

# ACADEMIC SENATE

Circulated: 25 September 2014

Confirmed minutes of meeting 14/04 of the Academic Senate of the University of Western Sydney held on Friday 15 August 2014 at 9:30am in the Boardroom, Building AD, at Werrington North.

## Present:

Associate Professor Paul Wormell (Chair)  
Professor Michael Adams  
Professor Janice Aldrich-Wright  
Professor Ian Anderson  
Professor James Arvanitakis  
Dr Catherine Attard  
Associate Professor Bronwyn Cole  
Ms Sue Craig  
Professor Kevin Dunn  
Associate Professor Craig Ellis  
Dr Gu Fang  
Associate Professor Betty Gill  
Professor Barney Glover (VC)  
Professor Rhonda Griffiths  
Professor Scott Holmes  
Professor Peter Hutchings  
Mr John Juriansz  
Dr Cindy Kersaitis  
Professor Gregory Kolt  
Mr Angelo Kourtis

Professor Kerri-Lee Krause  
Associate Professor Alana Lentini  
Dr David Mahns  
Ms Shaneen McGlinchey  
Associate Professor Jane Mears  
Dr Terri Mylett  
Associate Professor Janette Perz  
Associate Professor Anne Power  
Mr Michael Robertson  
Associate Professor Leanne Rylands  
Professor Simeon Simoff  
Associate Professor Terry Sloan  
Professor Clive Smallman  
Professor Sheree Smith  
Professor Kate Stevens  
Professor Deborah Sweeney  
Ms Maxine Veale  
Mr Dean Walker  
Dr Greg Whateley

## In Attendance:

Ms Gillian Brown (Secretary)  
Ms Emily Byrne  
Professor Elizabeth Deane  
Mr James Fitzgibbon

Mr Richard Kindness  
Ms Deirdre Lee  
Associate Professor Christine Johnston

## Apologies:

Professor Gabriel Donleavy  
Dr Matthias Boer  
Professor Donna Craig  
Professor Annemarie Hennessy  
Ms Tahani Husari  
Professor Donald McNeill  
Dr Christopher Peterson

Dr Awais Piracha  
Dr Paul Rowland  
Professor Michele Simons  
Professor Deborah Stevenson  
Professor Zhong Tao

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## 1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

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### 1.1 INTRODUCTION, WELCOMES, CONGRATULATIONS, FAREWELLS AND APOLOGIES

#### Welcome

The Chair of Academic Senate, Associate Professor Paul Wormell, chaired the meeting of the Senate, and opened it by reading an Acknowledgment of the Traditional Owners, as follows:

“The University of Western Sydney acknowledges the Darug, Gandangarra and Tharawal peoples and thanks them for their support of its work in Greater Western Sydney.

In particular I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting today, and pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, and to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are here today.”

The Chair welcomed Professor Sheree Smith from the School of Nursing and Midwifery, who was recently elected to Senate and was attending her first meeting.

The Chair also acknowledged the election of Dr Matthias Boer from the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment who was recently elected to Senate. Dr Boer had tendered his apologies for this meeting.

Associate Professor Christine Johnston from the School of Education was also welcomed to this meeting.

Congratulations were extended to Professor Deborah Sweeney who was recently appointed as the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation).

### **Apologies**

Apologies as listed were noted.

## **1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were requested to declare any interests, in terms of the Conflict of Interest Guidelines, they may have in relation to the items on this agenda.

The Chair acknowledged the possibility that some members may know the students named in item 3.3 *Appointment of a Higher Degree Research Student member*, and requested members declare any interest at that time.

No declarations of interest were reported.

## **1.3 STARRING OF ITEMS**

Apart from procedural items, items starred on the agenda were:

- 2.1 Appointment of a Higher Degree Research Student Member
- 3.1 Report from the Chair
- 3.2 Report from the Vice-Chancellor
- 3.3 Higher Education Standards and Regulation
- 3.7 PhD Pathways Project
- 3.8 The Academy at UWS
- 3.10 Review of Academic Senate Standing Committees
- 4.5 Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee

The following additional item was starred at the meeting:

- 3.15 Approval of Scholarships

**It was resolved (AS14:04/01):**

*That the documents for all unstarred agenda items be noted and, except where alternative action is noted as appropriate, all recommendations contained in those items be endorsed.*

The Chair acknowledged the vast amount of expert and exacting work completed by the Senate Standing Committees and Schools, especially in regard to the high level of professional academic judgement required for the examination and assessment of students.

