

## **Summary of the January 2021 Alumni Board meeting**

Due to Lockdown, the Board convened again via Zoom, noting with sadness the untimely passing of fellow Board member, Professor Angus Hawkins. The Chair went on to invite an update from Dr Nick Brown as a member of Conference of Colleges. He provided insights into how the colleges were coping in light of the latest Lockdown and also highlighted the University's Environmental Sustainability Strategy that is taking shape. The Chair then welcomed David Gann CBE as the new Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Development and External Affairs. Prof Gann described his focus on informing and engaging the alumni community as institutional ambassadors along with encouraging more digital outreach to keep alumni engaged. Liesl Elder, Chief Development Officer provided an update on recent fundraising successes along with plans to develop the framework for the next major fundraising effort. The Board then gathered in smaller breakout groups to further discuss what they heard and to formulate feedback for Professor Gann and Ms Elder. After reconvening and sharing their input, the Board heard a report from the Chair on recent activity by the leadership team to raise the visibility of the Board. The two Working Groups (Engagement and Alumni Networks) each provided updates on their activity and the Board went on to approve proposals for two new alumni groups, one in Equador and the other a special-interest group for PPE alumni. The Director of Alumni Relations went on to update the Board on the issue of Associate status, explaining that the proposal to raise the threshold to 12 weeks now needs to go to the Committee for Development and Alumni Relations, and ultimately Council for ratification. Finally, after receiving a report on Board funds, the meeting concluded.