

# **CONVOCATION OF UWA GRADUATES**

## **FIRST ORDINARY MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

**21 MARCH 2014**

The First Ordinary Meeting of Convocation was held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in University Club of WA.

The meeting was attended by the following graduates and guests:

Roslyn Adamson, Ashley Aitken, Phillip Allen, James Anderson, Irwin Barrett-Lennard, Gabor Bedo, Aileen Bennett, Danielle Berry, Ro Birrell, Warwick Boardman, Astrid Boggs, Susan Boyd, Robert Bredemeyer, Jean Brodie-Hall, Richard Cairnes, Lesley Cala, Maria Calabro, Colin Campbell-Fraser, David Carlson, Mark Carroll, Kok-Foo Chang, Terrence Cheong, Helena Coleman, Mary Conroy, Roderick Cooper, Patrick Cornish, Judith Cresp, Keith Croker, Devon Cuneo, Margaret Norma Curnow, Simon Dawkins, Ema Denby, Christopher Denby, Jocelyn Everett, James Everett, Grazyna Faux, Mark Fielding, Marie Finucane, Enzelia Fogliani, Chantelle Gaskell, Margaret Giles, Clifford Gillam, Jane Green, Allan Green, Anne Gunson, James Gunson, Christopher Harkness, Graham Harmsworth, Richard Harper, Maria Harries, Bruce Hartley, Ian Hasleby, Patricia Hatch, Bruce Haynes, Judith Heath, Frank Hedges, Arthur Hiemstra, Wendy Hillier, Mohammadreza Honarmand, Maureen Humpage, Kenneth Ilett, Robert Johnson, Paul Johnson, Joanne Jones, Heather Kelly, Warren Kerr, Kevin Kerr, Lorelei Kerr, William Khor, Susan King, Hanna Kleyn, Hwee Ping Koh, Julia Kovesi, Terrence Larder, Louisa Lawrance, Eric Lawson, Jill Lawson, Geoffrey Leach, Bethany Lord, Neville Loudon, Quang Ly, Richard Lyon, Robert MacMath, Simon Marshall, Gene Matthews, Terence McCall, Paul McCann, Douglas McGhie, Douglas McInnes, Roslyn Melville-Buck, John Melville-Jones, Barbara Miller, Nikolaos Millios, Sandra Murphy, Brian Mutzig, Patricia Mwiragua, Jillian Orford, James O'Shea, James Paparo, Jennifer Parsons, Juanita Perez, Fran Pesich, Anne Pickett, Joan Pope, Judith Powell, Deidre Powell, Marilyn Prestage, John Quealy, Shaun Ridley, Heather Rogers, Nigel Rogers, Jennifer Sales, John Sanusi, Richard Schiefler, Jacqueline Scurlock, Philip Shields, Ping Si, Hilary Silbert, Mary Skidmore, Kevin Smith, Brian Sova, Ric Stern, Jonathan Strauss, Catherine Tang, Tracy Taylor, Brett Tidy, Brenda Tournier, Davide Vettorel, Robert Viskovich, Sheila Walker, Anne Willox, Georgina Wilson, Caroline Winwood, Madeline Theng Wah Wu, Pierre Yang, Allen Yeow and Barbara York Main.

The following members of Convocation asked that their apologies be recorded:

Hugo Acosta Martinez, Anita Adhitya, Sonia Aguirre, Hatem Al-Khazraji, Brian Allen, Lynn Allen, Michael Allenby, Jessie Allen-Williams, Catherine Allgrove,