#### **1.4 ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Item 3.3 *Higher Education Standards and Regulation* was considered after item 3.10 *Review of Academic Senate Standing Committees* to enable members involved in items 3.7 and 3.10 sufficient time to travel to their next meetings.

#### **1.5 OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **1.6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Senate had before it the unconfirmed minutes of the Senate meeting held on 20 June 2014 with a minor amendment as follows:

Addition of Professor Deborah Stevenson to the list of apologies.

**It was resolved (AS14:04/02):**

*To confirm the minutes of the Senate meeting held on 20 June 2014, with the minor amendment, as an accurate record.*

#### **1.7 ACTION SHEET FROM LAST MEETING**

To assist members with monitoring the work of Senate, the action sheet from the meeting held on 20 June 2014 and previous meetings had been circulated. The following update was provided:

*Item 1.8 (AS 14:02 2 May 2014) NOTICES OF MOTION* – the Chair noted that discussions had progressed this matter and helped to produce a set of questions that are part of the forthcoming 2014 Student Survey, including face-to-face and online learning, and students' views on flexibility. Student representatives commended the constructive discussions and improved survey questions.

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## **2 BUSINESS ARISING**

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### **2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **☆2.1 APPOINTMENT OF HDR STUDENT MEMBER**

**AS14/04-2.1**

With the approval of the Chair of Academic Senate, the Secretariat invited expressions of interest from students in the vacant higher degree research student

member position on Senate. Five expressions of interest were received and members agreed at the 20 June 2014 meeting of Senate that a more comprehensive process was required for assessing these expressions of interest. A working group was established to decide, on behalf of Senate, the successful candidate and a second appointable candidate.

This Working Group met on 21 July 2014 and unanimously endorsed Ushi Ghoorah-Hurrychurn to the position of higher degree by research student member on Academic Senate. Should Ms Ghoorah-Hurrychurn be no longer available, Mr Josh Thompson was unanimously nominated as the alternate candidate.

A number of recommendations were agreed to expand the current election and expressions of interest process. Student members on the working party also provided suggestions for appropriate incentives for students participating on Senate and its committees. Senate members agreed to provide these recommendations and suggestions to the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students).

**It was resolved (AS14:04/03):**

*That Academic Senate approves the appointment of Ushi Ghoorah-Hurrychurn to the position of higher degree by research student member on Academic Senate, or if she is no longer available, that Academic Senate approves the appointment of Josh Thompson.*

*Action: Provide recommendations and suggestions to the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students)*

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### **3 GENERAL BUSINESS**

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#### **3.1 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

Senate had before it a written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 20 June 2014.

The Chair provided an update on recent developments and reported the following additional matters.

##### Sector Standards and Regulation (refer also Item 3.3)

The Chair reminded members that part of Senate's role is to assist the University to meet the Higher Education Threshold Standards, which TEQSA regulates against. The Higher Education Standards Panel's revised, simplified but more comprehensive Academic Standards Framework has been well received by the sector, although some detailed changes have been suggested. If approved by the Commonwealth Minister for Education, it is envisaged that there will be transition arrangements leading up to the full implementation of the new Framework in 2016.

In addition, TEQSA has just released some draft guidance notes for comment, dealing with academic leadership, scholarship of teaching and learning, and academic quality assurance. These have some implications for Academic Senate's role and were discussed further at agenda item 3.3.

The Chair also advised that during his discussions with Open University UK colleagues on a recent visit, their key perspective was that good education is good education, and good student support is good student support, wherever we find ourselves on the continuum from largely face-to-face to fully online delivery.

