

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



ACADEMIC SENATE

Meeting 23/02 of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University was held on Friday, 14 April 2023 between 9:30AM until 12:39PM, at Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02), and on Zoom.

Present:

ALDRICH-WRIGHT, Janice (Professor)
AMORA, Amit (Associate Professor)
ARNESS, David (Dr)
ATLANTIS, Evan (Dr)
BALDOCK, Clive (Professor)
BARRIE, Simon (Professor)
BEDFORD, Simon (Professor)
BERGER, Nathan (Dr)
CHIMORIYA, Ritesh (Dr)
CODY, Anna (Professor)
CRAWFORD, Evan (Dr)
DADICH, Ann (Associate Professor)
DUNN, Kevin (Professor)
FARRELLY, Debra (Ms)
GLEESON, Jess (Ms)
GYENGESI, Erika (Dr)
HOL, Ana (Associate Professor)
HUNT, Leanne (Ms)
KAGIOGLOU, Mike (Professor)
LIYANAPATHIRANA, Ranjith (Dr)
LIYANAPATHIRANA, Samanthika (Professor)
MAHMOOD, Amir (Professor)

MAILHAMMER, Robert (Professor)
MENSCH, Jennifer (Associate Professor)
METTERNICHT, Graciela (Professor)
MURDOCH, Nicolene (Dr)
PAGE, Susan (Professor)
PAPANICOLAOU, Alexie (Dr)
PERRY, Ben (Dr)
POLLOCK, Clare (Professor)
POSSAMAI, Adam (Professor)
POSSAMAI-INESEDY, Alpha (Professor)
POULOS, Margarite (Dr)
RODAS, Ana (Dr)
ROSSI, Tony (Professor)
SETHI, Vidushi (Ms)
SHAH, Payal (Ms)
SHARPE, Tiffany (Ms)
SIMOFF, Simeon (Professor)
SUCCARIE, Ayda (Dr)
SWEENEY, Deborah (Professor)
TAYLOR, Linda (Professor)
TRUDGETT, Michelle (Professor)
WILLIAMS, Anna (Professor)
ZHANG, Sarah (Professor)

Apologies:

CHANG, Dennis (Professor)
GLOVER, Barney AO (Professor)
HATCHER, Deborah (Professor)
HENNESSY, Annemarie (Distinguished Professor)
KOLT, Gregory (Professor)
MACKENZIE, Erin (Dr)
MCGUIRE, Matt (Professor)
MEADE, Tanya (Professor)

MERRETT, Neil (Professor)
MITRI, Anthony (Mr)
RENSHAW, Catherine (Professor)
SALISBURY, Fiona (Ms)
SIMONS, Michele (Professor)
STOUT, Brian (Professor)
SULLIVAN, Corrinne (Associate Professor)
ULLMAN, Jacqueline (Associate Professor)
WYBORN, Theresa (Dr)

Absent:

BHATTI, Maria (Dr)
BURRETT, Sammie (Ms)
MARKS, Andy (Professor)

O'CONNOR, Ebony (Ms)
SOHAILEE, Bayan (Mr)

In Attendance:

AGUILERA, Katie (*Manager, Academy, Scholarships and Partnership*) (10:45am-11:00am)

BUCK, Sophie (*Director, Office of Governance Services*)

DEVADASEN, Shubha (*Associate Director, Office of Governance Services*)

FILIPOVIC, Miroslav (*Professor, Chair of Professoriate Leadership Group*)

MAGUIRE, Jo (*Manager of Policy and Governance and Privacy Officer, Office of Governance Services*)

MCDONALD, Allyson (*Senior Governance Officer*)

CONFIRMED MINUTES

1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 INTRODUCTION, WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES

The Chair of Academic Senate, Professor Robert Mailhammer, formally opened the meeting at 9.30am by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land, and welcoming members and attendees.

The Chair welcomed all members and attendees, with a specific mention to:

The Chair welcomed Dr Ben Perry and Dr Nathan Berger, standing in for Dr Erin MacKenzie, and noted that Ms Katie Aguilera would be joining the meeting to speak to item 3.10.2. The Chair also thanked the previous Secretary, Joshua Roach, for his work in support of Academic Senate.

