

# ACADEMIC SENATE

Circulated: 14 June 2019

Confirmed minutes of meeting 19/02 of the Academic Senate of Western Sydney University, held on Friday 12 April 2019 at 9:30AM, in Building L2, Room G.30, Hawkesbury campus.

## **Present:**

Associate Professor Alpha Possamai-Inesedy (Chair)

Dr Elfriede Sangkuhl (Deputy Chair)

Professor Janice Aldrich-Wright

Professor James Arvanitakis

Professor Kevin Bell

Ms Tegan Bergan

Ms Robyn Causley

Professor Kevin Daly

Dr Martin Daly

Dr Kathleen Dixon

Professor Kevin Dunn

Professor Barney Glover (VC)

Professor Deborah Hatcher

Professor Peter Hutchings

Dr Anne Jamison

Associate Professor Slade Jensen

Professor Denise Kirkpatrick

Professor Gregory Kolt

Professor Amir Mahmood

Associate Professor Jane Mears

Associate Professor Alpana Roy

Professor Yenna Salamonson

Associate Professor Surendra Shrestha

Professor Simeon Simoff

Professor Michele Simons

Dr Caterina Tannous

Ms Lisa Tyson

Dr Katina Zammit

## **In attendance:**

Ms Sophie Buck

Ms Elisa Cristallo

Ms Nicole Gismondo

Mr Stephen Hannan

Ms Kay Hempsall

Mr Michael Hendriksen

Ms Angela MacDonald (Minutes)

Dr Andy Marks

Professor Mark Perry (UNE)

Ms Emily Preval

Professor Caroline Smith

Dr Stephen Janes (Professor Steven

Freeland's nominee)

## **Apologies:**

Professor Simon Barrie

Associate Professor Matthias Boer

Associate Professor Paola Escudero

Professor Steven Freeland

Associate Professor Susanne Gannon

Professor Annemarie Hennessy

Professor Scott Holmes

Professor Paul James

Dr Steven Trankle

Associate Professor Khoa Le

Dr Edward Mariyani-Squire

Dr Nicolene Murdoch

Associate Professor Christopher Peterson

Dr Ludmilla Robinson

Professor Deborah Sweeney

Professor Zhong Tao

Professor Linda Taylor

## **Absent:**

Mr Michael Burgess

Mr Phil Craig

Mr Buch Ezidiegwu

Ms Julie Onyango

*Quorum attained at 9:30am.*

# 1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

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## ☆1.1 INTRODUCTION, WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES

The Chair opened the second meeting of Academic Senate in 2019 by acknowledging the Traditional Owners; with acknowledgement of the meeting being held in the country of the Dharug people and the Dharug nation. Acknowledgement and respects were also extended to the Dharug people's Elders, past, present and emerging.

The Chair welcomed all members to Senate, with specific mention:

- Farewell to Steven Freeland, Dean, School of Law & Professor of International Law as a member of Senate.
- Welcome to Dr Stephen Janes, Deputy Dean, School of Law, representing Professor Steven Freeland at Professor Freeland's last Senate meeting. Associate Professor Anna Cody will commence in with the University in the role of Dean, School of Law on 15 April 2019, and will be accorded a full professorial title from this date.
- Farewell to Senate student members Mr Buch Ezidiegwu, Mr Phil Craig and Ms Julie Onyango with terms ending 31 May 2019. Nominations to fill two Undergraduate and one Postgraduate positions have been received, with the online ballot opening on 8 April and closing on 18 April 2019.
- Welcome to Dr Andy Marks, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Strategy & Projects; to speak to item 3.3 Multiversity and Aerotropolis.
- Welcome to Ms Kay Hemsall, Associate Director, Talent and Leadership Development; to speak to item 3.6 MyVoice.
- Welcome to Mr Steve Hannan, Executive Director, Research, Development and Engagement; to speak to item 3.9.1 Research Engagement, Development & Innovation Review.
- Welcome to Professor Caroline Smith, Dean, Graduate Studies (Policy and Innovation); to speak to item 3.9.2 Graduate Research School Review.
- Welcome to Postgraduate Student Committee Representatives Ms Nicole Gismondo and Michael Hendriksen, as members of the Senate Review Panel.
- Welcome to Professor Mark Perry, Chair of Academic Board, University of New England, by invitation of the Chair.

