

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



ACADEMIC SENATE

The next meeting (Meeting 21/04) of the Academic Senate of Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday 13 August 2021 at 9.30AM via Zoom only.**

The Zoom details for this meeting are:

<https://uws.zoom.us/j/85272708657>

Meeting ID: 852 7270 8657

Password: 717213

For apologies and enquiries, please contact Angela MacDonald by email at:

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AGENDA

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

☆ 1.1 INTRODUCTION, WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES

The Chair of Academic Senate, Professor Alphaia Possamai-Inesedy, will chair the meeting. The Chair will invite Professor Michelle Trudgett, Pro Vice-Chancellor Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education, Strategy and Consultation to open the meeting by acknowledging the Traditional Land Custodians.

The Chair will welcome all members and attendees. Welcome to the following presenters and member representations:

- Professor Phillip Dawson, Associate Director, Centre for Research in Assessment and Digital Learning, Deakin University – in attendance to speak to *Item 3.4 Academic Integrity and Contract Cheating*.
- Dr Andy Marks Dr Andy Marks, Chief Executive Officer of the NUW Alliance – in attendance to speak to *Item 3.5 NUW Alliance*.
- Dr Tim Griffin, Deputy Dean School of Psychology and Director Sydney City Campus – in attendance to speak to *Item 3.7.2 A Survey of Group Assessment Tasks*.

Welcome to the following observers:

- Professor Susan Page, Director of Indigenous Learning and Teaching.
- Mr Joseph Carrozzi, Board Member, Board of Trustees.
- Ms Naomi Hastings, Postgraduate Student Member, Board of Trustees.
- Ms Natalia Vukulova, Graduate Member, Board of Trustees.
- Dr Jen McPherson, Senior Lecturer Learning Futures.
- Ms Natasha Ferrer Vice President Undergraduate Member, SRC.

- Ms Anushka Kapoor Vice President Postgraduate Education Member, SRC.
- Ms Maret Brennan, Senior Governance Officer, Office of Governance Services.

Farewell to Senate Member Professor Eileen McLaughlin, Dean of School of Science since November 2019. Professor McLaughlin is leaving Western Sydney University in mid-August to take up the position of Executive Dean of the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health at the University of Wollongong.

Changes to Academic Senate student representation include; Ms Elif Sakiz, Postgraduate Student Member has resigned, Ms Khulan Khurelbaatar, International Student Member is on leave. Vacancies for student members will be filled when ballots open later this year for the 2022 commencing terms.

At the time of writing, apologies had been received from: Professor Simeon Simoff, Professor Kate Stevens, Ms Elif Sakiz, and Ms Khulan Khurelbaatar.

☆ 1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Members are reminded that they should also declare any interests that become apparent during a meeting of Academic Senate or one of its committees.

☆ 1.3 STARRING OF ITEMS

Senate members will be asked which items they wish starred for discussion.

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

- 3.1 Report from the Chair
- 3.2 Report from the Vice-Chancellor
- 3.3 Student Report
- 3.4 Academic Integrity and Contract Cheating
- 3.5 NUW Alliance
- 3.7.1 Lecture Recordings
- 3.7.2 A Survey of Group Assessment Tasks
- 3.8.2 Graduation Policy
- 3.8.3 Examinations Policy, Examinations Procedures, Deferred Exam Procedures
- 3.8.4 SMS Implementation Revised Policies
- 3.8.5 Policy Variations in Response to Covid-19 - Capping Placement Unit Attempts

It is recommended:

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**

There may be some re-arrangement of the order of business to enable some members and attendees to attend other meetings.

☆ 1.5 **OTHER BUSINESS**

Members are invited to nominate other relevant matters, noting that such items will normally be included on the agenda for a future meeting.

☆ 1.6 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

AS 21/04-1.6
Page 001

The unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Senate meeting held on Friday 18 June 2021 (Meeting 21/03) have been circulated.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on Friday 18 June 2021 (Meeting 21/03), as an accurate record.

☆ 1.7 **ACTION SHEET FROM LAST MEETING**

AS 21/04-1.7
Page 017

To assist members with monitoring the work of the Academic Senate, an action sheet from the previous meeting has been circulated.

2 BUSINESS ARISING

There is no business arising for consideration.

3 GENERAL BUSINESS

☆ 3.1 **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

AS 21/04-3.1
Page 019

A written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 18 June 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 9 June meeting of the Board of Trustees, is appended to the Chair's report.

