QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

STATEMENT ON THE ROLE OF THE CHANCELLOR

(Approved by Council 4 June 2003)

Authority

The QUT Act 1998 establishes the position of Chancellor of the University, elected by University Council (Act 30). The Chancellor is an *ex officio* member of the Council (Act 13(2)), and must preside at its meetings (Act 27(1)).

Role of the Chancellor

1. The Chancellor is the formal head of the University by virtue of being the chairperson of the governing body. As such, the Chancellor is responsible for the efficient operation of Council and for providing leadership to ensure it carries out its responsibilities in an effective manner. This includes:
   - Articulating and reinforcing the role of Council and members, thus ensuring the demarcation between Council’s role and management is well understood;
   - Ensuring mechanisms are in place, and appropriate support is provided to members to assist them in performing their role and to promote Council working as a team; and
   - Assessing the performance of Council, its members and committees on a regular basis.

2. The Chancellor on behalf of Council is responsible for the following:
   - Determining the Vice-Chancellor’s performance agreement and the process for review and assessment of his or her performance; and
   - Providing advice and support to the Vice-Chancellor.

3. The Chancellor in addition to their role as chairperson of Council, participates in committees as determined by the membership of Council and other university committees.

4. The Chancellor in consultation with relevant senior officers is responsible for recommending Council members to fill positions on Council committees and panels as required.

5. The Chancellor has a significant ceremonial role, including graduation ceremonies and attending University or related activities as either guest of honour, presenter or University representative. Some of these activities may be delegated to the Deputy Chancellor or another member of Council.

6. The Chancellor has an outreach role, which not only includes the ceremonial role outlined above, but has a broader dimension in representing the University in the wider community. In particular, the cultivation of ‘friends’ of the University is an important activity, whether these be individuals, companies or governments. This includes approaching and sponsoring potential Council members as required.

Profile of a Chancellor

The qualities and experience considered essential for the role of Chancellor include the following.

1. A demonstrated understanding and commitment to organisational governance, including relevant experience as a company director or chair of a board in the public or private sector.

2. Leadership skills, specifically in relation to the leadership of Council as an effective team.

3. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

4. External networks at senior levels in the public and private sectors.

5. A strong commitment to, and knowledge of, or the capacity to acquire knowledge of QUT.

Conditions and Benefits

The position of Chancellor is not remunerated, but the expenses of office including a half-time personal assistant and the use of a leased vehicle are made available to the current Chancellor.