### 3.2 REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Vice-Chancellor made the following comments regarding his priorities and relevant recent developments:

- He welcomed the announcement of the appointment of the former Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University, Professor Nicholas Saunders AO, as the Acting Chief Commissioner and Acting CEO of TEQSA, noting the leadership and understanding of the sector he will bring to the role.
- Although the new environment for the higher education sector remains uncertain it appears the student debt issue may be open to negotiation and we would welcome a less regressive approach.
- Confirmation that although the University has frozen student fees for students enrolling before 31 December 2014, fees in some form will need to increase if the proposed 20% cut in funding from the Federal government eventuates
- Members noted that the lack of clarity around fees will make discussions with students at the Open Day on 31 August difficult, and consistency in the message provided will be important. A statement will be available in student packs and on the University web site before Open Day.
- Memoranda of academic co-operation were signed with several Indian universities during the recent trip to India. These partnerships include both inbound students for UWS and outbound students to these high-quality institutions in India, and reflect a strong research agenda. Internationalisation is of great importance for UWS, not just the doubling of international student numbers but also the strengthening of research collaborations.
- A developer has been engaged for the Parramatta CBD site at 169 Macquarie Street and negotiations are progressing for commencement of teaching at that location in Autumn 2017.
- A discussion paper regarding the revised Strategic Plan 2015 – 2020 is being submitted to the September Board of Trustees meeting and will then be circulated for consultation in September/October. Feedback will be incorporated and the final document taken to the December meeting of the Board. This document may need to be refreshed in early 2015 in the light of government policy announcements.
- The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students) is leading a ‘think tank’ of staff and students to provide innovative ideas to feed into the strategic plan. Other broader mechanisms to stimulate innovation are the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics’ ‘Make a Space’, The Academy and the Campus Forums on Research.

Members welcomed a definitive statement as a reference point for staff regarding student fees to ensure a clear consistent response at the Open Day.

There appeared to be some confusion amongst students who were considering a leave of absence, in relation to expected increases in their fees. Members were referred to the Fee Freeze 2014 FAQs page on the University website, and invited to contact the office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students) to clarify any remaining queries.

Members discussed the complexities of price setting for institutions in the higher education sector and the significant impacts if they get it wrong.

The Chair thanked the Vice-Chancellor for his report.

### **3.3 HIGHER EDUCATION STANDARDS AND REGULATION, INCLUDING THE AUSTRALIAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (AQF)**

The University is required to ensure that all UWS award courses comply with the revised Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), which is currently a requirement of the Higher Education Threshold Standards. From 1 January 2015, all new enrolments must be in qualifications that meet the requirements of the AQF. This work is progressing well, which is reflected in the number of matters in item 4.5 APCAC, and indicates the very large body of work that the Schools have done in updating courses for AQF purposes.

In the first couple of years of TEQSA's operation there was a certain amount of friction between TEQSA and the sector, and one area of concern was that TEQSA gave little guidance about what it expected providers to do to show that they were meeting the Threshold Standards. TEQSA is now taking more advice from the sector, and giving guidance about its expectations of providers. One aspect of this is the first three sets of draft Guidance Notes which were provided to members.

TEQSA has flagged that the current Standards require providers to have very solid academic leadership, scholarship and quality assurance. They include some explicit obligations for academic governance, including a defined role for the Academic Board or Senate.

- Academic leadership
- Academic quality assurance
- Scholarship of teaching and learning

A further set of guidance notes including benchmarking and academic governance are expected.

Members noted that the guidelines refer to both curriculum development and curriculum delivery. They also cover quality assurance for units offered off-shore and outsourcing to third parties. TEQSA's risk management approach was clarified including the burden of responsibility regarding quality assurance on the institution.

The Chair welcomed any feedback or comments from members.

### **3.4 SENATE WORK PLAN**

At the 21 February 2014 meeting Senate members indicated their support for the following set of working priorities to give shape, context and focus to the overall Work Plan:

- Contribution to addressing national Higher Education Standards, including AQF requirements.
- Enhanced communication with the academic community, including University Academic Forums.
- Engagement with University-wide projects, including *Our Future Program*, Open University UK and PhD Pathways projects.

- Contribution to academic risk management, including assessment and research standards and integrity.

The second of the Academic Forums “Academic Freedom and the Public Intellectual”, co-sponsored by the Vice-Chancellor, was held on 11 June 2014. A paper providing the collated outcomes and proposals by the participant groups is being prepared and will be available for the next Senate meeting with a set of proposed actions for Senate’s consideration and endorsement. Updates regarding the five elements highlighted from the first Academic Forum “The Future of Higher Education” will also be provided at the 24 October meeting.