Kathryn Ambrose, Dorothy Anderson, Lawrence Anderson, Maxwell Anderson, Paul Appleton, Anne Appleton, Pooya Arjomandnia, Francis Arndt, Ajanthy Arulpragasam, Adrian Arundell, Jennifer Atherton, Emily Atkins, Laurie Axford, Suzanne Baker, Jessica Banaszak, Damira Banaszak, Michael Barber, Gerard Barblett, Cynthia Barrett, Michael Bartosiak, La Estie Bav, Ralph Beckwith, Rickie Beehre, Jennifer Benn, Dorothy Bennett, Haia Ber, John Bethell, Brian Betts, Suzanne Biddles, John Biggs, Roger Blackett, Jenefer Blackwell, Peter Blake, Lynda Blum, William Blumer, June Boddy, Ronald Bodycoat, Maureen Boland, Jacopo Bonomi, Kira Boorn, Elyse Bourgault Du Coudray, Cameron Bowe, Lesley Bowerman, David Bradley, Neil Brick, Alan Brien, Errol Broome, Ivan Brown, Douglas Brown, Marian Brzezinski, Melville Bungey, Felicity Bunt, Peter Burke, Troy Buswell, Jason Butler, Helen Buttfeld, John Byrne, Desmond Cain, Lyneve Cannon, Katherine Carlin, John Carrigg, Edna Carruthers, Anne Carter, Clifford Casey, John Casey, Philippa Catchpole, Sonia Cattley, Robert Cavanagh, Anthony Cawley, Florence Cawley, Tara Celenza, Debahuti Chaliha, Eileen Chan, Karyn Chan, Betty Chan, Tshung Hui Chang, John Chapman, Audrey Char Sit Yee, Steven Chau, Melissa Chau, Melanie Cheah, Wai Mun Cheang, Angela Chew, Pan Chiang, Yumi Cho, Tat Meng Chow, Robert Chown, Nicholas Christodoulou, Hui Chua, Anna Ciffolilli, Curtis Clark, Francis Clarke, David Clarke, Debra Clements, Mark Clifton, Douglas Clyde, Andrew Cole, Dorothy Collin, John Collingridge, Michael Collins, Simone Collins, Geoffrey Combes, Ryan Constantine, Gregory Cook, Diane Cook, Dennise Cooper, Symone Cope, Terence Cosgrove, Dolores Costello, Margaret Cox, Terence Craig, Alan Cransberg, Neil Creagh, Maree Crouch, Fiona-Marie Crowe, Joanne Cruickshank, Cathryn Curtin, Penelope Cuthbert, Matthew Dalrymple, Glenice Davey, Dean Davidson, Neal Davis, Timothy Dawe, Sunouk Dawson, Reginald Dawson, John Day, John Deacon, Darryl Deacon, John Dean, Ronald Dean, Ashok Desai, James Devenish, Michael Devine, Mollie Dinham, Vina Djoko, Joanna Donaldson, Adriana Douglas, James Doyle, David Dun, Paul Duncan, Josephine Dundas, Blake Dunkeld, Bryan Dwyer, Timothy Dymond, Margaret Eadie, Roderick Eagleton, Linda Earl, Peter Eastlake, Trevor Eastwood, Karla Ebron, Honi Edmondson, Kathleen Edwards, Peter Edwards, Tareq El-Batanouny, Johanne Eldridge, Antony Elliott, Angela Evangelinou-Yiannakis, Frieda Evans, Ben Evans, Gerty Ewen, Vivien Eyre, Merrin Fabre, Robyn Farmer, Richard Farrar, Felicity Farrelly, Ian Fergus, Ronald Ferguson, Ross Field, Carlo Fini, Michael Firth, Christopher Fisher, Edgar Fitzpatrick, Beryl Flecker, Margaret Floyd, Patricia Foley, Michalie Foley, Eugene Foo, Richard Frith, Elizabeth Frith, Suzanne Galloway, Ivars Galvans, John Galvin, George Galvin, Susanna Gan, Albert Gan Ooi Hong, Michaele Gardiner, Roy Gardner, Jo Gatland, Rohan Gengatharen, Nicolas Gerrard, Joanne Ghirardi, Dante Giacomini, Trevor Gibson, Terry Gilbert, Lynton Giles, Rhona Giles, Dion Giles, Moshe Gilovitz, Maureen Glancy, Brian Goddard, Mayford Godfrey, John Godfrey, Kevin Goh, Barbara Good, Beth Gordon, Christopher Gorham, Andrew Graebner, Christian Grainger, Melanie Granger, Carmen Grant, Alan Green, Neville Green, David Greenhill, Geoffrey Grewar, Kyle Griffiths, William Griffiths, Claire Grose, Anthea Guazzelli, Catharine Gunson, Larissa Guzzomi, Stephen