## ☆1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were reported.

## ☆1.3 STARRING OF ITEMS

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

- 3.1 Report from the Chair
- 3.2 Report from the Vice-Chancellor
- 3.4 Multiversity and Aerotropolis
- 3.5 Draft Clusters – Terms of Reference
- 3.6 Academic Senate Review – Progress Report
- 3.7 MyVoice
- 3.8 School of Humanities and Communication Arts Review
- 3.10.1 REDI Review
- 3.10.2 Graduate Research School Review

Additional items were requested to be starred for discussion:

- 3.11.2 Academic Appeals Procedures
- 3.11.3 Research Higher Degree and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship Policy – *to alert members to an additional track change within the document.*

**It was resolved AS19:02/01:**

*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 approved.*

**☆1.4 ORDER OF BUSINESS**

No requests were received for a change to the order of business.

**☆1.5 OTHER BUSINESS**

No requests were received for other business.

**☆1.6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Senate meeting held on 22 February 2019 were appended.

**It was resolved AS19:02/02:**

*That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on 22 February 2019, as an accurate record.*

**☆1.7 ACTION SHEET FROM LAST MEETING**

There were no outstanding actions following the meeting held on 22 February 2019.

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**2 BUSINESS ARISING**

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Items of business arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda were included in this section for noting and/or approval.

**2.1 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES – REVISIONS TO TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Following position title changes, minor revisions are required to the Terms of Reference of the standing Committees of Academic Senate; Assessment, Education and Research Committees.

**It was resolved AS19:02/03:**

*That Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference for the standing committees of Academic Senate:*

- *Assessment Committee*
- *Education Committee*
- *Research Committee*

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**3 GENERAL BUSINESS**

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**☆ 3.1 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

A written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 22 February was appended, the Chair advised members to note a small correction to the within the Chair's Report; the Higher Education Standards Framework (HESF) Section 6.4 should be stated as Section 6.3. The Chair's report to the 10 April meeting of the Board of Trustees was provided as a late paper, following the Board of Trustees meeting.

The Chair extended thanks to the Senate Review Panel and the work undertaken thus far, an Interim Report has been provided by panel at Item 3.6.

At the last meeting of Senate, discussions were held on academic freedom with the suggestion that a charter be created to best express our statement on Academic Freedom. Further work will occur on this in conjunction with Professor Sharon Bell Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategy and Planning). Alignment will also occur with the co-hosted forum on Academic Freedom planned for early June, internal and external speakers will be arranged.

The Chair proposed the introduction of 'hot topics' to Senate members, a practice which occurs at other institutions' academic boards. This will allow Senate to engage in important debates and conversations that fall within the purview of Senate. A 'champion' may be appointed on the chosen topic, papers are to be submitted to the Committee Secretary.

In addition to the Student Report standing agenda item, Senate is also working with the Student Representative Council (SRC) on improving student engagement. A workshop is planned to discuss an online network to increase engagement, progress will be reported to future meetings of Senate.

The Chair invited Chairs from Senate standing committees to provide a brief summary on their current items of focus:

- **Professor Kevin Bell, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Digital Futures), Chair of the Assessment Committee:** Professor Bell briefed Senate members on the progress of the *Grade Distribution Reports* with the Office of Quality and Performance (OQP). The reports provide information on grade skews (specifically high Fail/high FNS grades) for analysis of trends for discussion. A portion of this data will be discussed at the Senate Assessment Committee meeting in May with the Deputy Deans. Lastly, the Assessment Policy Review is approx. 85% complete, Professor Bell thanked the schools for their input on this to date.
- **Professor Denise Kirkpatrick, Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Vice-President (Academic), Chair of APCAC:** Professor Kirkpatrick raised awareness to the lower volume of programs coming through the Academic Planning and Course Approval Committee (APCAC) due to admission caps, however post-election a change to the caps is anticipated which will result in an increase in the volume of course proposals. APCAC is currently refining approval processes and timelines are being reviewed to enable quicker and more responsive approvals. Initiatives from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Curriculum project will see an increase in programs for approval, as well as discontinuations for programs no longer viable or relevant.
- **Professor James Arvanitakis, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Graduate Studies), Chair of Research Studies Committee:** Professor Arvanitakis also spoke on behalf of Professor Deborah Sweeney, Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Vice President (Research & Innovation), Chair of the Research Committee. There is a continued focus on research quality (over quantity), engagement and impact still continues and progress in the Ethics Review. Dr Shantala Mohan is leading the review and is responsible for the benchmarking against other Innovative Research Universities (IRU). An impact working group has also been established. The Chair added, the Ethics review is planned for a future Senate for discussion.

**Action item:**

- Senate members to present ideas on 'hot-topics' to the Chair and Committee Secretary, giving a minimum of three weeks prior to a Senate meeting. Briefing papers to be provided two weeks before a Senate meeting.

