

1976.0095 UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE COUNCIL MINUTES 1853-1868

Creator	University Of Melbourne Council
Creator's Activity/Occupation	University administration University Council
<p>Biography: Previous Control no. UA1 In April 1853 Lieutenant Governor La Trobe selected a University Council of twenty members, comprising government officials, clergy and professionals, about one third of whom were graduates of British universities. They were charged with the governance of the University under the leadership of a Chancellor, who was until 1934 also the chief executive officer of the University. The Council first met on 3 May 1853. At its second meeting, on 17 May 1853, the University Council resolved that an application be made to the Lieutenant Governor "to sanction the advance of L100, to be lodged to the credit of the Chancellor of the Melbourne University, in the Bank of Victoria, to meet the current expenses of the Council". The account was opened on 17 June. On 26 September 1853 the Council resolved that its Statute and Correspondence Committee be empowered to correspond with Sir John Herschel, Professor Malden, Professor Airy, Robert Lowe, M.P. and Chief Justice Sir W. a'Beckett on the choice of the first four Professors. On 10 April the following year the Correspondence Committee reported the text of letters sent, setting out requirements for the guidance of the English selection committee and on 27 December 1854 the Chancellor read Sir John Herschel's letter of 28 August announcing the appointment of H.E. Rowe (Classics), W.P. Wilson (Mathematics), F. McCoy (Natural Science) and W.E. Hearn (Modern History and Literature, Political Economy and Logic). All were in Melbourne by the commencement of lectures in April 1855 except Rowe, who died shortly after arrival, and was in due course replaced by M.H. Irving. New Professors were appointed as teaching diversified and former professors died or retired.</p> <p>Faculties were established, each with a Dean at its head, in 1873 (Law), 1876 (Medicine), 1889 (Engineering), 1903 (Arts and Science) and later Veterinary Science, Agriculture, Education, Music, and Applied Science. In October 1903 University Statute IV ("The Faculties") was amended to provide, inter alia, that the Dean's duties include the obligation to "report to the Council at its October meeting in each year as to the character of the work being done in his Faculty."</p> <p>Over time, the range of groups represented on Council has widened, and its numbers increased, but its role in overseeing all aspects of University life, developing policy, appointing staff, planning new academic developments (in consultation with the Professorial (later Academic) Board), pursuing a building program, managing the budget and promoting the interests of the University generally has remained essentially the same.</p>	

Reference Number	1976.0095
Collection/Series Title	UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE COUNCIL MINUTES
Date Range of Collection/Series	1853-1868
Size/Extent	2 boxes (0.24m)
Access Conditions	Access: Restricted
<p>Scope and Content of Series 'Minutes of the Council of the University of Melbourne', 3 May - 20 Dec 1861 (1 vol) 'Minutes of the Council of the University to the end of 1858. Examination Papers 1858', 3 May 1853 - 27 Dec 1858 (1 vol) 'Minutes of the Council of the University of Melbourne to the end of 1859', 20 Jan 1859 - 29 Dec 1862 (1 vol) 'University of Melbourne Proceedings of the Council 1860-64', 9 Jan 1860 - 26 Dec 1864 (1 vol) 'Minutes of the Proceedings of the Council of the University of Melbourne', 30 Jan 1865 - 18 April 1868 (tied into manilla folders)</p>	

Archival History

Listed by Cecily Close 20 October 1976. Typescript list converted to item dtaa by Christine Elias November 2019.

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To request access to records on the list below via the University of Melbourne Archives Reading Room, quote the Unit/Box reference in full.				
Unit/Box	Item number	Title	Date range	Description
1976.0095 Unit 1	1976.0095.00001	Minutes of the Council of the University of Melbourne	1853-1861	3 May 1853 - 30 December 1861 (4 July missing), 1 bound volume. Previous Control Number: 1
1976.0095 Unit 1	1976.0095.00002	Minutes of the Council of the University of Melbourne	1853-1858	Minutes to the end of 1858, Examination Papers 1858, 4 July 1853, index at back, 1 bound volume, 3 May 1853 - 27 December 1858. Previous Control Number: 2
1976.0095 Unit 2	1976.0095.00003	Minutes of the Council of the University of Melbourne	1859-1862	Minutes to the end of 1859, actually 20 January 1859 to 29 December 1862, at front: Regulations for Degrees in Medical and Surgery, at back: Law Examinations February 1862 and Law Examination, Mr Billing's Medal, 1 bound volume. Previous Control Number: 3
1976.0095 Unit 2	1976.0095.00004	Minutes of the Proceedings of the Council of the University of Melbourne	1860-1864	Contains occasional annotations in an unknown hand, 1 bound volume, 9 January 1860 - 26 December 1864. Previous Control Number: 4
1976.0095 Unit 2	1976.0095.00005	Minutes of the Proceedings of the Council of the University of Melbourne	1865-1868	Notes in unknown hand, tied into folders, 30 January 1865 - 18 April 1868. Previous Control Number: 5

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