

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



ACADEMIC SENATE

The meeting (**Meeting 24/05**) of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday, 11 October 2024** at, **9:30AM**, at, **Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02)**.

For apologies and enquiries, contact Georgia Vasiliadis by email at:
G.Vasiliadis@westernsydney.edu.au

AGENDA

1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

☆ 1.1 INTRODUCTION, WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES

The Chair of Academic Senate, Professor Robert Mailhammer will open the meeting and welcome members and attendees.

An Acknowledgement of Country will be provided by the Chair:

Western Sydney University acknowledges that today's meeting is being held on campuses located on the country of the Darug, Eora, Dharawal (also referred to as Tharawal), Wiradjuri peoples and is being held across the lands of many other different Indigenous Australian Nations. Western Sydney University acknowledge their ancestors who have been Traditional Owners of their country for thousands of years. Western Sydney University pays respect to their Elders past and present and thank them for their support of our work in their lands and beyond.

The Chair will welcome all members and attendees, with specific mention to:

Board of Trustees members attending this meeting:
Sonu, Postgraduate Student Representative

At the time of writing, apologies had been received from:
Associate Professor Emilee Gilbert, School of Psychology (Level D, E Representative)
Professor Deborah Hatcher, Dean, School of Nursing and Midwifery
Dr Peter Lewis, School of Nursing and Midwifery (Level A, B or C Representative)
Professor Graciela Metternicht, Dean, School of Science
Dr Nicolene Murdoch, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Global Partnerships
Professor Alpha Possamai-Inesedy, Pro Vice-Chancellor Student Success
Professor Deborah Sweeney, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Enterprise and Global

In Attendance:

Ms Belinda Atkinson, Mint Ellison
Ms Sophie Buck, Director, Office of Governance Services
Ms Shubha Devadasen, Associate Director, Office of Governance Services, Secretariat
Ms Julia Haremza, Director, Risk and Resilience

☆ 1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are requested to declare any interests they may have in relation to the items on this agenda or this Committee more broadly. Further information for members regarding declarations of interest is available on the [Conflict of Interest Policy](#) and the [Compliance Program Unit webpage](#).

Members will be reminded that they should also declare any interests that become apparent during this meeting.

☆ 1.3 STARRING OF ITEMS

Members will be asked which items they wish starred for discussion.

Apart from procedural items, the items below have been starred:

- Item 2.1 – School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences Review
- Item 3.1 – Chair’s Report
- Item 3.2 – Vice Chancellor’s Report
- Item 3.3 – Student Report
- Item 3.4 – Education
- Item 3.5 – Strategic Plan and Academic Success
- Item 3.6 – School Review
- Item 3.8 – Update from Schools and Institutes
- Item 3.10 – Academic Senate Policy Committee Update & Policy Review
- Item 4.2 – Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee
- Item 4.3 – Senate Education Committee

It is recommended:

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

☆ 1.4 ORDER OF BUSINESS

Members to advise if a re-arrangement of the order of business is required.

☆ 1.5 OTHER BUSINESS

Members will be invited to nominate any other relevant matters for discussion at this meeting or for a future meeting.

☆ 1.6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on Friday 9 August 2024, (meeting 24/04) are attached for confirmation.

For Confirmation.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on Friday 9 August 2024, (meeting 24/04) as an accurate record.

☆ 1.7 ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

To assist members with monitoring and controlling the work of the Committee, the current action sheet (incorporating items arising from previous meetings) is attached. Members are requested to report on any developments in relation to the items.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

☆ 2.1 SCHOOL OF COMPUTER, DATA AND MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES REVIEW

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.4, 5.3.6, 5.3.7
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3*

A briefing paper and the 2023 review of the School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences, consisting of a Panel Report and Action Plan is appended. Professor Bahman Javadi to speak to the recommendations.

For Discussion and Noting.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

☆ 3.1 CHAIR'S REPORT

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1, 6.3.2
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

A written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 9 August 2024 has been circulated. The Chair will provide an update on any recent developments and will answer any questions in relation to the report. The Chair's report to the 6 August 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees, is appended to the Chair's report.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ **3.2 VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1, 6.3.2
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6

The Vice-Chancellor's Report is appended. Distinguished Professor George Williams AO, Vice-Chancellor and President, will speak to this report.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ **3.3 STUDENT REPORT**

Higher Education Standard(s) :6.3.3
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 3

The Student Report is appended for noting. Mr Ashes Niroula, International Student Representative will speak to this item.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ **3.4 EDUCATION**

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1, 6.3.2.d-g
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 4 5

To provide the Academic Senate with an opportunity to discuss aspects of the University's strategic priorities in Education. Professor Maryanne Dever, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education to speak to the background paper.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ **3.5 STRATEGIC PLAN | ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.1
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 3, 4

Professor Robert Mailhammer to speak to the academic aspect of the Strategic Plan 2025 - 2030 Green Paper.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ **3.6 SCHOOL REVIEW**

Higher Education Standard(s): 5.3
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 3

Professor Kevin Dunn, Provost, to brief the Academic Senate on the launch of the School Review.

For Discussion and Noting.

3.7 TEQSA RE-REGISTRATION UPDATE

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.2
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1*

To provide Academic Senate with an update on the University's Re-Registration with the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA) and the changes TEQSA have made to the submission requirements.

For Noting.

☆ 3.8 UPDATE FROM SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTES

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a, b, c, 6.3.2d-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

A verbal update by the Dean of the School, or Directors of Institutes, on any current academic (research and teaching/learning) initiatives, issues and developments and planned developments or vision.

3.8.1 SCHOOL OF LAW

Update to be provided by Professor Catherine Renshaw, Dean, School of Law.

For Discussion and Noting.