Hale, Isobel Hall, Patricia Hall, Valma Halvorsen, Frank Hamersley, Helen Hankey, Brenton Hantke, Joyce Hardy, John Harriott, Max Harris, Yvonne Harrison, Stephen Hastings, Susan Hatcher, Charity Haynes, Michelle Heah, Kathryn Heaton, Pauline Heaton, Glenn Hemsley, Thomas Henderson, Ricardo Herrera Ayala, Azad Hessamodini, Murray Hill, Joan Hiller, Valerie Hinwood, Marcus Hitch, John Hobday, Jennifer Hole, Robert Holloway, Janet Holmes à Court, Emmanuel Hondros, Margaret Hooton, Peter Hopper, Diana Hopper, Sheena House, Hugh Houston, Bette Howell, Waldemar Hube, Robert Hughes, Zoe Hyde, Peter Hyman, Catherine Iddison, Malala Iseli, Anne Ismail, Ungku Ismail, Helene Jacomard, Melanie James, Ian Janes, Douglas Janney, Andrea Jansen Van Rensburg, Gregory Jarosch, Dharmasoka Jayasuriya, Daneill Jenkin, Doris Johnson, Patricia Jones, Janice Jones, Lorna Jones, Darrell Jones, Toby Jones, Cheyne Jowett, Patrick Joyce, Waveney Kaeding, Peter Kalmund, Jeeva Kanesarajah, Alex Kaye, Elliott Kaye, Kate Keeves, Robert Kelliher, William Kelliher, Roger Kelly, Desmond Kelly, George Kelsall, Jim Kemp, Joseph Keszi, Man Keung, Shaleesa Keye, Harry Kilminster, Lynn Kirkham, Matthew Knuiman, Joseph Kong, Milton Krause, Natalie Krawczyk, Mable Lam, Christopher Lancucki, Rona Landquist, Timothy Lane, Jennifer Larner, Roger Lavell, Roselyn Layt, Kay Lee, Ernest Lee, Tian Yam Leong, Alexandra Leonzini, Maria Levissianos, Robert Liddell, Very Lim, Theam Lim, Sonia Lindsay, Mark Lindsay, Yinong Liu, Freda Livingston, Amy London, Owen Loneragan, Andrew Lu, Nicola Lucano, Allan Lum, Susan Lyne, James Lyon III, Roderick Macdougall, Marion MacDougall, Gerard MacGill, Amos Machlin, Alannah MacTiernan, Helen Maddocks, Hazel Maddocks, Maxwell Maesepp, Alexandru Maftai, Thomas Maher, Elzbieta Malita, John Malone, Roy Manchester, Kia Manouchehri, Alistair Marchesi, Claire Maree, Clive Mariano, Anthony Marrion, Salvatore Martella, Hayley Martin, Glenda Martinick, John Marum, Joyce Matson, Suzanne May, Roger May, Stanley Mayhew, Rose McAleer, Tobias McAllister, Peter McCrann, Malcolm McCusker, Michael McGuire, Sharon McKerrow, Jan McMillan, Ian McNaughton, Margaret McPhee, Claire McTernan, Shirley McWhirter, Janice Meade, Rebecca Meakin, Rebecca Meegan-Lowe, Graham Melrose, Christopher Merrick, Colette Meyerkort, Kim Mezger, Kenneth Michael, Ann Minister, Laurence Mitchell, Patricia Moffett, Michael Molton, Pino Monaco, Royden Monteiro, Donald Moore, Kathleen Moore, Michele Moore, Ian Morison, Peter Morris, Charmaine Myers, Kyle Nesa, Malcolm Newman, Jansen Ng, Joshua Ng, Kenneth Ng, Mark Ninyett, Patricia Nixon, Pauline Norman, Hugh Norman, Patricia Nottle, Robert Nunn, Kerry O'Connell, Richard O'Donnell, Chow-Loo Ong, Eng-Chuan Ong, Annette Ong, Daniel Ow, Graham Owen, Judith Owen, Charles Oxnard, Stirling Parks, Trevor Parry, Ian Passmore, Cyrus Patell, Kim Paterson, Judith Paxman, Raymond Pelham Thorman, Dinelka Perera, Neville Permezal, Lloyd Perron, Zhukov Pervan, Robin Phillips, Peter Phillips, Rita Phillips, Paula Phillips, Raymond Piesse, Daniel Pillar, Ronald Pitt, Geoffrey Playford, Raymond Pontague, Ian Porter, Susette Pow, Christina Pranata, Daryl Pranata, Leonie Prime, Kezia Purich, Douglas Purser, Leslie Pyke, Daphne Pyke, Jennifer Quartermaine, Claire Quenby, Patrick Quilty, Elizabeth Quinn, Dan Quirante, Noele Radford, Colin Rainbird, Donalda Ramsden, Kaye Regan, Desmond Reid, Gay

Reid, Graciela Rhodes, Trevor Ridgwell, Maria Ritchie, Jeanette Robertson, Suzanne Robertson, John Robins, Joan Robins, Anthony Robinson, Jamie Robinson, Charles Robinson, Graeme Roe, Ellen Roe, Helen Rogan, Gwyneth Rothols, Robin Routley, Barry Rowland, Gesa Ruge, Sacha Ruoss, Eversley Ruth, Ann Ryan, Timothy Safe, Barry Saker, Soroush Salimi, Zarin Taj Salter-Beyzaie, Peter Samuel, Balram Sangar, Cempaka Sarubin, Susan Saunders, Richard Scarff, Denisse Scasserra, Michael Schaper, Eugene Schlusser, John Scotney, Raymond Scudds, Pamela Seaman, Jennifer Searcy, Margaret Seares, Roger Seares, Leah Segal, John Seotis, Geoffrey Sharman, Steven Shenton, William Sheridan, Stuart Silbert, Gabriella Silipo, Catherine Simcock, Viti Simmons, Peter Smith, Philip Smith, Peter Smith, Toni Smythe, Coralie Solomon, Julio Soria, Peter Soumanis, Felix Spittell, Julie Staer, Gerrit Stafford, Kendrah Stanfield, Christopher Stansbury, Robin Stellamanns, Richard Stern, Glenys Stevenson, Sandra Stevenson, Jennifer Stewart, Janice Stewart, Arran Stewart, Beverley Stott, Janette Stuart, Paulus Sui, Denise Sullivan, Murray Swain, John Swift, Elizabeth Swinton, Melissa Symonds, Ferziene Talati, Ai Tan, Mark Tang, Frank Tanner, John Taplin, Raymond Tauss, Roger Taylor, Ross Taylor, Michael Teare-Williams, Ken Teoh, Diana Teplyj, Emma Thompson, Grant Thompson, Roger Thompson, Wally Thompson, Raymond Thompson, Sophie Thompson, Emily Thomson, John Thorpe, Neville Threlfall, Alan Tough, Paul Townsend, Pauline Tremlett, Fiona Tremlett, Lisa Trevena-Williams, Alan True, Jill True, Charles Tucak, Gyula Turchanyi, Matthew Tuson, Richard Twomey, Chumith Ukwattage Don Siriwardana, John Urquhart, Paul Vajda, Gysbert van der Westhuizen, Pritesh Varsani, Carolyn Visser, Eva Vlahov, Margaret von Perger, Fabienne Vonarburg, Petar Vujovic, Grantley Waddell, Brendan Waddell, Ian Waite, Christopher Wake, Kerry Wark, Walter Waterhouse, Adrian Watson, Barbara Watson, Tatjana Watson, Shirley Watt, Meryl Watts, Geoffrey Webster, Maxwell Weedon, Jason Wells, Lisa White, Kevin White, Maurice White, Daniel White, Geoffrey White, David Wilcox, Phyllis Wilkin, Lauren Williams, Brenton Williams, Kenneth Williams, Angus Willoughby, Anne-Louise Willoughby, Rodney Willox, Roslyn Wilson, Jane Wilson, Robyn Wilson, Gary Wilson, Stephen Wilson, Peter Wittkuhn, Hannah Wolfe, Joyce Wong, Stephen Wong, Mong Yan Wong, Peter Wood, Edit Wood, Matthew Woodall, Virginia Wright, Jeannette Wyber, Jacqueline Yap, Yiing Yeu, Pooncalalon Yoganathan, Pui-Mun Yong, Maureen Young and Elena Zuvela.

