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# ELIZABETHAE II REGINAE

A.D. 1990

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No. 60 of 1990

**An Act to establish the University of South Australia; and for other purposes.**

[Assented to 29 November 1990]

The Parliament of South Australia enacts as follows:

## PART I

### PRELIMINARY

#### Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *University of South Australia Act, 1990*.

#### Commencement

2. This Act will come into operation on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

#### Interpretation

3. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—
  - “the Council” means the Council of the University established under Part III:
  - “student” means a person enrolled at the University as an undergraduate or post-graduate student of the University:
  - “the University” means the University of South Australia established under this Act:
  - “the University grounds” means all land owned or occupied by the University or of which the University has the care, control and management.

## PART II

### THE UNIVERSITY

#### Establishment of the University

4. (1) The *University of South Australia* is established.
- (2) The University is a body corporate with full juristic capacity to exercise any powers that are by their nature capable of being exercised by a body corporate.
- (3) The University is not an instrumentality of the Crown.

**Functions of the University**

5. (1) The functions of the University are as follows:

- (a) to preserve, extend and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research, scholarship, consultancy or any other means;
  - (b) to provide tertiary education in such disciplines and areas of study as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of industry, commerce, the professions or any other section of the community;
  - (c) to provide such tertiary education programmes as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of the Aboriginal people;
  - (d) to provide such tertiary education programmes as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of groups within the community that the University considers have suffered disadvantages in education;
  - (e) to provide educational programmes for the benefit of the wider community or programmes for the enhancement of the diverse cultural life of the community, as the University thinks fit;
  - (f) to foster and further an active corporate life within the University;
- and
- (g) to perform any functions that are ancillary or incidental to the functions referred to in the preceding paragraphs.

(2) The University must strive for excellence in teaching and research and for attainment of the highest standards in education.

**Powers of the University**

6. (1) The University—

- (a) may confer, in accordance with the statutes of the University, appropriate academic awards on those persons who have attained the standards approved by the University;

and

- (b) may confer, in accordance with the statutes of the University, honorary awards on persons who the University thinks merit special recognition by the University.

(2) The University may, for the purpose of performing its functions or discharging its duties under this Act—

- (a) acquire, purchase, take on hire or loan, sell, lease or otherwise dispose of or deal with real and personal property;
- (b) make charges for services or facilities that are provided by the University to the public on a commercial basis;
- (c) borrow or invest money;
- (d) enter into any other kind of contract or arrangement;

and

- (e) do such other things as the University thinks necessary or desirable for that purpose.

(3) The University has, subject to the law of this State, an unfettered discretion to conduct its affairs as it thinks fit.

(4) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3), the University cannot, except with the approval of the Governor and in accordance with any terms or conditions stipulated by the Governor in granting that approval, sell, lease (except for a term not exceeding 21 years), or otherwise dispose of, mortgage or charge any of its real property.

**Principles to be observed by the University**

7. (1) Principles for the sound and fair management of the University and its staff must be established and regularly reviewed by the Council, and those principles must be observed at all times in the administration of the University.

(2) The University must not, in performing its functions—

(a) discriminate against any person on the ground of his or her religious or political affiliations, views or beliefs;

or

(b) unlawfully discriminate against any person on the ground of his or her sex, sexuality, marital status, pregnancy, race, physical or intellectual impairment or age or any other ground.

(3) Nothing in subsection (2) prevents the University from establishing affirmative action programmes for, or taking special measures for the benefit of, such classes of persons as the University thinks have suffered disadvantages in education or employment.

(4) Nothing in this section derogates from the operation of the *Equal Opportunity Act, 1984*.

**Internal organization of the University**

8. (1) The University will have such units or divisions for the different areas of learning as the Council thinks fit.

(2) There must be continued and maintained within the University—

(a) the *De Lissa Institute of Early Childhood and Family Studies*;

and

(b) the *South Australian School of Art*.

**Student associations**

9. (1) The Council may approve the formation of any association of students, or students and staff, of the University that is to be formed for the purposes of promoting the interests of students, or of students and staff.

