

**GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY****ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee was held at 12:30pm – 2:30pm on Thursday, 26 November 2015 in N54\_2.01, Nathan campus.

**MINUTES**

<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>
Uncle Graham Dillon (Chair)	Uncle Thomas Sebasio
Professor Martin Betts	Uncle Martin Watego
Aunty Anne Leisha	Uncle Bob Anderson
Aunty McRose Elu	Dr Kerry Bodle
Professor Boni Robertson	Mr John Graham
Professor Adrian Miller	Mr Harry van Issum
Associate Professor Donna Leslie	Ms Bianca Beetson
Mr Brian Blow	Ms Anita Broomhead
Mr Shane Barnes	
Mr Byron Albury	
Ms Rosemary Marson (Secretary)	
By invitation for Item 4.0:	
Professor Roianne West	
Ms Carmen Parter	

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

On the invitation of the Chair, Uncle Graham Dillon, of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee, Aunty Anne Leisha acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee meets.

**1.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the 2/2015 meeting of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee), having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

**2.0 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No members identified any conflict of interest, as outlined in the University policy, *Conflict of Interest and Personal Relationships in the Workplace*, which exists in respect of any of the items on the Agenda.

**SECTION A: RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS TO COUNCIL AND ITS  
SUB-COMMITTEES**

NIL

**SECTION B: ACTION UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

NIL

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**SECTION C: OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS**

- 3.0 GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN 2013 – 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
- 3.1 The Chair advised that the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Party has forwarded the draft *Progress Report on the Griffith University Reconciliation Action Plan 2013-2015* for comment from the Advisory Committee before consideration by the University's Executive Group. The Chair invited the Co-Chair, Mr Shane Barnes to introduce this item.
- 3.2 The Co-Chair of the Working Party advised that feedback from the University's academic and administrative elements, as well as the University's Equity Champions, has been incorporated into the Progress Report. The Progress Report includes a representative selection of the key achievements and activities against the three sections of the RAP: Relationships, Respect, and Opportunities.
- 3.3 Members of the Advisory Committee noted the comprehensive nature of the Progress Report and commended the work of the Co-Chairs and the Working Party for their tireless efforts in implementing the numerous goals and actions that comprise the *University's Reconciliation Action Plan 2013-2015*.
- 3.4 Members agreed to endorse the draft *Progress Report on the Griffith University Reconciliation Action Plan 2013-2015* for consideration by Executive Group.
- 3.5 The Chair thanked Mr Barnes for his presentation.

**SECTION D: MATTERS NOTED, CONSIDERED, OR REMAINING UNDER DISCUSSION**

- 4.0 GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY FIRST PEOPLES HEALTH UNIT (FPHU) - PRESENTATION
- 4.1 The First Peoples Health Unit is committed to increasing a highly-skilled and educated health workforce for Australia's First Peoples. Through programs in learning and teaching, research, and community engagement, the Unit aims to lead the education and training of Griffith's Health graduates, ensuring that they have the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively contribute to improving the health outcomes of Australia's First Peoples.
- 4.2 Professor Roianne West, Director and Ms Carmel Parter from the FPHU presented this item.
- 4.3 Professor West reminded members that the FPHU was launched in August 2015 and aims to provide high-level strategic leadership in the Faculty on issues relating to First Peoples health. Integral to the success of the Unit is ongoing collaboration with community and key stakeholders both internal and external to the University.
- 4.4 The Advisory Committee was advised that this approach is to be extended to the development of the Unit's Strategic Plan 2015-2017. Professor West introduced Ms Carmen Parter, who has been engaged by the FPHU to lead the planning process. Professor West reminded members that the next consultation meeting or yarning forum will be held on Wednesday 9 December.
- 4.5 The Chair thanked Professor West and Ms Parter for their informative presentation.
- 5.0 REPORT FROM INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND PARTNERSHIPS
- 5.1 The Professor, Indigenous Community Engagement Policy and Partnerships (ICEPP) provided a verbal report on current issues of relevance to the Advisory Committee.

5.2 The Chair thanked the Professor, ICEPP for her Report.

6.0 INDIGENOUS RESEARCH UNIT (IRU)

6.1 The Professor, Indigenous Research Unit spoke to his written Report in which the range of presentations and seminars undertaken by the Unit, and submissions to ARC grant schemes were highlighted.

6.2 The Chair thanked the Professor, Indigenous Research Unit for his Report.

7.0 GUMURRII STUDENT SUPPORT UNIT

7.1 The Director, GUMURRII Student Support Unit spoke to his Report and alerted members to the high number of applicants for the Unit's Direct Entry Admissions for 2016, the various outreach Activities organised by the Unit; and the plans for the 2016 offering of *Hands Up! Tertiary Preparation 2016* (68 students enrolled to date).