### ☆ 3.2 REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Vice-Chancellor's Report was appended.

The Vice-Chancellor directed members to several items within the report. Of particular relevance to Senate is an \$18 million budget allocation by the Commonwealth in a joint Medical program with Charles Sturt University, focussing on rural and regional health. The University is advocating several projects with both political parties; an upgrade to teaching and science facilities at Hawkesbury, the Macarthur Health and Medical facility at Campbelltown Hospital, and continued building works at the Werrington Park Corporate Centre. Both political parties are promising funding with differing expectations and outcome models.

Congratulations were extended to Professor James Arvanitakis, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Graduate Studies), on attaining the Fulbright exchange scholarship, and Professor Katherine Gibson, Institute for Culture and Society, on heading to Harvard University.

The Board of Trustees has endorsed the *Ethical Framework for Decision*, this document should be tabled at the next meeting of Senate before it is made available to the wider university. The Board of Trustees has endorsed plans to draw on the University Corpus funds, the Board is keen to see this re-invested in teaching, the funds are expected to be allocated through a competitive process.

Other items of interest to Senate included; the development of the Arts and Culture Decadal Plan, research success in ERA and positive results in the Impact rankings. Professor Sharon Bell, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategy and Planning) is expected to soon release a report around the casualization of the academic workforce. The Vice-Chancellor added, the Giramondo Publishing partnership also worthy of acknowledgement, with five authors from 2018 Western Sydney University students.

The Vice-Chancellor 'out and about' campus days have been very successful, with 550 staff and over 100 students in attendance across multiple campuses. The objective is to gather positive activities on each campus, and an understanding of the challenges with appropriate follow-up.

The Vice-Chancellor responded to questions covering several items of interest to members:

- *Respect Now Always* (RNA) campaign - Members expressed interest in our involvement in a trial connected to the Universities RNA campaign, the Vice-Chancellor suggested an update and/or report could be provided by Ms Ellen Brackenreg to a future meeting of Senate.
- Thirty-year Anniversary celebrations – Members requested a list of campus activities relating to the University's thirty-year Anniversary.
- Corpus funding - Initial allocations of corpus funding will go strategically into selected projects; these include fast tracking select 21<sup>st</sup> Century Curriculum projects, research fellowships, and scholarship schemes to allow for increased outbound activities. Detail has been put to the Board with more information available in due course.
- Decadal planning and strategy in Health – Members raised concerns on our courses meeting the increasing demand and having a workforce ready as the population increases in Western Sydney. The Vice-Chancellor responded confirming the University's decadal planning and liaison with government is designed to meet this expectation.

#### **Action items:**

- The Committee Secretary to table the *Ethical Framework for Decision* document at the next meeting of Senate.

- The Committee Secretary to source a RNA report and/or update from Ms Ellen Brackenreg to the next meeting of Senate.
- The Committee Secretary to obtain a list of thirty-year celebration activities from the Campus Provost, and circulate at the next meeting of Senate, if not earlier.

### **3.3 STUDENT REPORT**

A report prepared by Postgraduate student representative Ms Tegan Bergan was provided as a late paper for noting. Ms Bergan reported progress on issues raised at the 22 February meeting of Senate. The concerns addressed include access to appropriate facilities, increasing student participation on Senate and the Research Publishing Training allowance.

### ☆ **3.4 MULTIVERSITY AND AEROTROPOLIS**

Dr Andy Marks, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Strategy & Projects, provided a second update to Senate on activities pertaining to Western Sydney University's involvement in the Multiversity and Aerotropolis. A briefing paper was attached.

Dr Marks stated the current phase of Federal politics pre-election has resulted in the project in a holding pattern. The next phase will see the creation of two business cases; one in the multiversity grouping in agri-business and freight logistics, the other in Aerospace and the defence group. Dr Marks asked for feedback from Senate and the wider University community for interest and involvement in this phase. More detail will become available following the outcome to the federal election, with both political parties sharing some consistency in the offer to this precinct.

The Vice-Chancellor added our developments in aerospace technology has garnered interest from Defence, the Hawkesbury campus focus centering on food security and technology; these are strategically important business cases to support our effort in the Multiversity precinct. Overall the precinct is expected to be STEM focused.

Comments to the Vice-Chancellor included conscious and continued involvement with schools around the Aerotropolis to ensure these connections continue in Western Sydney. Academic partnerships such as the Engineering Hub with UNSW, Liverpool Health precinct and the sharing of infrastructure with other institutions; the Vice-Chancellor suggested this could be a topic for a future VC Forum co-chaired with the Chair of Senate, also covering the joint governance of programs with other institutions.

#### **Action item:**

- Suggested topic for future Vice-Chancellor Forum; joint governance of programs with other institutions, for eg. Liverpool Health precinct.