(2) Such an association of students, or of students and staff, of the University cannot adopt a constitution or rules, or alter its constitution or rules, unless the proposed constitution or rules, or the proposed alteration, has been approved by the Council.

**PART III****ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNIVERSITY****DIVISION I—THE COUNCIL****Establishment of the Council**

10. (1) The Council of the University is established.

(2) The Council is the governing body of the University and, subject to this Act, has the entire management and superintendence of the affairs of the University.

(3) The Council will consist of—

(a) the following members, appointed by the Governor on the nomination of the Minister:

- (i) ten persons who were, immediately before the commencement of this Act, members of the governing body of the South Australian Institute of Technology, and of those ten—
- (A) at least one must be a person who was a member of the academic staff;
  - (B) at least one must be a person who was a member of the ancillary staff;
- and
- (C) at least one must be a person who was enrolled as a student;
- (ii) ten persons who were, immediately before the commencement of this Act, members of the governing body of the South Australian College of Advanced Education, and of those ten—
- (A) at least one must be a person who was a member of the academic staff;
  - (B) at least one must be a person who was a member of the general staff;
- and
- (C) at least one must be a person who was enrolled as a student;
- and
- (iii) such other number of persons, not exceeding five, as the Governor thinks appropriate for the efficient operation of the University;
- (b) two Members of the Parliament of South Australia appointed by the Governor pursuant to a recommendation contained in an address from both Houses of Parliament;
- and
- (c) the Vice Chancellor, *ex officio*.
- (4) The Minister must consult with the Leader of the Opposition in the Parliament before nominating a person for appointment under subsection (3) (a) (iii).
- (5) A person who was, immediately before the commencement of this Act, a member of the governing body of the South Australian Institute of Technology or of the South Australian College of Advanced Education or an employee or student of either institution, or who is an employee or student of the University, is not eligible for appointment under subsection (3) (a) (iii).
- (6) The first appointments under subsection (3) (a) (i) and (ii) will be made on a joint recommendation given to the Minister by the governing bodies of the South Australian Institute of Technology and the South Australian College of Advanced Education prior to the commencement of this Act.
- (7) Subsequent appointments under subsection (3) (a) (i) and (ii) will be made on a recommendation given to the Minister by the Council.
- (8) This section expires on 30 June, 1992.

#### Conditions of office

11. (1) An appointed member of the Council (other than a Member of Parliament) will be appointed for a term of office not exceeding one year and is, on expiration of a term of office, eligible for reappointment.

(2) The Governor may remove an appointed member of the Council from office for—

- (a) mental or physical incapacity to carry out satisfactorily official duties;
  - (b) neglect of duty;
  - (c) incompetence;
- or
- (d) misconduct.

(3) The office of an appointed member of the Council becomes vacant if the member—

- (a) dies;
- (b) completes a term of office and is not reappointed;
- (c) resigns by written notice addressed to the Minister;
- (d) ceases, in the case of a Member of Parliament, to be such a Member (except pursuant to expiry of his or her term of office as such or on dissolution or expiry of the term of the House of which he or she is a Member).

or

- (e) is removed from office by the Governor under subsection (2).

(4) On the office of an appointed member of the Council becoming vacant, a person must be appointed to the vacant office in accordance with this Act.

#### **Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor**

12. (1) There will be a Chancellor and a Deputy Chancellor of the University.

(2) The first Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor (referred to in this section as the “Interim Chancellor” and the “Interim Deputy Chancellor”) will be appointed by the Governor from the membership of the Council, on a joint recommendation given to the Minister by the governing bodies of the South Australian Institute of Technology and the South Australian College of Advanced Education prior to the commencement of this Act.

(3) The Council will, from time to time as occasion requires, appoint from its own membership a Chancellor and a Deputy Chancellor.

(4) The term of office and conditions of office of the Chancellor and the Deputy Chancellor are—

(a) for the Interim Chancellor and Interim Deputy Chancellor—

- (i) a term of office of one year, but terminating earlier on an appointment to the office being made by the Council;

and

- (ii) such conditions of office as the Governor, on a joint recommendation given by the bodies referred to in subsection (2) to the Minister prior to the commencement of this Act, specifies in the instrument of appointment;

(b) for each subsequent Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor—such term of office, not exceeding five years, and conditions of office as may be prescribed by the statutes of the University.