For Discussion.

☆ 3.2 **REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

AS 21/04-3.2
Page 024

The Vice-Chancellor's Report is appended.

For Noting.

☆ 3.3 STUDENT REPORT

AS 21/04-3.3
HDR Report - Page 038
UG Report – Late Paper

A report compiled by the student representatives of Senate will be provided at each meeting of Senate. The HDR Student Report has been circulated, the Undergraduate Student Report will be provided as a late paper.

For Noting.

☆ 3.4 ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND CONTRACT CHEATING

Professor Phillip Dawson, Associate Director, Centre for Research in Assessment and Digital Learning, Deakin University will provide a presentation on academic integrity and contract cheating.

For Noting.

☆ 3.5 NUW ALLIANCE

Dr Andy Marks, Chief Executive Officer of the NUW Alliance will provide a presentation. The NUW Alliance is a strategic grouping of the University of Newcastle, UNSW Sydney, the University of Wollongong and Western Sydney University. The group is focused on achieving social, economic and collaborative benefit for our communities across Greater Sydney, NSW and further afield.

For Noting.

3.6 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions on Notice are a tool that academics from across the University can use to engage with Senate. Questions must be sent to the Chair and the Secretary at least two weeks prior to Senate and must fit within the scope of the [Terms of Reference](#) of Senate. All questions that fit this criterion will be answered, it is up to the discretion of the Chair if questions will be tabled at Senate.

3.7 HOT TOPICS

In response to the Senate Review Report recommendations, Senate members have the opportunity to submit a 'Hot Topic' for discussion prior to each meeting of Senate.

☆ 3.7.1 LECTURE RECORDINGS

The purpose of this item is to allow for Senate member discussion on lecture recordings. Professor Simon Bedford will introduce this item.

For Discussion.

☆ **3.7.2 A SURVEY OF GROUP ASSESSMENT TASKS** AS 21/04-3.7.2
Page 039

Following a prior Student Report submission to Senate, the attached paper is a related outcome to the Report. The purpose of this paper is to notify Senate Members of the review, survey and analysis work conducted on group assessment tasks. Professor Simon Bedford will introduce this item, Dr Tim Griffin, Deputy Dean School of Psychology and Director Sydney City Campus, will speak to the paper.

For Noting.

3.8 POLICY REVIEW

3.8.1 POLICY REVIEW UPDATE AS 21/04-3.8.1
Late Paper

The purpose of this item is to notify Senate of the proposed policies to be prioritised for 2021 for consideration and progress by the Academic Senate Policy Committee. The Update document will be provided as a late paper.

For Noting.

☆ **3.8.2 GRADUATION POLICY** AS 21/04-3.8.2
Late Paper

The purpose of this paper is to seek the approval of Senate for the revised *Graduation Policy*, which includes amendments relating to in absentia graduands and to address the equity of Student Misconduct sanctions.

It is recommended:

It is recommended that the Academic Senate approves the revised and Graduation Policy from the date of approval.

☆ **3.8.3 EXAMINATIONS POLICY, EXAMINATIONS PROCEDURES, DEFERRED EXAM PROCEDURES** AS 21/04-3.8.3
Late Paper

The purpose of this paper is to seek the approval of Senate for the revised *Examinations Policy, Examinations Procedures and Deferred Exam Procedures*, which include changes to reflect online exams and the new Student Management System (SMS).

It is recommended:

It is recommended that the Academic Senate approves the revised Examinations Policy, Examinations Procedures and Deferred Exam Procedures from the date of approval, noting that the documents will be published on 6 October 2021 to coincide with the launch of the new Student Management System.

☆ **3.8.4 SMS IMPLEMENTATION REVISED POLICIES AS 21/04-3.8.4**
Late Paper

The purpose of this paper is to seek the approval of Senate for the revised *Credit for Prior Learning Policy* (previously titled Advanced Standing Policy), *Program Transfer Policy* (previously titled Course Transfer Policy), which include amendments due to the new Student Management System (SMS), and the revised *Enrolment Policy*, which includes changes related to the new SMS, Home Campus Rule and pre/co-requisites.

It is recommended:

It is recommended that the Academic Senate approves the revised and retitled Credit for Prior Learning Policy, revised and retitled Program Transfer Policy and revised Enrolment Policy from the date of approval, noting that the documents will be published on 6 October 2021 to coincide with the launch of the new Student Management System.