### ☆ **3.5 DRAFT CLUSTERS – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The draft Terms of Reference for the cluster structure was appended. The document is situated on the Leadership and Governance; Review of Strategic Plan and Academic Structure webpage, behind a staff login:

[https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/about\\_uws/leadership/mission\\_goals\\_strategic\\_plan/review\\_of\\_the\\_strategic\\_plan\\_and\\_academic\\_structure\\_consultation](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/about_uws/leadership/mission_goals_strategic_plan/review_of_the_strategic_plan_and_academic_structure_consultation).

The Chair introduced the item, acknowledging the work of Professor Bell, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategy & Planning). The Vice-Chancellor briefed Senate members with key points for consideration, including responses to Senate member questions:

- The clusters are not faculties, it is intended to be a governance arrangement to gain a sense of collaboration and cross-fertilisation within manageable sized cluster groupings.
- The College will be incorporated in to this governance structure while not contained within previous diagrams.

- The new structure will begin in 2020 with an implementation transition period in 2019.
- Boards are not intended to diminish the work in SAC, but it is believed efficiencies will come out of this new governance structure.
- The role of Cluster Manager was recommended to also include supervision.
- Concerns were raised over inefficiencies by putting in another layer of management in the cluster structure, in response it was promised this will be closely monitored.
- It was recommended the restructure progress and impacts be communicated to HDR students, as this group has not yet been targeted in the communications around this cluster structure.

**Action item:**

Members requested to return feedback from their entities to the Chair and Committee Secretary prior to the June meeting of Senate.

☆ **3.6 ACADEMIC SENATE REVIEW – PROGRESS REPORT**

The Senate Review Panel provided an interim progress report, with some matters still requiring further clarification. It is expected that a final report is provided to the June Academic Senate meeting.

Ms Sophie Buck, Director, Governance Services introduced the report. The interim report follows the review recommended Academic Senate in 2018, and approved by the Board of Trustees to conduct an external audit of Academic Senate, also being the first external review.

There are a number of areas still to address in the Terms of Reference, in particular reporting of academic risk and appropriateness of standing committees, academic governance policy, and how the standing committee feed into Senate. The final report is expected for consideration at next Senate.

Recommendations within the interim report include; remuneration for student representation, proportions of ex-officio and elected members, focussed reflection periods in Senate, a model of localised meetings in schools and improving communications between senate and the wider community. The Review panel continues to receive feedback via the online feedback form:  
[www.westernsydney.edu.au/about\\_uws/leadership/academic\\_senate/academic\\_senate\\_review\\_feedback](http://www.westernsydney.edu.au/about_uws/leadership/academic_senate/academic_senate_review_feedback).

The Chair thanked the panel for their work on the review, in addition Professor Simon Barrie and Ms Tai Peseta for their work in the development of the unit in Governance for Undergraduate students, Senate has oversight of the engagement and development of this unit.

**Action items:**

- Proposed future Senate topic; how to improve student engagement, and support the development of participation of our students in academic governance and academic decision making.
- Establish a working party for the restructure of Senate as a result of the school restructure, while also addressing low levels of engagement.
- Members requested to provide feedback to the Chair and Committee Secretary, posing the question; Is the interim report an accurate reflection of Senate?

**It was resolved AS19:02/04:**

*That Academic Senate notes the Academic Senate Review Interim Report, March 2019.*



### ☆ 3.7 MY VOICE

Ms Kay Hemsall, Associate Director, Talent and Leadership Development provided a presentation on the MyVoice related activities following responses to the survey results. University wide actions included collaborative discussion sessions, working groups and a connection with *Our People Securing Success* strategy. Localised strategies included the establishment of working groups across Schools and Institutes, and periodic reporting to Executive and the Board of Trustees.

Key improvements were identified via MyVoice Surveys across several years, including data from the first survey for sessional staff in 2018. Primary themes included; cross-unit cooperation, digital expertise, leadership, innovation, wellbeing and workload, career opportunity and recognition, community engagement, and support for teaching and research. For a summary of highlights, initiatives and progress updates go to: [www.westernsydney.edu.au/myvoice](http://www.westernsydney.edu.au/myvoice).

The Chair thanked Ms Kay Hemsall for the work and initiatives conducted following this feedback, including addressing the experiences of sessional staff, in addition acknowledging the challenges in communicating this extensive body of work to the wider university community. Professor Denise Kirkpatrick added open sessions were run last year to gather this feedback more closely, with follow-up sessions planned with casual staff, and associated initiatives.

Senate members suggested improved communications around how to better be involved in community engagement and volunteer with localised associations and charities, our website does not clearly indicate how to do this. Ms Hemsall made note of this suggestion linking it to relevance in our People Strategy.

#### **Action item:**

The Committee Secretary to circulate slides to members following the meeting.

