33.8M in funding covering 41 projects;
- The successful launch of the First Nations Knowledges in Research course, supporting culturally responsive and ethical research practices;
- The appointment of Ms Joanne Fox as the Deputy Vice Chancellor – People and Culture, commencing on 31 August 2026; and
- A report on the Higher Education Sector and Policy and topical matters relevant to the sector.

Strategic and Operational Items

Council received reports covering:

- University Integration, the Stabilisation Program, and the monitoring of transformation activities following the establishment of Adelaide University and noted that program had concluded on budget. An Operational Scan had also been undertaken across the University to better understand operational challenges, service friction and staff experience issues. Council noted that operational stabilisation would remain a significant management focus throughout 2026;
- Presentation on the College of Health, as part of Council's regular cycle of reporting by the Provost and College Pro Vice Chancellors;

- Research Strategy and Performance, including the University's strong performance across major health research funding schemes, including the NHRMC Investigator Grants, MRFF and ARC Linkage Projects programs;
- Admissions and Recruitment Strategy covering domestic and international student recruitment and admissions performance, as well as an update on the enrolment program for Semester 2; and
- Graduations Ceremony and Celebrations Planning, noting that some 5,000 students are expected to participate in the initial round of graduation ceremonies, with annual graduations anticipated to grow to between 10,000 to 15,000 graduates in future years.

Reports from Council Committees

Council received reports from:

- the Audit and Risk Committee, including a major incident summary and initial actions, and an update on the Enterprise Risk Profile. Council *approved* the Adelaide University Enterprise Risk Profile.
- the Finance Committee, where Council *approved* the approach to the 2026 Q2 forecast deficit; *endorsed* the new constitution for Roseworthy Campus Farm Pty Ltd; and *approved* the appointment of new members to the UniSA Foundation Inc.; and
- the Transitional Academic Board, and noted that work on the establishment of the new Academic Board is progressing with commencement planned for August 2026.

Council also received an update on the People and Culture Portfolio and progress on the development of the new Enterprise Agreement.

Legal, Compliance, Regulation and Governance

Council resolved to *approve* the following matters:

- Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Academic Board;
- Appointment of Council members to the Special Degrees and Honorary Awards Committee and the People, Culture and University Community Safety Committee;
- Determined that undergraduate and postgraduate students will be elected by their peers to Council;
- Determined the approach to filling the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff member position on Council;
- Conferral and rescission of Awards; and
- Sunset clauses for Transition Rules Policy.

Matters considered by Council at a confidential session are excluded from the above report.