(5) Neither an employee nor a student of the University is eligible for appointment as Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor.

(6) A person who holds office as Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor is, on the expiration of a term of office, eligible for reappointment.

**Procedure at meetings of the Council**

13. (1) The Chancellor or, in his or her absence, the Deputy Chancellor will preside at meetings of the Council and, in the absence of both the Chancellor and the Deputy Chancellor from a meeting, the members present must elect one of their number to preside at that meeting.

(2) A quorum of the Council is constituted by one half of the members of the Council plus one further member and no business may be transacted at a meeting of the Council unless a quorum is present.

(3) Each member present at a meeting of the Council is entitled to one vote only on a matter arising for decision at the meeting.

(4) A decision carried by a majority of the votes cast by the members present and voting at a meeting is a decision of the Council.

(5) Subject to this Act, the proceedings of the Council may be conducted as it thinks fit.

**Validity of acts and decisions of the Council**

14. An act or decision of the Council is not invalid by reason only of a vacancy in its membership or on the ground of any defect in the appointment of a member.

**Delegation by Council**

15. (1) The Council may delegate any of its powers or functions—

(a) to a member of the Council;

(b) to an employee of the University;

(c) to the holder of a particular office or position in the University;

or

(d) to any committee of the Council or the University.

(2) A delegation under this section—

(a) must be by instrument in writing;

(b) may be absolute or conditional;

(c) does not derogate from the power of the Council to act in any matter;

and

(d) is revocable at will by the Council.

**DIVISION II—THE STAFF****Vice Chancellor**

16. (1) There will be a Vice Chancellor of the University.

(2) The Vice Chancellor is the chief executive officer of the University and is responsible to the Council for the management and administration of the University.

(3) The first Vice Chancellor (referred to in this section as the “interim Vice Chancellor”) will be appointed by the Governor, on a joint recommendation of the South Australian Institute of Technology and the South Australian College of Advanced Education given to the Minister prior to the commencement of this Act.

(4) The appointment of the interim Vice Chancellor will be on terms and conditions jointly recommended to the Minister by the bodies referred to in subsection (3) prior to the commencement of this Act and specified by the Governor in the instrument of appointment.

(5) The Council must, from time to time as occasion requires, appoint a person to be Vice Chancellor, on terms and conditions determined by the Council.

**Staff**

17. (1) The Council may appoint such staff as it thinks fit for the proper and efficient operation of the University.

(2) The appointment of staff will be on such terms and conditions as the Council may determine.

**PART IV****MISCELLANEOUS****Reports**

18. (1) The Council must, before the expiration of the first year of the University's operation, report to the Minister—

(a) on the structure of the Council and any changes that the Council believes should be made to that structure in the interests of efficiency and sound management and for achieving substantial representation of interest groups within the University by an elected membership;

and

(b) on such other matters (including the operation of this Act) relevant to or arising out of the establishment or operation of the University as the Council thinks fit or as the Minister may request.

(2) The Council must, not later than 30 June in each year, present to the Minister a report on the operation of the University during the year ending on the preceding 31 December.

(3) The report must include a copy of the audited accounts of the University.

(4) The Minister must, within 12 sitting days of receiving a report under this section, cause a copy of the report to be laid before each House of Parliament.

**Audit**

19. The accounts of the University may at any time, and must at least once in each year of operation of the University, be audited by the Auditor-General.

**Financial provision**

20. The Treasurer will pay to the University in each financial year, out of money provided by Parliament for the purpose, such amounts as the Treasurer thinks necessary for the proper operation of the University.

**Exemption from land tax**

21. Any land in respect of which the University would, but for this section, be liable to pay land tax is exempt from that tax.

**Jurisdiction of Industrial Commission**

22. Notwithstanding any Act or law to the contrary, the Industrial Commission of South Australia has and may exercise in relation to the officers and employees of the University any jurisdiction conferred on it by the *Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1972*.