### ☆ 3.8 SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND COMMUNICATION ARTS REVIEW

The School of Humanities and Communication Arts was reviewed in 2018 as part of the University's cycle of School Reviews. The terms of reference for the school review were to evaluate and provide commendations and recommendations on the extent to which the School has implemented the strategic goals and objectives of *Securing Success: 2017-2020* and the Higher Education Standards Framework 2015 (HESF).

The School of Humanities and Communication Arts Review 2018 Panel Report and Action Plan was appended, for the information of Senate members only due to its confidential nature.

Professor Peter Hutchings spoke to the review report, directing members to the positive commendations and recommendations. Recommendations included; establishing ongoing student-focussed groups for undergraduate and postgraduate programs, teaching of academic literacy skills across the University, strategies on maintaining research performance, effectively building relationships with industry and government, a deeper interdisciplinary collaboration, and investment in systems to facilitate innovation and efficiency.

Feedback from Senate members included:

- Concerns over funding HDR students and the request of academic training allowances not acknowledged.
- Increasing higher degree research (HDR) commencements and on-time completions; in relation to the funding provided to HDR students, the panel believed this was generous by sector standards.
- Positive feedback was received on the value of the School offering the teaching of academic literacy skills across the University to enhance student skills, an initiative of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Curriculum Project.



- Collaboration was encouraged between the School of Humanities and Communication Arts and the School of Education given the experience in the area of academic literacy teaching and experience with External Advisory Committee relationship management.

**It was resolved AS19:02/05:**

*That Academic Senate notes the School of Humanities and Communication Arts Review 2018 Panel Report, and the School of Humanities and Communication Arts Review Action Plan.*

**3.9 TEQSA REGISTRATION RENEWAL UPDATE**

An update on the TEQSA Registration Renewal was provided as a late paper. The purpose of this paper was to advise Academic Senate of the outcome of the University's renewal of registration and the University's response to TEQSA's requests for information and suggestions for improvement.

The Office of Quality and Performance has continued to liaise with all stakeholders and the TEQSA Assessment Report Action Plan is on track for completion by the end of 2019. Regular progress reports on the implementation will continue to be provided to the Executive Committee, Academic Senate and the Board of Trustees.

**It was resolved AS19:02/06:**

*That Academic Senate notes the University's renewal of registration with TEQSA and the response to TEQSA's requests for information and suggestions for improvement.*

**☆3.10 RESEARCH**

**3.10.1 Research Engagement, Development & Innovation (REDI) Review**

Mr Steve Hannan, Executive Director, Research, Development and Engagement provided an update on the REDI review. Terms of Reference were appended.

**3.10.2 Graduate Research School Review**

Professor Caroline Smith, Dean, Graduate Studies (Policy and Innovation), provided an update on the review of the Graduate Research School. Terms of Reference were appended.

Mr Steve Hannan and Professor Caroline Smith provided a combined presentation on the internal reviews currently taking place. The purpose of the REDI review is to examine, the current performance of REDI and to establish the structural, policy and procedural setting required to allow REDI to optimally support the University in meeting its strategic objectives. The purpose of the GRS Review is to evaluate the current structure and functions of the GRS, benchmark functions and structures of the GRS to other Universities and provide commendations and recommendations of the GRS function, structure and strategies.

The Chair requested members provide feedback to Mr Hannan and Professor Smith. Members were also requested to circulate the issue to their entities and feedback to Senate. This update is tabled at the Research Committee and the Research Studies Committee for feedback.

**Action item:**

Members requested to return feedback from their entities to Mr Hannan and Professor Smith, prior to the June meeting of Senate.

### 3.11 ACADEMIC POLICY REVIEW

#### 3.11.1 Academic Policy Advisory Group (APAG)

An update on the academic policies prioritised for consideration and progress to date by the Academic Policy Advisory Group (APAG) is listed below. APAG met on 14 February 2019.