The Chair reminded members of the functions of Academic Senate under the Academic Governance Policy:

- a) monitoring academic standards, values and quality assurance.
- b) advising on the development of and performance against academic plans
- c) monitoring academic collaborations and partnerships;
- d) promoting and monitoring academic quality, standards and values of the University's academic activities;
- e) advising on the University's academic plans and academic risk management;
- f) advising the Board, and Vice-Chancellor and President, as appropriate;
- g) approving academic policy and approving related procedures;
- h) accrediting and approving programs and subjects;
- i) promoting the quality and development of research in the University.

The Chair mentioned any other items not on the agenda and relevant to the core business of Academic Senate may be discussion next meeting or at the end of this meeting if time allows.

1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

1.3 STARRING OF ITEMS

Members were asked which items they wish starred for discussion.

Apart from procedural items, the items below were starred:

- Item 3.1 – Chair’s Report
- Item 3.2 – Vice Chancellor’s Report
- Item 3.5 – Academic Integrity Strategy
- Item 3.6 – 2022 Survey Results of Senate and its Standing Committees
- Item 3.7 – Learning Guide Data
- Item 3.9 – Academic Senate Policy Committee Update and Policy Review
- Item 3.10 – Approval of Scholarships

It was resolved (AS 23/02:01):

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

The following changes were made to the order of business to address the following items requiring a decision first:

- Item 3.5 – Academic Integrity Strategy
- Item 3.9 – Academic Senate Policy Committee Update and Policy Review
- Item 3.10 – Approval of Scholarships

1.5 OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was nominated for this meeting.

1.6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The unconfirmed minutes of the scheduled meeting held on Friday, 23 February 2023, (meeting 23/01) were circulated for confirmation.

It was resolved (AS 23/02:02):

That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on Friday, 23 February 2023 (Meeting 23/01), as an accurate record.

1.7 ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

Action: 23/01:4.6 – MRes Scholarships Metrics

Update: *The MRes Scholarships Metrics have been trialled online with a smaller criteria list. A report will be provided at the next meeting of Senate.*

Status: *In progress*

Action: 21/03:3.7.1 – Credit for Prior Learning

Update: Pathways Working Group to present at the next meeting of Academic Senate. Ms Jess Gleeson, Director, Data Integrity, Quality and Operations to liaise with Professor Simon Barrie, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, to progress this item with the Chair with the Pathways Working Group.

Status: In progress

Action: 22/04:3.2 – Graduate Research School Review

Update: Updates on the GRS Review implementation will be delivered by Professor Clive Baldock as part of his Chair of the Research Studies Committee update, in Item 3.1.

Status: Ongoing

Action: 22/02:3.1 – SMS Update

Update: The Senate noted that this action item relates to ongoing monitoring of the SMS and that updates at every Senate Meeting are no longer necessary. The next update is scheduled for the Senate Meeting 16 June 2023. Future updates may be needed/will be decided with the conditions changing.

Status: Next update due on 16 June 2023.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There was no business arising from previous meeting.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 CHAIR'S REPORT

A written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 23 February 2023 was circulated for noting. The Chair, Professor Robert Mailhammer, and highlighted the following from the report:

Australian Universities Accord (Accord)

Prof. Mailhammer noted the importance of the Accord as an opportunity to provide input, and highlighted that a key focus of the Accord is to broaden access to universities.

Committee of Chairs of Academic Boards and Senates (Co-CABS)

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 4 May 2023 at Western Sydney University. Topics to be discussed include academic governance, artificial intelligence and TEQSA updates.

Microcredential Procedures

Prof. Mailhammer encouraged members to provide feedback on the draft *Microcredential Procedures*, noting the need to ensure a clear process to manage misconduct within microcredentials. The draft Procedures are expected to be tabled at Senate for approval at the June meeting.

The Chair invited the Chairs of the peak standing committees of Academic Senate to give a brief update on current activities and priorities for 2023.

Academic Program and Course Approval Committee (APCAC)

The Chair of the Committee, Professor Simon Barrie, on the second meeting of APCAC in 2023, where the role of the Deputy Chair of APCAC was discussed. It was

agreed that an Expression of Interest (EOI) for Deputy Chair of APCAC should be sent out by Chair of Academic Senate, with candidates requiring Director of Academic Program (DAP) experience.

Prof. Barrie noted that the implementation on the Curriculum Design and Approvals (CDA) Policy and Procedures was reviewed, noting that the Office of Education Quality and Partnerships has undertaken some work with Schools addressing challenges with implementation with respect to the level of subjects. The Committee will bring a recommendation on this matter to the next meeting of Senate.