## **Ms Juanita Perez, Convocation Officer as Secretary**

### **1. WELCOME**

The Chair of the First Ordinary Meeting, Warden of Convocation, Adjunct Professor Warren Kerr AM, welcomed the guest speaker, Winthrop Professor, the Honourable Carmen Lawrence; Professor Paul Johnson, the Vice-Chancellor; Mr Paul McCann AM, the Deputy Warden of Convocation; Ms Brenda Tournier; the Associate Director for Alumni Relations and Community Engagement; Ms Jenn Parsons, UWA's new Alumni Engagement Manager; members of the Council of Convocation; members of Senate; and Convocation members and guests.

## **2. APOLOGIES**

The Warden noted apologies from the Governor, His Excellency Malcolm McCusker AC; the Chancellor, Dr Michael Chaney AO; and Former Chancellor and Governor Dr Ken Michael AC and over 500 other members of Convocation. The Guild President Tom Henderson was a late apology for the meeting.

The Warden declared the meeting open at 6:07pm.

## **3. MINUTES OF THE SECOND ORDINARY MEETING 2013**

The motion to accept the minutes of the Second Ordinary Meeting held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013 was proposed by Dr Fran Pesich and seconded by Mr Paul McCann AM. The motion was carried.

A copy of the minutes of the Second Ordinary Meeting 2013 appeared at Attachment A of the First Ordinary Meeting 2014 booklet.

At the Second Ordinary Meeting last year, a query was raised regarding the number of ACROD bays on campus. While the meeting was recorded, we were unable to ascertain the name of the member who put forward the question.

The Warden has followed up on the information requested and can now provide information on all of the 38 ACROD bays on the campus and the 26 bays located off-campus. The Warden invited anyone who was interested in this information to contact him after the meeting.

There was no other business arising from the minutes.

## **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Warden reported that he received excellent response from members of Convocation to his letter late last year seeking email addresses. The purpose of seeking email addresses was to enable communication with members in a more cost-effective manner, and the opportunity to introduce electronic voting in the future.

In that letter, the Warden promised that all members whose responses were received before 31 December 2013, would go into a draw for a new iPad Air. At the last Convocation Council meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014, the Warden drew the winning entry. The Warden announced that the winner of the draw is the Reverend Jessie Allen-Williams of Augusta.

The Warden encouraged those in attendance at the meeting to advise the Office of Convocation of their latest address details so that they can be kept informed of alumni activities and the latest information from the University.

## **5. RESULTS OF CONVOCATION ELECTIONS OF WARDEN, DEPUTY WARDEN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF CONVOCATION**

In 2013, the Convocation Council, on advice from the Statutes Committee, took a decision to outsource the conduct of Convocation elections to the WA Electoral Commission. The reasons for this decision were:

- To utilise the specialist expertise of the WA Electoral Commission in organising elections
- To reduce costs as the WA Electoral Commission was able to conduct the election more cost-effectively
- To free-up resources in the Office of Convocation who would otherwise be engaged in conducting the elections.
- To encourage greater participation in the electoral process, as anecdotal evidence suggested that many members of Convocation often did not realise that they had received voting papers when the voting papers were enclosed in the first edition of the Uniview magazine each year.

The Warden reported that under these new arrangements, the postal ballot conducted during February and March this year has successfully addressed each of these issues.

For the elections just concluded, a participation rate of 5.68% with over 4,260 votes being cast was achieved; this is an increase of 342.5% over the previous year's elections.

This result is significantly above the participation rate of 4.0% achieved in similar elections by the Universities of Melbourne and Adelaide, and compares favourably with the top performer, the University of Sydney which held elections for five vacant positions on their Senate during 2013 and achieved a response rate of 6.3%.

The Warden thanked everyone who participated in the election this year, and for responding to his various communications to demonstrate their interest in UWA by completing and returning their postal vote.

### **Declaration of the results of the election of three members of Senate by Convocation**

By the close of nominations on 12th December 2013, 15 nominations were received for the election of three members of Senate by Convocation.

The three candidates who were formally declared by the Chancellor as duly elected to be members of Senate for a four year term were:

Ms Hilary Ann Silbert

Mr Simon Lee Dawkins

Mr Quang Ly

The Warden congratulated these three Senators on their election.

On behalf of the University, the Warden expressed his thanks to all fifteen candidates who indicated their willingness to serve as a member of the UWA Senate by allowing their nominations to go forward for this election.