The third Academic Forum is planned to be held at Parramatta Campus on the 15 October 2014.

### **3.5 ACADEMIC PROGRAM PLANNING**

At the 20 June 2014 meeting the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategy and Engagement) provided an update to Senate members on the recent work and plans for the UWS Academic Program 2014 – 2018 confirming the main principles as:

- Grow program offerings but maintain number of units offered;
- Map offerings on a whole of career context;
- Offer flexible modalities;
- Offer new campus locations;
- Establish holistic academic and career advising.

A secure online link for Senate members has been established, to provide access to information about proposed new programs.

Members also requested information regarding the career mapping for Education courses. A presentation will be provided to members at the 24 October 2014 meeting of Senate.

### **3.6 ACADEMIC YEAR REVIEW**

At the 6 December 2013 meeting the then interim Pro Vice-Chancellor (Engagement, Strategy and Quality) led discussions on the evaluation process for the Summer 2013/2014 program including forward planning for an expanded Summer program in 2014/2015.

A detailed evaluation of the Summer 2013/2014 program and an update on plans for an expanded 2014/2015 Summer program was provided to Senate members for the 20 June 2014 meeting.

The UWS Summer project has now moved into the appropriate organisational units within the University. However, relevant updates will continue to be reflected in reports to Senate.

### **3.7 PhD PATHWAYS PROJECT – GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

At the Academic Senate meeting on 21 February 2014 the interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) tabled a *PhD Pathways Project – Briefing Note*, advising

Senate that, following an extensive PhD Pathways Review, the University Executive had given in-principle support for the introduction of a two-year PhD Pathways model, subject to robust financial modelling of the implementation of the structure.

Further analysis and financial modelling was completed and the University Executive endorsed the implementation of a two-year Master of Research model, to be introduced for mid-year international admission in 2015 and for domestic admission from 2016.

At the 2 May 2014 meeting Academic Senate approved the establishment of a steering committee reporting to Academic Senate. A further briefing paper by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development) and a report of the Research Training Steering Committee meeting held on 27 May 2014 were provided to members for the 20 June 2014 meeting.

At the 20 June 2014 meeting of Senate the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development) highlighted the progress to date, including the development of core units and a viable suite of electives at an appropriate level. A more centralised and focussed support structure was also under consideration for higher degree research students via the establishment of a new Graduate Research School.

The University Executive has recommended the establishment of a Graduate Research School model and this will be considered at the September Board of Trustees meeting. The Graduate Research School will provide consistency and support for the PhD Pathways program, as well as higher degree research more generally.

The Pathways program is progressing well and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development) thanked colleagues for their co-operation in working on the core and elective units.

An appropriate governance structure has been considered, including the two specialist research committees of Senate. This is discussed further at Item 3.10 *Review of Academic Senate Standing Committees*. At this stage it seems likely that a School Research and Higher Degree Research Committee would not be required for this School as the Research Studies Committee will fulfil this role.

Members clarified that elective units will continue to be administered within the Schools where they are housed. It was suggested that units developed by a University Research Institute might be administered by the School most closely aligned with the Institute, or the Graduate School.

### **3.8 THE ACADEMY AT UWS**

The Head of the Academy, Professor James Arvanitakis, gave an update on recent activities, including the development of a Bachelor of Applied Leadership and Critical Thinking. Recent academic discussion has highlighted the need for an award which provides specialised teaching in leadership and critical thinking. The Academy is proposing a course to address this gap.

The Head of The Academy advised the following developments:

- The first unit for the degree has been approved, with the intention of having a Summer offering.