☆ **3.8.5 POLICY VARIATIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 – CAPPING PLACEMENT UNIT ATTEMPTS AS 21/04-3.8.5**
Page 058

The purpose of this paper is to seek Senate's ratification on the *Policy Suspension or Variation Instrument*, affecting clause 30 of the *Progression and Unsatisfactory Academic Progress Policy*. The variation will incorporate capping placement units at three attempts including the attempt that results in a Withdrawal Without Academic Penalty.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate Executive Committee approves the amendment to the Policy Suspension or Variation Instrument, affecting the Progression and Unsatisfactory Academic Progress Policy, Clause 30.

3.9 POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

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

There are no posthumous awards for noting at this meeting.

3.10 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

3.10.1 Donor Funded Scholarships AS 21/04-3.10.1
Page 060

Academic Senate is requested to consider the proposal for two new donor funded scholarships, prepared by the Office of Advancement:

- FPA Women in Finance and Economics Scholarship – Masters
- FPA Women in Finance and Economics Scholarship – Graduate Diploma
- Australia Chinese Medical Association Charitable Trust Scholarship

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate approves the following proposed new Donor funded scholarships:

- *FPA Women in Finance and Economics Scholarship – Masters*
- *FPA Women in Finance and Economics Scholarship – Graduate Diploma*
- *Australia Chinese Medical Association Charitable Trust Scholarship*

3.11 AWARDS OF THE UNIVERSITY MEDAL

There are no University Medals for noting at this meeting.

3.12 CONFERRAL OF GRADUANDS

There are no awards conferred to graduands by the Chair of Academic Senate since the last meeting.

4 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

Items 4.1 – 4.9 provide an overview of the matters dealt with by Senate standing committees.

4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.1
Page 064

Senate Executive Committee conducted electronic meetings commencing on Monday 7 June (eMeeting 21/07), Tuesday 13 July 2021 (eMeeting 21/08), and Wednesday 21 July (eMeeting 21/09). The reports have been circulated.

For Noting.

4.2 RESEARCH COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.2
Page 070

The Research Committee met on Wednesday 30 June 2021, the minutes have been circulated.

For Noting.

4.3 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.3
Page 087

The Research Studies Committee met on Tuesday 15 June and Tuesday 13 July 2021. The de-identified minutes have been circulated.

For Noting.

4.4 SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.4
Page 106

Senate Education Committee met on Thursday 17 June 2021. The minutes have been circulated.

For Noting.

4.5 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND COURSES APPROVALS COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.5
Late paper

The Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee (APCAC) met on 6 July (meeting 21/07) and 3 August 2021 (meeting 21/08), and 6-9 August (eMeeting 21/03). The report will be provided as a late paper.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the report of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee meeting held on 6 July (meeting 21/07) and 3 August 2021 (meeting 21/08) and approves the recommendations contained therein.

4.6 SENATE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.6
Page 114

The Senate Assessment Committee met on Friday 4 June 2021 (meeting 21/03) and Tuesday 27 July (meeting 21/04). Minutes for 4 June have been circulated, minutes for 27 July Minutes will be provided to the next meeting of Senate.

For Noting.

4.7 THE COLLEGE ACADEMIC PATHWAY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.7
Page 144

The College Academic Pathway Program Committee met on 24 June (WSTC21/05). The minutes have been circulated.

For Noting.

4.8 ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.8
Page 151

The Academic Senate Policy Committee (ASPC) met on Wednesday 30 June 2021 (meeting 21/04). The minutes have been circulated.

For Noting.

4.9 THIRD PARTY PROVIDER COMMITTEE

AS 21/04-4.9

Page 161

The Third Party Provider Committee met on Tuesday 3 August (meeting 21/03). The minutes will be circulated as a late paper.

For Noting.

4.10 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for 4 August 2021. 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

5 FOR INFORMATION

No items.

6 NEXT MEETING

The next Academic Senate meeting is scheduled for Friday 15 October 2021. Details regarding location will be advised closer to the meeting date.

Remaining meeting dates for 2021:

- 15 October
- 10 December.

Meeting dates for 2022 are as follows:

- 25 February
- 15 April
- 17 June
- 12 August
- 14 October
- 9 December

Meetings commence at 9.30AM and conclude by 12.30PM.