### **Declaration of election results for the Warden and Deputy Warden of Convocation**

The WA Electoral Commission has advised that Adjunct Professor Warren Kerr AM has been re-elected unopposed as Warden of Convocation, and Mr Paul McCann AM has been re-elected unopposed as Deputy Warden of Convocation. Both will serve for a term of one year until March 2015.

### **Elections for Convocation Council**

There were 10 nominations received by the close of nominations on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

The Warden reported that normally there were elections for seven positions each year, but due to the resignation of one Council member due to ill health late last year, there were 8 positions up for election this year.

The Warden formally declared the following graduates elected to the Council of Convocation were:

Felicity Farrelly	3-year term
Jonathon Strauss	3-year term
James Paparo	3-year term
Cliff Gillam	3-year term
Colin Campbell Fraser	3-year term
Pauline Tremlett	3-year term
Clinical Professor Lesley Cala	3-year term
Pierre Yang	1-year term

The Warden congratulated the elected Council Members.

### **Special Thanks**

The Warden paid tribute to two members of the Convocation Council who completed their term this week but did not seek re-election.

On behalf of the Convocation Council, Warden thanked Mr Terrence Cheong and Dr Fran Pesich for their service.

Dr Fran Pesich has undertaken the onerous role of Treasurer for the past term of Council. The Warden made special mention of all the hard work Dr Pesich did in uncovering the mysteries of the Convocation accounting system.

The Warden added that Convocation is now in a far better position to tackle future challenges due to Dr Pesich's diligent documentation of the financial systems.

The Warden gave a round of thanks to Dr Pesich and Mr Cheong for their service to Convocation.

## **6. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

The Warden invited Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paul Johnson, to present his report.

A copy of the text of the Vice-Chancellor's report appeared at Attachment B of the First Ordinary Meeting 2014 booklet.

In his address the Vice-Chancellor highlighted the following items that relate to his written report.

### **Strategic Plan**

The Vice Chancellor reported that the UWA Executive Team has been working on a new Strategic Plan. This Plan will be submitted to the UWA Senate for approval in the near future. This Plan will then be rolled out across the University and the entire University community including Convocation over the next several weeks.

This Strategic Plan will cover the period of 2014-2020. In this Plan the VC identified three (3) key areas of focus for the University: education, research, and community & engagement.

### **Operational Excellence**

The Strategic Plan also identified a principle of operational excellence which needs to apply to all areas of the University's internal operations in order to support the University's education, research, and community & engagement missions.

The Vice Chancellor emphasized operational excellence because not only is it the University's ambition to be recognised as one of the world's top 50 university in education and research by 2050, but also to be recognised as one of the top universities in terms of internal operation.

The Vice Chancellor is devoting a lot of his time this year to developing a process in ensuring the University operates efficiently and effectively.

### **Modernisation**

The Vice Chancellor stated a need for the University to modernise. The Vice Chancellor reported that he recognised that a great deal of visitors that come to the



University now visits the University virtually by way of the University's website. Many students and others, who transact with the University, whether it is to enrol in courses, or to make payments and the like, wish to carry these out electronically. Because the world is changing, the University must modernise its internal operations. The Vice Chancellor expressed that it is the desire of the University to be a University that meets the needs of all of the University's community.

### **Research Performance**

The University will focus heavily on its research performance. The Federal Government has announced that it will be conducting another national audit of research excellence called ERA (Excellence for Research in Australia). This will be the third such survey conducted since 2010. The Vice Chancellor commented that this audit is important so that the University can demonstrate that UWA Researchers are performing at the highest level. He said that it is also important because he believes an increase in the amount of research funding will follow the very highest research ranking in the future.

### **Educational Activities**

Educational activities are still developing. At the beginning of 2012, the University introduced the new undergraduate curriculum. This year, the majority of the first cohort of the 2012 intake of new students to this new curriculum, is now in their third and final year of studies.

The Vice Chancellor was delighted to say that he has received an analysis of student feedback on their learning experience at the end of the second semester last year. In all cases across the University, students' evaluation of their learning experience has increased. The Vice Chancellor stated that he is very pleased that this transition into the new courses was well received by the students.

He indicated that the big task this year is to ensure that by February 2015, the University has an appropriate array of Masters Courses available for those students who wish to continue their studies. The University has converted a lot of their professional courses, such as Law, Medicine, Architecture and Engineering from being specialist bachelor courses into Masters Courses. The Vice Chancellor believes that the transition from undergraduate courses to graduate courses will shift the University from currently having 82% undergraduate students, to having 60% undergraduate students and approximately 40% students in Masters degrees and students undertaking Higher Degrees by Research by 2020.

The Vice Chancellor pointed out that one consequence of this transition to having more graduate students in the University, is that the University will continue to grow. The VC anticipates that the number of undergraduate students will be roughly stabilised, but the University will see quite a growth of the number of graduate students, so that by 2020, the University would expect to have roughly

23% - 25% more students than we have now, with a great majority of the student load being at graduate level.

### **Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Community and Engagement**

The Vice Chancellor indicated that a new executive position has been created of Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Community & Engagement. This position was recently advertised in the newspaper. The purpose for the creation of this position is to have strategic leadership within the Executive for the three key areas of Education, Research and for Community and Engagement.