- Four units have been considered by the School Academic Committees of the School of Humanities and Communication Arts, School of Social Sciences and Psychology and the School of Business.
- A professional development workshop for Academy students has been held to assist them with setting and meeting professional goals.
- Information sessions on a project involving Price Waterhouse Coopers, Google and Cisco attracted 532 expressions of interest from students, well above the 50 expected.
- A Global Leadership Program is under development.
- The Academy is partnering with the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics' 'Make a Space' innovation hub.
- The Academy is working on building a research culture with lunchtime research sessions.
- Bachelor of Applied Leadership and Critical Thinking (BALCT) has been developed under the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics to be managed by The Academy. The main elements were discussed as follows:
  - The degree can only be taken in conjunction with another UWS course as a double or concurrent degree, using the provisions of the UWS *Advanced Standing Policy*. For most courses it requires 32 units consisting of 24 base degree units and the eight core units of the BALCT (four core leadership units and four core critical thinking units).
  - The course includes a Research Journey unit to build research-ready and research-focused students.
  - The course will use UWS Summer, and draw on OU-based units.
  - The course uses a pedagogy that includes inter-disciplinarity, future thinking and ethics, and moves beyond graduate attributes to graduate proficiencies.
  - The course will be available to current students and new student cohorts at this stage. There is potential to extend its scope to UWS alumni and UWS staff in future.

Members made the following comments:

- Overseas colleagues are interested in this award and it may be appropriate to include it in a course package that can be marketed overseas.
- Members asked for School staff to be provided with information about the award and The Academy as soon as possible, as enquiries were already coming to Schools from interested students.
- The possibility of a triple degree was discussed, noting that it is theoretically possible.
- Members suggested that there is scope for a major in Leadership and Critical Thinking, which could be taken by students in other courses.
- An early exit point (Associate Degree or similar) was suggested.

- The degree will not be made available to students from other institutions at this stage, as part of a strategic decision to approach Alumni and UWS Staff first.
- It is planned to have a Director of Academic Program in the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics and Academic Course Advisors in each School to provide academic support for this degree.
- All options for taking the degree will have to meet AQF requirements.

The Chair thanked Professor Arvanitakis for his presentation.

### **3.9 RED TAPE TASKFORCE**

The Red Tape Taskforce has been established to review a range of administrative tasks required in support of teaching and research programs. This is an initiative of the Board of Trustees, and is an opportunity to free up academic time currently spent on administration, while improving efficiencies and processes.

This matter was considered at the 26 February 2014 Board of Trustees meeting. It is anticipated that Academic Senate will be asked to make a range of decisions about academic policies and procedures in response to reports from the Taskforce. A report advising the Board of Trustees' endorsement of recommendations for addressing the highest-priority issues identified was provided to members at the 20 June 2014 meeting of Academic Senate.

### **3.10 REVIEW OF ACADEMIC SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES**

A number of Academic Senate's Standing Committees are under review, to identify any changes that would improve their operation and the flow of information between the committees and Academic Senate. The review has commenced with the research-focussed committees to facilitate more inclusive discussion across the Schools and University Research Institutes. Members were provided with a proposed amended Terms of Reference and expanded membership for the Research Committee.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development) advised that the changes proposed were to broaden the debate and discourse regarding the University's research activities. The expanded representation includes members from all Schools and Research Institutes to ensure a wider range of perspectives, with vibrant and spirited debate, with an onus on Schools and Institutes to operationalise the ideas.

The Chair noted that the current members of the Research Committee were soon to complete their two year term and it would be advantageous for the new members to take office as soon as possible.

Members welcomed the broader membership and endorsed the proposed Terms of Reference apart from clause 4.3 *Rights of Audience and Debate*. It was recommended that the default position should be an open meeting, unless otherwise required. It was noted that this is consistent with the Standing Orders. The removal of draft clause 4.3 was agreed.

The Research Committee has also considered a draft proposal for amendments to the Research Studies Committee (RSC), which is proposed to report through

Research Committee. It is intended that RSC will also be a larger committee, although not as large as Research Committee, given its more operational focus. Its structure and functions will be influenced by the structure and governance arrangements of the proposed Graduate Research School, its School Academic Committee, and any flow-on effects to the School and Institute committees.

**It was resolved (AS14:04/04):**

*That Academic Senate approve the revised membership and terms of reference of the Research Committee, with Clause 4.3 removed, effective from the date of publication on the Academic Senate Standing Committees website.*

### **3.11 ACADEMIC SENATE MEMBERSHIP**

Editorial amendments will be made shortly to clause 15 of the *Academic Governance Policy* to reflect changes in position titles for several current ex-officio positions, specifically the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor positions.

In the near future, consideration will also be given to substantive revisions to the membership of Academic Senate in light of recent senior appointments and other foreshadowed changes. A paper will be provided to the next meeting of Academic Senate for consideration.