<p><i>Academic Appeals Procedures and Third Party Provider arrangements – Policy Alignment</i></p>	<p>The following remaining policies, revised to align with the new Academic Appeals Procedures, are at item 3.10.2 for consideration by Senate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Advanced Standing Policy</i></li> <li>• <i>Course Transfer Policy</i></li> <li>• <i>Enrolment Policy</i></li> </ul>
<p>New Course Design Policy</p>	<p>The final Course Design Principles, to facilitate the drafting of the new Course Design Policy were discussed at the 12 March meeting of the Education Committee and endorsed at the 2 April meeting of APCAC. These principles provide the basis for the new Course Design Policy, which is scheduled to be provided to the December 2019 Senate for consideration.</p>
<p><i>Disruption to Studies Policy (renamed Special Consideration Policy)</i></p>	<p>The publication and implementation of this policy is stalled awaiting the implementation of interim strategies for the e-Forms project, expected by mid-2019.</p>
<p><i>Learning Technologies Policy review</i></p>	<p>A draft revised <i>Learning Technologies Policy</i>, discussed at the 17 October 2018 APAG meeting, was noted at the 4 March 2019 meeting of the University Executive Committee and will be released on the Policy DDS Bulletin Board, with the proposed Learning Management System Guidelines, for broad consultation from 8 April to 6 May 2019.</p>
<p><i>Lecture Recording Policy review</i></p>	<p>The revised and renamed <i>Producing and Using Multimedia Policy</i>, developed by LaTTe, has been discussed at APAG and Assessment Committee, provided to Deans for preliminary comment and discussed at the 4 March meeting of the University Executive Committee, with some further suggestions provided. This substantially revised and renamed policy will be released on the Policy DDS Bulletin Board for comment shortly.</p>
<p><i>Progression and Unsatisfactory Academic Progress</i></p>	<p>The substantially revised and renamed <i>Progression Policy</i> was endorsed at the 7 March 2017 meeting of Education Committee. Associated process and system work has commenced to facilitate the successful implementation of the revised Policy, which will be provided for consideration of Senate when implementation timelines are confirmed. This is expected to be at the October 2019 Senate.</p>
<p><i>Student International Mobility Policy</i></p>	<p>Following recommendations from an audit review, a draft proposed new Academic Senate approved <i>Student International Mobility Policy</i> was provided to the 10 September Executive Committee for comment and discussed at the 17 October 2018 meeting of APAG. The latest version was provided to the 19 March 2019 meeting of the Research Studies Committee and placed on the Policy DDS in March for broad University comment. Feedback from these two sources is being reviewed and the updated version will be provided to the 6 June Research Committee and 25 June Education Committee for endorsement.</p>

<i>Student Placement Policy</i>	A working group of APAG has completed the full review of this policy, with broad consultation as part of the process. A revised version was discussed at the 14 February APAG where it was agreed to progress this version through the consultation and approval process. This revised policy is scheduled to be provided for noting at the 15 April meeting of the University Executive Committee and then released on the Policy DDS Bulletin Board for broad comment.
<i>New Surveys Policy</i>	A proposed new <i>Surveys Policy</i> has been discussed at APAG, provided to Deans, Directors and Deputy Deans for initial comments and will be progressed to Executive Committee in early 2019.
University Medals and Deans Medals provisions ( <i>Graduations Policy</i> )	A working group of APAG and a sub-group of the Research Studies Committee have been reviewing Dean's medal provisions and University Medal provisions respectively. Draft initial updates to the Graduations Policy were discussed at the 14 February meeting of APAG and further amendments will be reviewed at the May APAG meeting.

### ☆3.11.2 Academic Appeals Procedures

The implementation plan for the new Academic Appeals Procedures noted that a targeted review of policies with appeals provisions would be required to ensure alignment with the new published procedures. A review commenced to ensure key student administration policies encompass University partner provider arrangements. The revised versions of the *Advanced Standing Policy*, *Course Transfer Policy* and *Enrolment Policy* include these amendments. The purpose of this paper is to seek the approval of Senate, revised as part of the implementation of the Academic Appeals Procedures and to encompass University partner provider arrangements for the *Advanced Standing Policy*, *Course Transfer Policy* and the *Enrolment Policy*.

In relation to the *Course Transfer Policy*, members commented on:

- Concerns over Pathway programs with The College and progression to Bachelor degrees using credit points from Foundation units. In response, in relation to our *Admissions Policy*, we do not want to disadvantage our own students to competitively apply, as other institution students gain credit point credit on diploma units and pathway courses.
- Course advisors stating students are strategising their study load as low as possible and while also planning for a maximum Grade Point Average.

The Chair recommended the *Course Transfer Policy* be considered in conjunction with the *Admissions Policy* and tabled for further discussion at the next Senate Education Committee.

#### **Action item:**

Dr Caterina Tannous Caterina to provide further feedback on the above discussion points so it may be raised at the next Senate Education Committee for discussion.

In relation to the *Enrolments Policy*, members commented on:

*Clause (96) The maximum period of leave that may be granted is normally 12 months. An extension of a further session of leave may be granted under exceptional circumstances on the recommendation of the Director, Academic Program.*

The above clause was felt to be restrictive with extensions only offered in exceptional circumstances. The School of Education stated there are situations where students require more than 18 months of leave to achieve adequate literacy and numeracy standards. In response it was suggested the wording could be amended to allow for

flexibility, suggested wording: “An extension of a further period of leave may be granted under exceptional circumstances on the recommendation of the Director, Academic Program or Deputy Dean or Dean.”