The following areas of the University will be managed by the new Community and Engagement Office:

Development and Alumni Relations

Marketing and Communications

Cultural Precinct

UWA Extension

UWA Publishing

Perth International Arts Festival

This is an area of the University that employs several hundred staff, with a budget of over \$50 million. The Vice Chancellor stated that this is a large part of the University; therefore he believes there is a need for a coherent, strategic leadership.

### **University Finances**

The University's 2013 accounts, which had been signed off by the Office of the Auditor General, will be tabled at WA Parliament next week. The Vice Chancellor revealed that in 2013, the University's reported operating surplus was \$125 million on a turnover of \$986 million. While this may appear to be an excellent outcome, he indicated that the underlying operating surplus was -\$8 million.

The Vice Chancellor explained how these two results are derived. There are two lines of income. In the first type of income, the Operating Income, the University must report every dollar that the University receives, including non-cash items, such as the revaluation of assets. For example, in 2012 the University had a large block of \$20 million in income, which was in fact, not disposable income; this income was in the form of the value of gifts of art. This year, the University has \$91 million of investment income, which was overwhelmingly made up of a book appreciation of financial assets, mainly equities. The stock market performed very well in 2013. The Vice Chancellor reported that the University has to 'mark to market' at the end of the year and report this as University income. However, he indicated that this is not real income, it is just a paper-based improvement on the

asset value of the University's shares; it is not income that the University can freely spend at its discretion.

The second type of income result, the underlying income, is derived from income received from running the University's core operations less the cost of running these operations. In 2013, the University spent \$8 million more than it received. The Vice Chancellor emphasised that the University, from now on, must operate within its means and focus on revenue.

At the conclusion of his verbal report, the Warden advised that the Vice Chancellor was available to answer any questions. The following queries and answers were addressed.

**a) Where does the world ranking of the University come from?**

The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) is conducted by researchers at the Center for World-Class Universities of Shanghai Jiao Tong University (CWCU). The ranking from ARWU is entirely quantitative with very explicit criteria and essentially is based on the volume and quality of research publication, including fairly heavy weighting towards publications in the leading science journals of science and nature. There is a weighting for Nobel Prize winners, winners of Fields Medals and so on.

UWA was ranked 96 in 2012 and 91 in 2013. Within the subdivisions of the rankings, the University was ranked 26th in the world for Life and Agricultural Sciences, the highest ranking in Australia.

**b) How does the Vice Chancellor believe that the Education Futures initiatives will develop and adapt the educational offerings for mature age students in general and in terms of technology? The base for mature age students are growing and their dynamics are different from those of high school leavers and undergraduate students.**

The Vice Chancellor agreed that the requirements of mature age students are very different from those of undergraduate students. One of the things the University is now actively looking at are the ways in which the University structure can deliver academic programs. The University will be putting a lot of work into Masters programs this year and in future years. It is the Vice Chancellor's expectation that undergraduate courses will continue to be delivered primarily on a face-to-face basis, on campus, over two semesters, with long, languid vacations between two semesters because that is what undergraduates expect.

At the Masters level, students are more mature, and prefer to undertake their courses in a more concentrated way. The University faces some constraints in terms of how programs are delivered, as there is a regulatory body called the Australian Qualifications Framework Committee (AQFC), which

determines how much content is in any degree program at any level, and how it can be delivered.

The Vice Chancellor assumes those students taking Masters Courses, would like to complete these courses fairly quickly. Students taking Masters program full-time may want to do this in a very condense way; those taking the course part-time, typically want to do it to fit in with their work, and therefore will want to have access to their study material online and study at their own time. One of the most effective ways of delivering these programs would be to do them in block mode.

### **c) How do we measure the success of our teaching?**

The Vice Chancellor responded that one of the ways he measures success is the extent to which graduates are able to get the jobs that they want that are well paid. UWA graduates have a very high rate of employment in the labour market at good salaries.

The Vice-Chancellor added that there are many challenges in evaluating the effectiveness of the education program. Another way of measuring is by conducting surveys asking our students to provide their reflective evaluation of their teaching and learning experience. However, there is no way to compare such data between universities.

Nationally, there is a survey called the Course Experience Questionnaire which is a survey undertaken of graduates within 6 months of graduation. For many years, the UWA obtained very good results in this survey, except in 2012 where the results were lower than past years.

## **7. GUILD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Guild President, Mr Tom Henderson was not able to attend the meeting. A copy of the text of the Guild President's Report appears at Attachment C of the First Ordinary Meeting 2014 booklet.

As the Guild President was unable to be present, the Warden invited any questions related to his report that could be taken on notice.

A question was raised regarding the Guild President's opinion in general, about Education Advocacy – and his thoughts on the neutrality and the level of comfort students feel, that they are on the same playing field to initiate advocacy if required?

## **8. WARDEN'S REPORT**

The Warden, Adjunct Professor Warren Kerr AM, spoke to his report. A copy of the Warden's Report appeared at Attachment D of the First Ordinary Meeting 2014 booklet.

In addition to his report, the Warden highlighted the following issues that were being addressed by the Council of Convocation.

### **Centenary Celebrations**

Last year on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013, the Convocation Council celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of Convocation. This year, the Council will also be celebrating a centenary event of great significance to Convocation, the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first graduate from UWA.