### **3.12 MYVOICE PROJECT**

At the 2 May 2014 meeting of Academic Senate it was noted that the eight Working Groups established in May 2013 in response to the 2012 *MyVoice* Staff Engagement Survey are identifying and implementing ideas to address key areas for improvement at the University-wide level. Each Working Group is sponsored by a member of the University Executive and/or a Dean who will provide mentoring and guidance to the group. These eight groups are:

- Senior Management Communication Working Group
- Inclusive Decision Making Working Group
- Cross Unit Collaboration Working Group
- Recruitment and Selection Working Group
- Supporting New Staff Working Group
- Career Development for Academic Staff Working Group
- Career Development for Professional Staff Working Group
- Responding to Workplace Bullying Working Group

At the 20 June 2014 the Director, Office of Organisational Development, provided a paper to update Senate on progress and a brief verbal update was provided by the Senate member of the *Career Development for Academic Staff Working Group*.

The Senate member on the *Inclusive Decision Making Working Group* will give an update at the next Senate meeting.

### **3.13 ACADEMIC POLICY REVIEW**

This standing agenda item has been introduced in line with item four of the Academic Senate Work Plan - **Develop and review academic policy**. The priority listing for 2014 is below.

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<i>Admissions</i>	Due for periodic review. Will consider the outcomes of the Academic Programs and Pathways Project.
<i>Assessment Policy – Criteria and Standards-based Assessment (Assessment Policy)</i>	Added as a priority to review by Education Committee to ensure reflects best practice in the implementation of criteria and standards-based assessment.
<i>Award Courses and Units Approvals</i>	Due for periodic review. Will consider the outcomes of Red Tape Report
<i>Misconduct – Student Academic Misconduct</i>	Will consider the proposed <i>Student Misconduct Rule</i> , which if adopted, would replace the current policy.
<i>Progression and Unsatisfactory Academic Progress</i>	Being managed by the re-formed Progression Working Party.
<i>Special Consideration</i>	Being managed by existing Working Party.
<i>Teaching and Learning Fundamental Code</i>	Due for periodic review. This is an important framework for understanding staff and student responsibilities in the learning and teaching environment.

The Academic Policy Advisory Group met on 6 June 2014 and discussed processes for reviewing the policies prioritised above. Senate's Education Committee will consider the first reviews in September 2014. Academic Senate will be requested to consider the revised policies for approval from the 24 October 2014 meeting.

Members are invited to submit expressions of interest in contributing to the review of particular academic policies (please submit these to [gillian.brown@uws.edu.au](mailto:gillian.brown@uws.edu.au)).

### **3.14 POSTHUMOUS AWARDS**

Under the *Posthumous Awards and Aegrotat Grades Policy*, Academic Senate and the Assessment Committee are informed of the posthumous awards that are made by School Academic Committees in accordance with the Policy, and the rationales for each award.

Without discussion it was noted that in October 2012 the School Academic Committee of the School of Social Sciences and Psychology approved a recommendation of the relevant Director of Academic Program that a posthumous award be given to Ms Sheena Dalogdog. The award was presented at the September 2013 Graduation Ceremony.

#### **It was resolved (AS14:04/05):**

*That Academic Senate notes the award of the degree 1634.2 Bachelor of Social Science posthumously to Ms Sheena Dalogdog SID 16328671.*

### 3.15 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Seven new University Scholarships, prepared by the Office of Advancement and Alumni, were considered. The proposed Scholarships were approved with the following editorial changes:

#### **WS Pender Scholarship for the Advancement of Bee Keeping**

- Removal of the word 'undergraduate' from the conditions.

#### **Tech Mahindra Computing Scholarship**

- Updating the names of the relevant courses in the Overview.
- Addition of reference to 'Honours' in the criteria and further criteria.
- Addition of "one of the listed bachelor or bachelor (honours) degrees" in the Conditions.

Members requested clarification regarding the strategy of providing the **School of Medicine Medical Research Scholarship** for one year only.