Senate members agreed this would be an acceptable revision changing “session” to “period”. The *Academic Appeals Procedures* were approved with the above amendment.

**It was resolved AS19:02/07:**

*That Academic Senate approves (with amendment to clause 96 of the Enrolment Policy) the proposed revised Policies listed below from the date of approval:*

- *Advanced Standing Policy*
- *Course Transfer Policy*
- *Enrolment Policy*

**☆3.11.3 Research Higher Degree and Research Training Program (RTP)**

**Scholarship Policy**

From January 2017, the Commonwealth Government introduced the Research Training Program (RTP) to support the research training of both domestic and international Higher Degree Research (HDR) candidates. This revised and retitled Policy ensures that Western Sydney University is compliant with the new legislative requirements. Following feedback in August and December 2018, further revisions have been made.

Senate members were advised a revision was omitted from the papers circulated, under *Part G – Employment*, with the deletion of: *Clause (76) d. Any teaching work is considered research related.*

Senate members approved the above revision. The *Research Higher Degree and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship Policy* was approved with the above amendment.

The Chair extended thanks to members for their involvement in progressing this Policy.

**It was resolved AS19:02/08:**

*That Academic Senate approves the revised and renamed Research Higher Degree and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship Policy from the date of approval.*

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

**3.12 AWARDS OF THE UNIVERSITY MEDAL AND POSTHUMOUS AWARDS**

**3.12.1 University Medals**

The following students will be awarded University Medals at the April 2019 Graduation ceremonies, as approved by the Chair of Academic Senate, on behalf of the Senate.

- Megan Nancy CASEY (SID18412518), Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Honours Class I
- Susanna Kathleen HILL (SID18418952), Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Honours Class I
- Eliza Monique HOGARTH (SID18410349), Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Honours Class I
- Lauren Michelle JACKSON (SID18417500), Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Honours Class I
- Elizabeth Laura MCBRIDE (SID18424078), Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Honours Class I

- Joanne MORABITO (SID18417526), Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Honours Class I
- Alexia Rose WITHINGTON (SID18071128), Bachelor of Physiotherapy, Honours Class I
- Jason AYOUB (SID18491786), Bachelor of Construction Management, Honours Class I
- Rami MEZHER (SID18420917), Bachelor of Construction Management, Honours Class I
- Alana Janis HEARNE (SID18511446), Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical), Honours Class I
- Syhra Anselm Storm FIECK (SID18257973), Bachelor of Engineering (Civil), Honours Class I
- Trent Phillips YOUNG (SID18083053), Bachelor of Engineering Advanced (Electrical), Honours Class I
- Adriana Carmen ASSEY (SID18274774), Bachelor of Engineering Advanced (Civil), Honours Class I
- Micah James Craig FOUNTAIN (SID18376601), Bachelor of Engineering Advanced (Civil), Honours Class I
- Kris Omendra RAI (SID18457432), Bachelor of Engineering Advanced (Electrical), Honours Class I
- Cameron LEE (SID18374302), Bachelor of Industrial Design, Honours Class I
- James Peter XIBERRAS (SID18042984), Bachelor of Engineering Advanced (Mechanical), Honours Class I
- Jane Julia TUCKER (SID17269272), Bachelor of Social Work, Honours Class I
- Frances Gia Phung AN (SID18357107), Bachelor of Psychology, Honours Class I
- Theodora BINASIS (SID17792439), Bachelor of Psychology, Honours Class I
- Julia Sarah BRADSHAW (SID18357253), Bachelor of Psychology, Honours Class I
- Rachel BULYK (SID18373598), Bachelor of Psychology, Honours Class I
- Dhanya DINAKAR (SID18577671), Bachelor of Psychology, Honours Class I
- Kenneth Alexander NOLAN (SID17503118), Bachelor of Psychology, Honours Class I
- Nicola Faria PORTER (SID18028179), Bachelor of Arts Psychology, Honours Class I
- Faith Elizabeth WALKER-SWANTON (SID17815156), Bachelor of Psychology, Honours Class I
- Carissa Jayne DUNN (SID18344442), Bachelor of Psychology, Honours Class I
- Andrea May USNIK (SID18006995), Bachelor of Laws, Honours Class I

### **3.12.2 Posthumous Award**

The *Posthumous Awards and Aegrotat Grades Policy* states that Academic Senate and the Assessment Committee should be notified of the rationale and decision to approve a posthumous award.

At its electronic meeting commencing on 13 February 2019, the School of Science and Health School Academic Committee Executive approved a posthumous award to Miss Rachel Wang (17697415).