3.9 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/HOT TOPICS

There are no Questions on Notice or Hot Topics for this meeting.

☆ 3.10 ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE & POLICY REVIEW

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-c, 6.3.2.d-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5*

3.10.1 ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.2.1, 6.2.1g, 6.3.1d, 6.3.2a,
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

The Academic Senate Policy Committee update report is appended for noting.

For noting.

3.11 ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE – REVISED MEMBERSHIP

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.2.1, 6.3.1a-c, 6.3.2.d-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

To seek Academic Senate's approval for the revised Academic Senate Policy Committee's (ASPC) terms of reference (membership).

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate approves the revised membership of Academic Senate Policy Committee.

3.12 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

*Higher Education Standard(s): 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 6.3.1b, c, 6.3.2b, d
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

The Committee is requested to consider and approve the following new scholarships, consider and approve the amendments to the following existing scholarships, and consider and approve the following new prizes.

New donor scholarship for approval

Julie Evans Indigenous Scholarship in Medicine
Matt Metri Memorial Scholarship
Julie Evans Refugee Scholarship

Amendments to Existing Scholarships

Harvey Norman Young Women's Leadership Academy Scholarships
Heather Peters Scholarship for Refugees
Heather Peters Scholarship – Parramatta High School
Podiatry Professionals Scholarship – Six months
The Matthew Hotchkis Sports Podiatry Scholarship – Six months
Crescent Foundation Leadership Scholarship (current name)

New Donor-Funded Prizes

Dr John Waters Memorial Prize
RedR Australia Humanitarian Training Award
Transurban Excellence Award

Amendments to Existing Prize

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate reviews and approves all proposed scholarships and prizes for immediate execution.

3.13 GRADUAND LISTS, UNIVERSITY MEDALS AND POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

*Higher Education Standard(s): 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3, 1.5.4, 6.2.1h
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

There are no students lists for noting or approval.

4. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Chairs of the Senate Standing Committees will provide brief updates of the key developments from the committee.

4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a, 6.3.1d, 6.3.2d
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 3*

The reports of the e-meetings of the Senate Executive Committee held on 28 August 2024 to 3 September 2024 (meeting e24/06), and on 9 – 13 September 2024 (meeting e24/07) are appended for noting by members and consisted of the following items:

Meeting e24/06 | 28 August 2024

Research Studies Committee | Senior Researcher - Academic

The Academic Senate Executive Committee endorsed the appointment of Associate Professor Liesel Spencer as Senior Research – Academic of the Research Studies Committee.

Meeting e24/07 | 9 September 2024

Minutes of Previous Minutes

The unconfirmed minutes of the scheduled meeting of the Senate Executive Committee held on 10 May 2024 (24/02) were confirmed as an accurate record.

August Conferral of University Awards

The Academic Senate Executive Committee:

- i. Approved the award of degrees with distinction to graduands listed Attachment A – Graduands for awards with distinction.*
- ii. Approved the award of the University Medal to the graduates listed in Attachment B – Graduates to be awarded the University Medal.*
- iii. Noted the conferral of awards to graduates with pass or honours coursework degrees as listed in Attachment C - Graduates with pass and honours coursework degrees approved within SAC delegation.*
- iv. Noted the conferral of awards to graduates with a research degree as listed in Attachment D - Graduates with research degrees approved within RSC delegation.*

Senate Education Committee | Deputy Chair

The Academic Senate Executive Committee endorsed the appointment of Associate Professor Ana Hol as Deputy Chair of Senate Education Committee.

For Noting.

☆ **4.2 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND CURRICULUM APPROVALS COMMITTEE**

Higher Education Standard(s): 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.2.1, 6.3.1a, c, , 6.3.2c, d, f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 2, 3

There are no reports of Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee (APCAC) meetings appended. Professor Brian Stout, Chair of APCAC, to provide a brief update.

For Noting.

☆ **4.3 SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-d, 6.3.2d-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3

The unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Education Committee held on 8 August 2024 (meeting 24/03) are appended for noting. Professor Maryanne Dever, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, to provide a brief update.

For Noting.

4.4 SENATE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-d, 6.3.2e-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5

The unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Assessment Committee held on 17 September 2024 (meeting 24/04) are appended for noting.

For Noting.

4.5 RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-, 6.3.2e-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 6

The unconfirmed minutes of the Research Committee meeting held on 17 July 2024 (Meeting 24/03) are appended for noting.

For Noting.

4.6 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-, 6.3.2e-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 6

The confirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee meetings held on 6 August 2024 (Meeting 24/08) and 26 August 2024 (Meeting 24/09) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee meeting held on 10 September 2024 (Meeting 24/10) are appended for noting by the Senate.

For Noting.

4.7 ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE

Higher Education Standard(s): 5.2.1, 6.3.1a-c, 6.3.2.d-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2

The unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Senate Policy Committee meetings held on 4 September 2024 (Meeting 24/02) are appended for noting by the Senate.

For Noting.

4.8 THIRD-PARTY PROVIDER COMMITTEE

Higher Education Standard(s): 5.4.2, 6.3.1a, 6.3.1d, 6.3.2d
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1,3

There are no Third-Party Provider Committee meeting minutes appended for noting.

4.9 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for 2 December 2024. 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

4.10 2023 ANNUAL REPORTS

The purpose of this item is for Senate to ensure that all Standing Committees of Academic Senate are carrying out their functions in accordance with their Terms of Reference.

4.10.1 Graduate Research School SAC

Higher Education Standard(s): 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.7, 6.2.1h
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3

For noting.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

If raised at the meeting.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Academic Senate Committee (24/05) will be 11 October 2024 at 9:30am at Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02).

The remaining meetings scheduled for 2024 is as follows:

- 24/05 - 11 October 2024
- 24/06 - 6 December 2024