Prof. Barrie also reported on the *Curriculum Portfolio Report*, which details the levels of activity in Schools and highlights programs and subjects that have had low numbers or no intake/enrolments in the last three to four years. In response to a comment noting that programs may not be offered due to constraints on programs and budgets, Prof. Barrie confirmed that decisions on program offerings will have academic oversight and carriage. More detail will be provided to Schools assisting them in their determinations about what programs and subjects to offer. Prof. Barrie also noted that the Committee is considering re-introducing Program Review Reports to assist decisions around the retirement of programs.

The Chair noted the Prof. Barrie's retirement at the end of 2023 and thanked him for his work.

New Action (23/02:3.1.1): Chair, Academic Senate to disseminate an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Deputy Chair of APCAC with relevant (e.g. Director, Academic Program (DAP)) experience and to report back at the next meeting of Senate.

Research Committee (RC)

The Chair of the Committee, Professor Deborah Sweeney, reported on the Research Committee, highlighting three matters, which may be brought to a future meeting of Senate:

- Open Access Publishing – the Library has been undertaking work on this, including consideration of a publishing guide. Prof. Sweeney suggested that Fiona Salisbury, Executive Director, Library Services, present on this topic at a future meeting of Senate.
- Engagement and Impact assessment – focus on this strategy will continue, as 'Impact' is vital to the University's mission, locally, regionally and globally. Prof. Sweeney suggested a presentation on the Impact Strategy for an upcoming meeting of Senate.
- Strategic Initiative Fund – An announcement will be made shortly regarding a new SRI with a focus on Bradfield, which will align with student and community needs and consider research areas that are cross-disciplinary.

Research Studies Committee (RSC)

The Chair of the Committee, Professor Clive Baldock, reported on the Research Studies Committee, noting the following items:

- A new Director, Graduate Research School has been appointed to replace the previous School Manager position, which will be announced soon.
- An Issues Paper has been released for consultation, with the expectation that an organisational change will be proposed after further consultation.
- Systems issues are being addressed, including investigation underway to improve data integration between systems.
- In relation to queries and processing times, it was noted that:
 - data from queries lodged through the WesternNow Platform has shown that 83% of enquiries could be answered with information that is already available

- processing times are impacted by response times from the Schools/Institutes, with data indicating that over 50% of matters that are raised with GRS from Schools and Institutes are found to be sitting with the Schools/Institutes
- system improvements, including the need to improve dashboards, will assist in better flagging the issues that are sitting with the Schools and Institutes
- GRS are engaging more causal staff to help with processing and following up matters awaiting action within the Schools/Institutes

It was noted that the systemic relation between GRS and Schools/Institutes needs to be clarified explicitly and that a reduction in the of number of touch points is needed. Members were encouraged to continue their support while work continues to improve the systems with GRS to address these issues.

Senate Education Committee (ED)

The Chair of the Committee, Professor Simon Bedford, reported on the Senate Education Committee, noting the following:

- The Committee is yet to have their first meeting of 2023, which is scheduled for 27 April 2023
- The Committee will be reviewing the new Show Cause information in the revised *Progression Policy*, which is intended to assist students appeal unsatisfactory progression outcomes before sanctions are applied
- The Learning and Teaching Technologies Advisory Group (LaTTe) has a new function informing the work of the new IT Governance Committee, which will strengthen the linkages between teaching and learning and the digital learning environment

Clarification was sought on whether the Show Cause work is being reviewed to include the research candidate perspective.

Senate Assessment Committee (AC)

The Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning Futures, Professor Simon Bedford, reported on the Assessment Committee (AC). He advised that AC has increased the frequency of meetings to manage the high workload. Recent work has included promoting the Assessment Guide to support the *Assessment Policy*. Members were encouraged to increase the visibility of the Assessment Guide to teaching staff.

Prof. Bedford also reported on the review of School Misconduct Reports undertaken by the Committee at the April meeting, noting the following emerging themes from these reports:

- spikes in misconduct allegations in certain subjects, noting that these cases required further analysis and benchmarking to determine if this is a single or going occurrence
- majority of cases were first time offenders
- 10-15% of cases were repeat offenders
- 25% allegations were dismissed
- two thirds of cases were resolved under *Student Misconduct - Inappropriate Behaviour Guidelines*

Resolving the remaining third of allegations under the *Student Misconduct Rule* takes considerable time. It was noted that further work is required to educate students on how to respond to academic misconduct allegations, as it has been reported that many cases could be resolved in the initial stages of the process if these students engaged in the process sooner.