#### **It was resolved (AS14:04/06):**

*That Academic Senate approve the proposed School of Medicine Medical Research Scholarship.*

*That Academic Senate approve the proposed WS Pender Scholarship for the Advancement of Bee Keeping with the above amendments.*

*That Academic Senate approve the proposed Tech Mahindra Computing Scholarship with the above amendments.*

*That Academic Senate approve the proposed South Western Sydney Local Health District Scholarship.*

*That Academic Senate approve the proposed Julie Evans Scholarship for ATSI Medical Students.*

*That Academic Senate approve the proposed Bennelong Foundation Scholarship.*

*That Academic Senate approve the proposed Gilbert & Tobin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Law Scholarship.*

*Action: Request clarification regarding the strategy of providing the **School of Medicine Medical Research Scholarship** as a one year only Scholarship*

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## **4 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES**

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### **4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Without discussion....

#### **It was resolved (AS14:04/07):**

*That Academic Senate notes the report of the Senate Executive Committee electronic meeting held on 10 - 16 July 2014.*

#### **4.2 RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

The Research Committee met on 5 August 2014. The minutes of the 5 August 2014 meeting will be provided at the next meeting of Senate.

#### **4.3 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE**

Without discussion....

**It was resolved (AS14:04/08):**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the 5 August 2014 meeting and the 16 July 2014 electronic meeting of the Research Studies Committee.*

#### **4.4 EDUCATION and ASSESSMENT COMMITTEES (incorporating Student Experience and Engagement Committee)**

Without discussion...

**It was resolved (AS14:04/09):**

*That Academic Senate notes the combined report of the Assessment Committee meeting held on 28 July 2014 and the Student Experience and Engagement Committee meeting held on 23 July 2014.*

#### **4.5 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND COURSES APPROVALS COMMITTEE**

The Director, Learning and Teaching, Professor Liz Deane provided an update on the progress with the Open University/UWS Online based courses which were considered by APCAC at the 6 August meeting, and have been recommended to Academic Senate for approval.

Four work streams are supporting the implementation of the Open University UK (OU UK) and UWS Online work. They are working to support and enhance the student experience, ensure that staff members have appropriate skills for online delivery and support, and adapting units to online delivery:

- Academic – assisting with the preparation of documents for APCAC.
- Contract and Governance – developing the structure to ensure successful delivery.
- Transitioning – moving the learning information from Moodle to Blackboard and checking resources are available. This work has been led by the E-DAPs, who were commended for their efforts.
- Student Support – this includes the framework from the students' perspective; online and telephone assistance; literacy assistance; Information and Technology assistance; and a gap-mapping exercise which is being completed with assistance from OU UK.

It was acknowledged that UWS is comparatively unknown in the online delivery space, and partnering with OU UK will enhance the reputation of the new courses.

A catalogue of the programs proposed for online delivery has been created, recognising that not all UWS courses / units could be adapted for delivery in online mode. The sixteen programs identified for stage one are largely postgraduate.

The Chair congratulated the Online Team and their colleagues in the schools and divisional units, acknowledging their close collaboration and the large amount of expert work that had been completed to tight deadlines.

**It was resolved (AS14:04/10):**

*That Academic Senate notes the reports of the 27 June and 8 August electronic meetings and 6 August 2014 meeting of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee and ratifies the recommendations contained therein.*

**4.6 BACHELOR (HONOURS) COMMITTEE**

Without discussion...

**It was resolved (AS14:04/11):**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the 12 May 2014 meeting and the 14 May 2014 electronic meeting, of the Bachelor (Honours) Committee.*

**4.7 UWS COLLEGE ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Without discussion...

**It was resolved (AS14:04/12):**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the 20 May 2014 electronic meeting and the 22 July 2014 meeting of the UWS College Academic Committee.*

**4.8 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Board of Trustees met on 3 June 2014.

The next meeting is scheduled for 10 September 2014. Summaries of Board of Trustees meetings, and minutes of Board of Trustees meetings, are available on the University website at: <http://www.uws.edu.au/boardoftrustees>.

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**5 FOR INFORMATION**

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No items.

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**6 NEXT MEETING**

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The next Academic Senate meeting is arranged for Friday 24 October 2014. Remaining Senate meeting dates for 2014 are as follows:

- Friday 24 October
- Friday 5 December

All the meetings start at 9.30 AM, and will be held in the Board Room, Building AD, at Werrington North.