On 29<sup>th</sup> July 1914, in a graduation ceremony conducted in the ballroom of Government House, Edward Sydney Simpson was the first person to receive a degree from the University of Western Australia, when he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in geology with First Class Honours.

The Warden stated that for a mineral-rich State, he was the “first graduate from central casting” given that during his career he was the Chief Chemist to the WA Mines Department and later Government Mineralogist & Analyst, as well as writing over 100 scientific papers and books including the publication “A Key to Mineral Groups Species & Varieties” and the reference tome “Minerals of Western Australia”.

In addition, he took on an extensive number of voluntary leadership roles, including his appointment as a member of the UWA Senate.

Based on the excellent research undertaken by Jenny Bevan from UWA’s School of Earth and Environment, we now know all about his remarkable contribution to Western Australia in the fields of geology and mineralogy.

On 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014, the Convocation Council looks forward to celebrating the centenary of his graduation as the first of the 100,000 graduates that have now followed in his footsteps.

### **Convocation Council’s Strategic Plan**

Over the past year, a Council Working Group has been hard at work developing a Strategic Plan to ensure that the role and activities of Convocation dovetails with that of the University overall, and specifically with the Office of Development and Alumni Relations.

Late last year, the timing of this task was modified to align with the University’s program for a major review of its Strategic Plan, which as indicated by the Vice Chancellor is to be finalised in the next two months. The Council looks forward to distributing its new Strategic Plan at that time.

### **Discussion Paper for Senate**

Another initiative that ties in with this work is a Discussion Paper for Senate that the Warden is preparing on behalf of Convocation Council, examining the potential

we have to improve the way in which our University engages with our graduates and alumni.

This is being developed in concert with the Office of Development & Alumni Relations and is currently a work in progress. The Warden looks forward to reporting on this at the Second Ordinary Meeting for 2014.

### **Elections**

One of the responsibilities of the Convocation Council is to conduct periodical elections for four members of the Senate and for the members of Convocation Council.

During 2013, the current Convocation Council took a decision to outsource the conduct of future elections to the WA Electoral Commission. The Warden was pleased to advise that under these new arrangements, the postal ballot conducted during February and March this year had been a success. As a result, later this year, Convocation Council will consider a recommendation to continue these outsourcing arrangements.

### **Electronic Voting**

Another initiative which Convocation Council is keen to pursue is the introduction of electronic voting for Convocation and Senate elections. The Council believes that this initiative would result in greater online interaction with the members of Convocation, an increased participation rate, a more timely response (especially for overseas members), whilst reducing the overall cost per vote.

However, before this can occur, significant changes will be required to relevant UWA Statutes. He indicated that the Convocation Statutes Committee is currently liaising with the University's General Counsel regarding the specific amendments required. Once this is determined, a submission will need to be prepared for consideration by the Senate on whether these amendments should proceed in isolation or in conjunction with other amendments required to the University Statutes. The Warden commended the Convenor of the Statutes Committee, Deputy Warden Paul McCann AM for his leadership of this initiative.

### **Scholarships, Prizes and Awards**

The Warden stated that one key way in which Convocation addresses its "Promotion of Excellence" role is through the allocation of prizes and awards to promote academic excellence. Each year Convocation provides fifty prizes and awards, and is keen to increase both the number and the financial quantum of these awards.

Over the past twelve months he indicated that a considerable amount of work has been undertaken by the Awards Committee to realign these prizes and awards with the new UWA course structure

The Warden stated that due to the excellent work undertaken by Clinical Professor Lesley Cala in her role as Convenor of the Awards Committee, the Convocation Council has also made substantial progress in increasing the number of prizes and awards, and in receiving increased funding for some of these awards. For example with the generosity of Professor Bryant Stokes AM RFD KSJ, for the next five years, the Matilda Award for Cultural Excellence will be funded at the increased amount of \$5,000 per year.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Luncheon**

Since the last Ordinary Meeting, Convocation has arranged another very successful 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion luncheon for all the graduates of UWA who graduated during 1963. Planning is now underway for this year's 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the graduates of 1964, which will be held on 31 May at the University Club.

For each of these events, a souvenir booklet is produced containing the biographies for each of the graduates of the reunion year. Given the considerable time and effort that is required to prepare for these reunions of the entire university, the Warden thanked Pauline Tremlett, Joan Pope and the Outreach Committee chaired by Tracy Taylor for all their good work on these events.

### **Communications Committee**

Since the last Ordinary Meeting, Convocation Council has approved the creation of a new Communications Committee to ensure the timely distribution of information to members of Convocation and to coordinate how each item should be best be conveyed – either through email news bulletins, by post, in Uniview, on the Convocation website or via LinkedIn or Twitter.

Given the increased engagement that is being achieved through this improved coordination of communication, the Warden commended Arthur Hiemstra and his Committee for their enthusiasm and dedication to this task.

### **Honours Committee**

At the last Ordinary Meeting, the Warden mentioned that during 2013, the Convocation Council established an Honours Committee to take on the responsibility for nominating and preparing the submissions required for those members of the University community worthy of recognition to be considered by the Australian Honours Secretariat in Canberra.

The Warden reminded those present at the meeting to take the first step by nominating those who they believe should be considered for an Order of Australia. To ensure confidentiality, he asked all to provide him with suggestions by emailing them directly to him at [warden@convocation.uwa.edu.au](mailto:warden@convocation.uwa.edu.au) .