Third Party Provider Committee (TPPC)

The Chair of the Committee, Dr Nicolene Murdoch, reported on the Third Party Provider Committee, noting the following:

- The Work Plan for 2023 has been finalised and is available for Senate to comment
- The Student Management System (SMS) team have been invited to the TPPC to provide input on a proposal and paper to allow involvement and access to TPP staff to the results module in the SMS
- The *Third Party Provider Policy* is currently under review. Dr Murdoch invited members to provide feedback and comments on the revised policy to her directly

In reference to the challenge of College students transitioning from Undergraduate Certificate students transitioning into the relevant Diploma programs noted in the College Academic Pathway Program Committee Minutes under Item 4.9, It was suggested it would be appropriate for the College Academic Pathway Program Committee to report directly to Academic Senate or the Third Party Provider Committee. The Chair recommended that this matter be taken investigated to determine the most appropriate reporting line.

New Action (23/02:3.1.5): Chair, Academic Senate and Chair, Third Party Provider Committee to investigate to determine if the College Academic Pathway Program Committee should report to the Third Party Provider Committee or directly to Academic Senate.

3.2 VICE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The Vice-Chancellor's report was circulated to the Senate for noting.

The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Clare Pollock, spoke to this item in the Vice-Chancellor's absence and highlighted the following from the report:

Australian Universities Accord (Accord)

Prof. Pollock thanked colleagues for their input on the Australian Universities Accord Panel discussion paper, noting that 23 written submissions were received and that, following consultation with the University community, a Western Sydney University, a response to the discussion paper has been developed for submission containing 33 recommendations. Once finalised, this will be a public document and will be made available to staff.

Prof. Pollock noted that there have been extensive discussions with the Board of Trustees, noting the following key elements:

- Strong statement about the Western Sydney region
- Our role in serving the Western Sydney region - education and research needs and reaching beyond the region
- International focus, which is a great strength of Australia
- Clear statement around equity and changes around funding – Government to consider how to support students directly via arrangements around Austudy and how students might support themselves
- Strong submission on microcredentials
- Lift the investment in Research and Development in Australia to at least OECD levels, highlighting that this is not a cost, but an investment

The Australian Universities Accord Panel has received 3000 submissions, which will all be considered. All submissions from sector groupings will be 'notable submissions' and will be read by every panel member. The Australian Universities

Accord Panel interim report will be released in June. It is expected to be a significant and provocative paper to generate discussion.

In response to a question by a Senate member regarding public engagement, it was noted that the Accord are undertaking public consultation through representative groups.

Indigenous Futures Decadal Strategy 2023 – 2032

It was noted that the Indigenous Futures Decadal Strategy was circulated to members, noting that Western Sydney University is the only university in Australia to have a short-term and long-term strategy. It was noted that the Decadal Strategy has includes ambitious goals and will be launched at Kingswood in May.

On behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Pollock thanked the Professor Simon Barrie, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, for his work and contribution to the University.

3.3 STUDENT REPORTS

There were no student reports for this meeting.

The Chair pointed out that student members of Senate have begun work on several student matters and are expecting to present relevant papers in upcoming meetings.

3.4 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/HOT TOPICS

The Chair drew attention to these agenda items as opportunities for Members, as well as other staff within the University, to discuss topics in the Senate.

There were no Questions on Notice/Hot Topics for this meeting.

3.5 ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STRATEGY

Professor Simon Bedford, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning Futures provided an update on the Academic Integrity Strategy (the Strategy), noting that the Strategy was provided to Executive Committee and the Vice-Chancellor's Advisory Group in 2022, progressed to Senate Education Committee and was endorsed at Senate Assessment Committee in October 2022 as part of the academic governance process.

The Strategy addresses requirements set by the Tertiary Education Qualification Standards Authority (TEQSA) and considers complementary academic approaches and references a partnership approach to learning.

Academic Integrity is an active and changeable area, which requires ongoing monitoring to respond to new risks, such as generative AI. Prof. Bedford noted the importance of educating and training staff, students and partners and ensuring the Strategy is fit for purpose and noted that the priorities included in the current version of the Strategy need some minor updates.

Members discussed the process of communication and engagement with Deputy Deans and Schools, noting the importance of ensuring mechanisms to engage and connect with frontline teaching staff, with the suggestion that a webinar series could be effective.