**The Governor to be the Visitor to the University**

23. The Governor is to be the Visitor to the University with the powers and functions appertaining to that office.

**Power to make statutes**

24. (1) The Council may make, alter and repeal statutes for all or any of the following purposes, or with respect to all or any of the following matters:

- (a) the conduct of the business and proceedings of the Council;
- (b) the election of members of the Council;
- (c) the appointment and dismissal of staff;
- (d) the terms and conditions upon which the Chancellor, Deputy Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor or any other member of the Council, or officer or employee of the University, holds office;
- (e) the management and organization of the University;
- (f) the qualification required for admission to any course of education provided by the University and the credits to be given for the purposes of any such course in respect of work completed elsewhere;
- (g) the conferring of fellowships, degrees, diplomas, certificates, scholarships, exhibitions, prizes or other awards;
- (h) the imposition, collection, application and administration of fees in relation to anything done by the University;
- (i) the abatement or waiver of fees;
- (j) courses of instruction, lectures and classes to be provided by the University;
- (k) examinations and other methods of assessing the academic attainments and performance of students;
- (l) residential accommodation for students and licensing of boarding houses for students;
- (m) the establishment and management of branches of the University;
- (n) co-operation between the University and any other university, college or educational institution, and the affiliation of educational institutions with the University;
- (o) the maintenance of good order and discipline in the University;
- (p) the establishment of a board of discipline and its practice, procedure, jurisdiction and powers (which may include powers to punish by a monetary penalty, by expulsion or suspension from the University or by exclusion from rights, privileges or benefits conferred by or arising under this Act or the statutes);
- (q) the establishment of an appellate committee and its practice, procedure, jurisdiction and powers;
- (r) the establishment and administration of a fund for the purpose of assisting students in necessitous circumstances;

and

- (s) any other matter affecting the administration of the University.

(2) A statute made pursuant to this section—

- (a) must be sealed with the seal of the University and submitted to the Governor for confirmation;
- (b) must after confirmation be published in the *Gazette* and laid before each House of Parliament;

and



(c) takes effect on the day on which it is published in the *Gazette* or on a later day prescribed in the statute.

(3) If either House of Parliament, pursuant to a notice of motion given within 14 sitting days after the statute is laid before that House, passes a resolution disallowing the statute, it ceases to have effect, but the disallowance of the statute does not affect the validity or legality or cure the invalidity or illegality of any act or omission occurring in the meantime.

(4) Notice of a resolution under subsection (3) must be published in the *Gazette*.

(5) A monetary penalty imposed for an offence against a statute is a debt due to the University and is recoverable by the University by action in a court of competent jurisdiction.

#### **Power to make by-laws**

25. (1) The Council may make, alter and repeal by-laws for all or any of the following purposes:

- (a) to prohibit persons from trespassing on the University grounds;
- (b) to prevent damage to the University grounds (including any fixtures, chattels, trees, shrubs, bushes, flowers, gardens and lawns on those grounds);
- (c) to regulate the speed at which vehicles may be driven on the University grounds;
- (d) to prohibit dangerous or careless driving of vehicles on the University grounds;
- (e) to restrict or prohibit the driving of any vehicle on the University grounds according to the laden weight of the vehicle or any part of the vehicle;
- (f) to prescribe the route to be followed by traffic on roads, ways or tracks within the University grounds, and the gates to be used for the entrance and exit of vehicles and pedestrians, and to require the observance of one-way traffic rules on specified roads, ways or tracks;
- (g) to prohibit or regulate the parking of vehicles on the University grounds, and to provide for the removal of vehicles from the University grounds;
- (h) to require drivers or persons in charge of vehicles on the University grounds to comply with traffic directions (which may include directions as to the speed of vehicles, the course and direction of vehicles, the parking or standing of vehicles, and other matters required for order or safety);
- (i) generally to regulate traffic of all kinds on the University grounds;
- (j) to prohibit disorderly or offensive behaviour on the University grounds and to provide for the removal from those grounds of persons guilty of disorderly or offensive behaviour in the contravention of the by-laws;
- (k) to regulate, restrict or prohibit the bringing of animals onto the University grounds and the handling of animals while within the grounds;
- (l) to regulate, restrict or prohibit within the University grounds the consumption or use of alcoholic liquor, tobacco or other substances, and the bringing of alcoholic liquor, tobacco or other substances onto those grounds, and to provide for the removal of intoxicated persons from those grounds;
- (m) to provide for the seizure and confiscation of alcoholic liquor, tobacco or other substances that have been brought onto the University grounds in contravention of a by-law;
- (n) to prevent persons from climbing on fences or buildings, or walking over gardens or lawns;
- (o) to regulate the conduct of meetings on the University grounds;

