



Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism and Trade

Member for Kurrajong

Ms Melinda Cilento

Chair

Expert Council on University Governance

via: ExpertCouncilUniGov@education.gov.au

Dear Ms ~~Cilento~~ *Melinda*

Thank you for your letter of 7 April 2025 providing an update on the work of the Expert Council on University Governance (the Expert Council).

I draw the Expert Council's attention to correspondence I sent earlier this year to the Committee Secretary of the Australian Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee relating to its Inquiry, 'Quality of governance at Australian higher education providers' ([Submission 114](#)).

This letter outlines the ACT Government's keen interest in and views on the quality of governance at Australia's higher education institutions. I suspect it will be of interest to the Expert Council.

I also note the University of Canberra (UC) is the only university established by ACT legislation, the *University of Canberra Act 1989*, which establishes the UC Council as the university's governing body, with eight members appointed by the Responsible Minister, two elected by students, and two elected by staff. UC's Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of the Academic Board are appointed by the UC Council and also serve as members.

Further information regarding the ACT Government's policies for vetting and recommending persons for Ministerial appointments can be found at [Governance Principles - Appointments, Boards and Committees - Open Government Information](#).

Thank you again for your letter and for your work to ensure that Australia's universities will be governed to the highest possible standards. [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

24 April 2025