Clarification was sought on the inclusion of moderation between examiners, and it was noted that the School of Health Sciences has developed a guideline on assessment moderation, which will be provided to Prof. Bedford to ensure the document is aligned with other related work being undertaken by the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning Futures and the Senate Assessment Committee.

Further discussions amongst the Senate noted that the Strategy does not capture academic integrity matters related to Graduate Research as it focuses primarily on learning and teaching. It was noted that Research academic integrity is covered in the *Research Code of Practice*, as supported by the Higher Education Standard 5.2, which separates “academic” from “research”. This document is currently being revised and once approved by Research Committee and will be provided to Senate. It was agreed that a separate Research ‘Academic Integrity’ framework should be developed in consultation with the Office of Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning Futures.

The Chair commended Prof. Bedford for the work on the Strategy and recommended it be approved with the following three amendments:

1. Update the timeline
2. Update the content of the strategy regarding new developments like Artificial Intelligence, engagement procedures and socialisation with staff
3. Clarify that the scope of the Strategy is confined to learning and teaching and does not cover research

New Action (23/02:3.5): Professor Simon Bedford to report on the progress of the Academic Integrity Strategy at the next meeting of Academic Senate.

It was resolved (AS 23/02:03):

That the Academic Senate approves the Academic Integrity Strategy, with the three following amendments:

1. *Updates to the timeline*
2. *Updates in content regarding recent developments in the academic space (e.g. AI) and socialisation with staff*
3. *Clearly define the scope of the Strategy as “academic” and is confined to learning and teaching, excluding “research”.*

3.6 2022 SURVEY RESULTS OF SENATE AND ITS STANDING COMMITTEES

The results of the survey on Academic Senate and its Standing Committees, conducted from 23 November - 16 December 2022 were circulated for discussion.

Ms. Sophie Buck provided an overview of the survey results, noting the following and inviting feedback from the members:

- This is the second time the survey has been undertaken, with the initial instance occurring at the end of 2020
- The themes from the comments have been summarized, as the preliminary results were provided to Executive Committee, with agreement that the qualitative comments would not be circulated to Academic Senate due to potential issues maintaining anonymity

Members noted that the response rate is lower compared to the previous survey and that work is needed to increase the response rate for future surveys. The Chair invited members to send through any observations to Ms Buck Sophie, with updates to be provided at the next meeting of Senate.

New Action (23/02:3.6): Chairs of Standing Committees to update Senate at the next meeting regarding their response to the survey results and possible actions and outcomes.

3.7 LEARNING GUIDE DATA

At the December 2022 meeting of the Senate, the issue of Learning Guides being distributed to students after the commencement of the semester was raised.

Ms. Debra Farrelly, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Student & University Planning, presented the findings on Learning Guide data to Senate, noting the following:

- The rate of Learning Guides delivered on time has increased significantly
- 94% of Learning Guides were delivered by the due date
- The Learning Guide for 56 subjects was not available at that date – further inquiries into these are ongoing
- There was an improvement in all Schools
- Some schools delivered all 100% of Learning Guides on time
- The process for developing and updating Learning Guides starts very early, for example, production for Autumn Learning Guides starts in Quarter 3
- The system allowed staff to track via a dashboard the number of Learning Guides required and how their School was progressing

Ms. Farrelly noted the importance of identifying the processes that assisted in improving the rate of on-time delivery of Learning Guides for Autumn Term, including improved data and reporting visualization for Schools, with a view to ensuring these practices because ‘business as usual’.

Members discussed ways to simplify the process for developing Learning Guides to reduce amount of work involved and assist Schools in meeting their targets on time, for example, removing extraneous information and the need to review and update information that is not out of date. It was noted the responsibility for managing the review and update process may need to be reviewed to address the high volume of work currently undertaken at a high level in the Schools.

The Chair noted that the next piece of work is to review the content and quality of Learning Guides to ensure they contain the appropriate information for students, and proposed that a small group, reporting to Senate Education Committee, be formed to investigate this. It was agreed that the group should contain members of Senate Education Committee; Senior Manager, Curriculum Data Quality, Simon Potts; one elected member of Senate for each cluster; a student from the following cohorts Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Indigenous/Disability.

This is to be investigated in connection with the review of the *Curriculum Publication Procedures*, which is due in 2023. The group is to make recommendations through Senate Education Committee, followed by Academic Senate Policy Committee. It was suggested that the group could be Chaired by Dr Ana Rodas (Deputy Chair, SEC). Professor Simon Bedford (Chair, Senate Education Committee) to establish the working group and provide details at the next meeting of Senate.