## **Membership Committee**

Another initiative of the current Council has been to establish a Membership Committee to fully consider the implications of each membership category.

Dr Susan King and the Membership Committee have taken on the challenge of addressing these issues and a multitude of others and it is expected that these improved arrangements will be considered by the Council of Convocation later this year.

## **UWA Sports & Recreation Association**

In seeking to achieve greater engagement with our alumni, Convocation Council has for many years recognised the important role that UWA sporting clubs play in encouraging graduates to have an on-going connection with the University.

The Warden indicated that as part of its "Promotion of Excellence" role, Convocation already funds the Sports Star of the Year Award and two Sports Scholarships

Over the last six months representatives of Convocation Council have met with representatives of the UWA Sports & Recreation Association in order to enhance the working relationship between both bodies. An invitation has also been extended for the UWA Sports & Recreation Association to attend Convocation Council meetings in order to improve communication and to foster joint initiatives for the benefit of the graduate community.

## **Collaboration with the Office of Development and Alumni Relations**

The Warden reported that over the past six months, substantial progress has been made in improving collaboration with the Office of Development & Alumni Relations through regular meetings with the Associate Director, Alumni & Community Relations, Ms Brenda Tournier.

As a result of these discussions, work is now progressing on a number of potential initiatives towards improving engagement with UWA's graduate community.

The Warden then introduced Ms Brenda Tournier, and asked her to say a few words about her role and the initiatives being undertaken to improve engagement with UWA alumni.

Ms Tournier reported that she had the good fortune to meet and talk with UWA alumni volunteers at the Graduation ceremonies held recently. One of the volunteers was a young Business School graduate who now works for BHP Billiton Group. She spoke of how UWA changed her life and her time here as a student. It was clear that what meant the most to her were not the classes, but the people – the professors, the staff, the other students and the alumni who walked her path with her and who are there still, today.



Ms Tournier stated that Alumni Relations is about people and relationships and encouraging a stronger community.

She indicated that in October 2013 UWA launched a \$400 million campaign, with the catch phrase 'create the future'. This campaign is vital to providing the funds to enable UWA to become a top 50 university world-wide by 2050. This is important because through innovative, world-class teaching, student experience, research and alumni engagement, UWA has the potential to make a momentous difference. to Perth, Western Australia, and the world.

Reaching the upper echelon of universities and having a global impact doesn't happen without phenomenal effort. It will require support from the community to achieve this goal.

## **9. CONVOCATION OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Convocation Officer's report appears as Attachment E of the First Ordinary Meeting 2014 booklet. The Warden invited those attending the meeting to review the list of Convocation members whose whereabouts have become unknown since the Second Ordinary Meeting of Convocation on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013 and to notify the Convocation Officer if contact details were known to them.

## **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Presentation to Terry Larder**

The Warden invited Mr Larder to the podium to be presented with a Convocation medallion and a certificate in recognition of his service and commemorating his contribution to Convocation.

For a number of years, Terry has been the principal organiser for numerous international and national alumni events, and from time to time he has written pieces for the *Uniview* magazine.

At those times when Rita Clarke, editor of the Convocation pages in *Uniview*, was not available to prepare the material for *Uniview*, Terry willingly gave his assistance to the extent of writing and editing material and laying out the pages.

Terry was always present at Ordinary meetings, where he helped to welcome graduates, a great many of whom he knew by name. He often acted as Convocation's official photographer – all in his own time. Terry is always on the lookout for information that can help Convocation keep abreast of what is going on and keep its records up to date.

The Warden also presented Mr Larder one of the first copies of the new publication "Personalities and Places on the Crawley Campus".

### **“Personalities and Places on the Crawley Campus”**

He indicated that “Personalities and Places on the Crawley Campus” is a booklet put together by Dr Joan Pope OAM, Wendy Birman and architect Ronald Bodycoat AM that outlines the history of the people whose names are on objects and locations on the Crawley Campus. For each personality, the authors provide a brief vignette, a photograph of the person and a photograph of the named place.

He indicated that the booklet will be launched at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 5:00 pm. Everyone present was invited to join the UWA Historical Society and the authors to celebrate a unique publication for the University.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reid Library**

Dr Joan Pope advised that 2015 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Reid Library, the New Fortune Theatre and the Arts Building. Dr Pope invited everyone present to help commemorate this event by sending in any memorabilia they might have of this era for display in the Reid Library.

### **Graduate Courses**

A query was raised by an attendee regarding whether a closer look could be had at the nexus between Higher Degree by Research (HDR) courses and Masters courses. The Warden took the query on notice.

### **Concluding Remarks**

The Warden thanked all for attending the First Ordinary Meeting. The Warden also thanked Tracy Taylor, the Convenor of our Outreach Committee as well as Juanita Perez and Christopher Gorham in the Convocation Office for all their efforts in organising the First Ordinary Meeting for 2014.

There being no further business, the Warden declared the meeting closed at 7.18 pm and introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Winthrop Professor, the Honourable Carmen Lawrence, to speak on the topic *“An avalanche of change: Will universities as we know them survive the onslaught?”*

The Second Ordinary Meeting of Convocation for 2014 will be held at 6:00 pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014, at the University Club of WA.