- (p) to prevent the interruption of lectures, classes or meetings by noise or unseemly behaviour (whether within or outside buildings) and to prevent undue noise from motor vehicles;
- (q) to prescribe fees for the parking of motor vehicles on the University grounds and provide for the recovery of those fees;
- (r) to prescribe expiation fees for offences relating to vehicular traffic or the parking of vehicles;
- (s) to prescribe fines, not exceeding a division 8 fine, for contravention of any by-law; and
- (t) to prescribe any other matters expedient for the maintenance of good order on the University grounds or for the protection of property or for the prevention of hindrance to or interference with any activities conducted on the University grounds.
- (2) A by-law operates generally throughout the University grounds unless its operation is expressly or by necessary implication limited to a particular part or particular parts of the University grounds.
- (3) A by-law made under this section—
- (a) must be sealed with the seal of the University and submitted to the Governor for confirmation;
- (b) must after confirmation, be published in the *Gazette* and laid before each House of Parliament;
- and
- (c) takes effect from the date of publication in the *Gazette* or a later date prescribed in the by-law.
- (4) If either House of Parliament, pursuant to a notice of motion given within 14 sitting days after the by-law is laid before that House, passes a resolution disallowing the by-law, it ceases to have effect, but the disallowance of the by-law does not affect the validity or legality or cure the invalidity or illegality of any act or omission occurring in the meantime.
- (5) Notice of a resolution under subsection (4) must be published in the *Gazette*.
- (6) Offences against by-laws are summary offences.
- (7) The statutes may provide for proceedings against students or staff of the University in respect of offences against the by-laws to be heard and determined by a board of inquiry established under the statutes and for appeals against decisions of that board of inquiry in respect of any such offences to be heard and determined by an appellate committee established under the statutes.
- (8) An allegation in a complaint that any specified place is within the University grounds will be taken to be proved in the absence of proof to the contrary.
- (9) In any proceedings relating to an offence against a by-law an allegation in the complaint that a specified person was the owner or driver of a specified vehicle on a specified day will be taken to be proved in the absence of proof to the contrary.
- (10) If the Council has reason to suspect that a person has committed an offence against the by-laws for which an expiation fee has been fixed, the Council may cause a notice to be given to that person to the effect that the offence may be expiated by payment to the Council of the appropriate expiation fee on or before a day fixed in the notice.
- (11) A notice under subsection (10)—
- (a) need not, in the case of an offence arising out of the parking of a vehicle, identify the person alleged to have committed the offence;

and

(b) may be given—

(i) by sending the notice by post addressed to the place of residence or business of the person alleged to have committed the offence;

or

(ii) by fixing or placing it on the vehicle involved in the commission of the offence.

(12) If the appropriate expiation fee is paid to the Council in accordance with the notice, no prosecution for the offence will be commenced.

(13) In this section—

“driving”, in relation to a vehicle, includes riding.

**Special provisions relating to statutes and by-laws**

26. (1) Where a statute or by-law has been confirmed by the Governor and published in the *Gazette* all conditions precedent to the making of the statute or by-law will be conclusively presumed to have been fulfilled.

(2) A statute or by-law cannot take away or restrict any civil or criminal liability under any other Act or at common law.

(3) Where an act or omission is an offence against a statute and a by-law, the offender may be charged and punished either under the statute or by-law, but not under both.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

D. B. DUNSTAN, Governor