#### **It was resolved AS19:02/09:**

*That Academic Senate notes the award of the Bachelor of Podiatric Medicine posthumously to Miss Rachel Wang (17697415), under the Posthumous Awards and Aegrotat Grades Policy.*

### **3.13 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

#### **Donor Funded Scholarships**

Academic Senate considered the following proposals for new Donor Funded Scholarships, prepared by the Office of Advancement and Alumni:

#### **John Holland Building Scholarship in Construction Management**

This new undergraduate scholarship is intended for students who are currently enrolled full or part-time in the third year of Construction Management. Applicants must demonstrate academic potential through a minimum GPA of 5.0 for continuing students. The recipient is expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress by passing all subject attempts and maintaining a Credit average (GPA 5.0 or greater) for the duration of the scholarship.

#### **The Arab Bank Scholarship for Business**

This new undergraduate scholarship is intended for students who are commencing study full-time in the first year of the Bachelor of Business or Bachelor of Accounting. Applicants must demonstrate academic potential through a minimum ATAR or ATAR-equivalent score of 70. The recipient is expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress by passing all subject attempts and maintaining a Pass average (GPA 4.0 or greater) for the duration of the scholarship.

#### **The Western Sydney Wanderers Scholarship**

This new undergraduate scholarship is intended for students who are commencing study full-time in the first year of the Bachelor of Sports Development, Bachelor of Business (majoring in Marketing or Sport Management or Management), Bachelor of Health Science, or Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology). Applicants must demonstrate academic potential through an ATAR of 70. The recipient is expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress by passing all subject attempts and maintaining a Pass average (GPA 4.0 or greater) for the duration of the scholarship.

#### **Tony Clyne Scholarship**

This new undergraduate scholarship is intended for new or continuing students enrolled full-time in any undergraduate degree on any campus at Western Sydney University. Applicants must reside in the Penrith local government area. The recipient is expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress by passing all subject attempts and maintaining a Pass average (GPA 4.0 or greater) for the duration of the scholarship.

#### **Rosemary Ann McDonald Scholarship for Master of Property Investment and Development**

This new Postgraduate (Coursework) scholarship is intended to be awarded to the student in their final year of a Master of Property Investment and Development with 40 credit points remaining, and with the highest GPA of the cohort.

#### **It was resolved AS19:02/10:**

*That Academic Senate approves the following proposed University Donor Funded Scholarships:*

- *John Holland Building Scholarship in Construction Management*
- *The Arab Bank Scholarship for Business*
- *The Western Sydney Wanderers Scholarship*
- *Tony Clyne Scholarship*
- *Rosemary Ann McDonald Scholarship for Master of Property Investment and Development*

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

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Items 4.1 – 4.7 provide an overview of the matters dealt with by Senate standing committees.

### **4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Senate Executive Committee met on 8 February 2019 – minutes were appended.

**It was resolved AS19:02/11:**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2019 of the Senate Executive Committee.*

### **4.2 RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

The Research Committee met on 14 February 2019 – minutes were appended.

**It was resolved AS19:02/12:**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2019 of the Research Committee.*

### **4.3 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE**

The Research Studies Committee met on 26 February and 19 March 2019 – minutes were appended.

**It was resolved AS19:02/13:**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the meetings held on 26 February and 19 March 2019 of the Research Studies Committee.*

### **4.4 EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The Education Committee met on 12 March 2019 – minutes were appended.

**It was resolved AS19:02/14:**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2019 of the Education Committee.*

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

The Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee (APCAC) met on 5 March and 2 April 2019 – the combined report was provided as a late paper.

**It was resolved AS19:02/15:**

*That Academic Senate notes the report of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee meetings held on 5 March and 2 April 2019, and approve the recommendations contained therein.*

### **4.6 ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE**

The Assessment Committee met on 1 March 2019 – minutes were appended.

**It was resolved AS19:02/16:**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2019 of the Assessment Committee.*

### **4.7 THE COLLEGE ACADEMIC PATHWAY PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

The College Academic Pathway Program Committee met on 31 January 2019, minutes were appended.

**It was resolved AS19:02/17:**

*That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the College Academic Pathway Program Committee meetings held on 31 January 2019.*



#### **4.8 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for 10 April 2019. Summaries and minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings are available on the University website at:

[https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/about\\_uws/leadership/board\\_of\\_trustees/board\\_meetings](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/about_uws/leadership/board_of_trustees/board_meetings).

#### **5 FOR INFORMATION**

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No items.

#### **6 NEXT MEETING**

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The next Academic Senate meeting is arranged for **Friday 21 June 2019, Parramatta City campus 1PSQ, Level 9, Conference Room 2.**

Remaining meeting dates for 2019 are as follows:

- 16 August
- 18 October
- 6 December

Meetings commence at 9:30AM and conclude by 12:30PM.