7.2 The Chair thanked the Director, GUMURRII Student Support Unit for his Report.

8.0 DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR (ENGAGEMENT) REPORT

8.1 The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Engagement) (DVC (E)) reported on the following items of interest to the Advisory Committee.

- **Virtual Kombumerri** – The DVC (E) advised that an extension of the concept of *Virtual Meanjin* at the Nathan campus will be undertaken at the Gold Coast campus in 2016.
- **Griffith University First Peoples Alumni Chapter** – Work between the DVC (E)'s office and GUMURRII continues on establishing this new Alumni Chapter for the University. Members noted that the Constitution of the Advisory Committee includes provision for First Peoples alumni representatives.
- Ongoing communications between the **Queensland Museum and the University** concerning the donation made in the 1970s of a piece of traditional Aboriginal Rock art to the University. The DVC (E) advised that the Rock Art is currently located on the Nathan campus and the University is exploring ways of highlighting this unique piece of Aboriginal heritage in a manner that is not only culturally appropriate, but also guarantees the ongoing preservation of the piece. Members welcomed the suggestion that Professor Paul Tacon, an expert in Aboriginal Rock Art, be invited to the March or May 2016 meeting of the Advisory Committee to present an item on this matter.
- **Griffith University Council of Elders** – Members noted that a meeting between the DVC (E); the Pro Vice Chancellor and Head, Logan campus; the Co-Chair Griffith University Council of Elders; and the Professor Indigenous Community Engagement, Policy and Partnerships took place on Tuesday 24 November at Logan campus to discuss the work on the Council of Elders, which has been in place since 2010.
- **Reconciliation Action Plan 2016-2018 (RAP-2) update** – The DVC (E) advised that the initial drafting has been completed, which incorporates feedback from the Advisory Committee, University Equity Committee and the university-wide surveys undertaken by the current RAP Working Party of Griffith staff and students. An initial meeting with Reconciliation Australia also provided important feedback. The initial draft will be considered by Executive Group on 2 December and then distributed for comment within the broader University community.
- **Farewell to Secretary, Advisory Committee** – The DVC (E) announced that Ms Rosemary Marson, who has worked with the Advisory Committee since 2011, will

be leaving her current position to take up a new role, as the University's Senior Reviews Office within the Office of Planning Services.

## 9.0 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- 9.1 The Chair reported on the recent activities of the Griffith University Council of Elders.
- 9.2 The Chair also noted the departure of the Secretary to the Advisory Committee and thanked her for her commitment and professionalism towards the Advisory Committee and its members.

## 10.0 MEMBERSHIP

- 10.1 The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee welcomed the following members to their first meeting of the Advisory Committee:
- Mr Aaron Hoffman, Principal Policy Officer, Indigenous Policy and Strategic Innovation, Strategic Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, Department of Education & Training, Queensland; and
  - Associate Professor Donna Leslie, Program Director, Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art Program offered as a bachelors program at the Queensland College of Art.
- 10.2 Mr Hoffman advised that Ms Angela Leitch will be returning to this position in 2016 and will resume her attendance at the Advisory Committee.

## 11.0 OTHER BUSINESS

### 11.1 AIME MENTORING

The Professor, Indigenous Research requested that the University's relationship with AIME Mentoring be discussed in light of recent correspondence concerning AIME's request for university-wide input into an Indigenous Strategic Plan Workshop, as outlined in a series of emails dated 20 - 23 November 2015 between AIME and members of the University's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander academic and professional staff profile.

Members recalled that a meeting was convened in late September by the Academic Provost and attended also by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Engagement), the Professor, Indigenous Community Engagement Policy and Partnerships (ICEPP), the Director GUMURRII Student Support Unit, and members of AIME Mentoring who are currently engaged in developing a range of professional work experience opportunities for the University's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. At the September meeting, it was agreed that a coordinated approach to the work of AIME and how it relates to and fits in with similar activities organised by areas at Griffith needs to be established. The Advisory Committee agreed that the circulation of emails from AIME members concerning an Indigenous Strategic Plan Workshop may be in response to the issues raised in September. Members of the Advisory Committee further agreed that the development of strategic plans concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and students is not the responsibility of an external agent.

The Advisory Committee agreed that a one-to-one meeting between members of the University's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander academic and professional staff and staff from AIME currently working with Griffith should be held to discuss these matters. It was further agreed that this meeting should take place early in 2016.

12.0 2016 COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Members noted the 2016 schedule of meetings.

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Campus</b>	<b>Venue Allocated TBC</b>
10 March	Nathan	N54_2.01
12 May	Nathan	N54_2.01
25 August	Nathan	N54_2.01
24 November	Nathan	N54_2.01

Confirmed: ..... (Chair)

Date: .....  
10 March 2016