New Action (23/02:3.7.1): Professor Simon Bedford to establish a working group operating under Senate Education Committee to investigate what content should be included in a Learning Guide and report back at the next meeting of Senate.

New Action (23/02:3.7.2): Ms Debra Farrelly to liaise with the Deans and Deputy Dean for feedback on the three most effective actions/practices their Schools undertook to finalise the Learning Guides by the due date. Ms Farrelly to report back on this at the next meeting of Senate.

New Action (23/02:3.7.3): Ms. Debra Farrelly to bring this paper to Senate Education Committee.

3.8 ACADEMIC SENATE WORK PLAN

The Academic Senate 2023 Work Plan was circulated to the Senate for noting.

3.9 ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE & POLICY REVIEW

3.9.1 ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Academic Senate Policy Committee Update report was circulated to the Senate, and introduced by Professor Clare Pollock, who advised that work is ongoing to streamline the approval process for policies and procedures and invited any questions or comments.

3.9.2 STUDENT MISCONDUCT RULE

The proposed changes in the revised version of the *Student Misconduct Rule (the Rule)* were circulated to the Senate in the meeting papers.

Ms Sophie Buck reported on the changes, highlighting that the review of the Rule was undertaken at the request of the Vice-Chancellor to expand the information on a trauma informed approach in regards to sexual assault/harassment issues. Currently, this information is detailed in the *Student Misconduct Rule – Inappropriate Behaviour Guidelines*.

Additional minor amendments have also been incorporated, including an amendment to allow an Authorised Officer to address low level offences in an educative way where the matter has progressed to the hearing stage due to a student not engaging with the process in the initial stages.

In response to a question from a Member, Ms Buck advised that 'Rule' has the equivalency of By-Law in State legislation and is the highest document in the hierarchy of University documents under University Act.

The Committee discussed whether students who have a proven case of misconduct should be eligible for a Dean's Medal. It was noted that the issue of behavioural vs. academic misconduct should be interrogated further, and legal advice sought. It was agreed that no changes currently required to the Rule and that further investigation was required, with a view to the outcome of the consultation informing possible revisions to the *Graduation Policy*. It was noted that feedback on this matter should be sought from students.

It was resolved (AS 23/02:04):

That Academic Senate endorses the revised Student Misconduct Rule, noting the issue raised regarding academic verses behavioural misconduct, and recommends to the Board of Trustees for approval.

3.10 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

3.10.1 AMENDMENTS TO CURRENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Committee was requested to consider and approve the amendments to the *Vice-Chancellor's Academic Excellence International Student Scholarship*, as noted in the appended paper.

Professor Linda Taylor provided a high-level overview on the scholarship, noting that it has been very successful in attracting high quality students. It has been decided in 2023 to reduce number of scholarships offered from 80 to 40 in view of driving outcomes and managing the cost of student acquisition.

It was resolved (AS 23/02:05):

That the Academic Senate approves the following proposed amendments to the Vice-Chancellor's Academic Excellence International Student Scholarship.

3.10.2 NEW DONOR-FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS

The Senate was requested to approve the following new scholarships and amendments to current scholarships, as noted in the appended paper and introduced by Katie Aguilera.

It was resolved (AS 23/02:06):

That the Academic Senate approves the following proposed new donor-funded scholarships:

- Enza Zaden Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping
- Dialysis Australia Clinical Placement Scholarships in Nursing
- Dialysis Australia Scholarships in Nursing
- Two Blues Charter Hall Scholarship

And that the Academic Senate approves the amendment to residency statuses eligible for domestic scholarships

And that the Academic Senate approves the amendments to the following current scholarships:

- Costa Group Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping
- Perfection Fresh Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping
- Protected Cropping Australia Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping
- AIS Greenworks Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping
- Lynch Group Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Horticulture
- Flavorite Hydroponic Tomatoes Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping
- Enid Helen Hort and Family Scholarship
- Hawkesbury Foundation George Bennett Memorial Food Scholarship
- Western Sydney Wanderers & BMD Group Indigenous Scholarship

3.11 APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES TERMS OF REFERENCE CHANGES

There were no Terms of Reference changes for approval.

3.12 POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

There were no posthumous awards for noting.

4. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Reports from the below Senate Executive meetings were circulated for noting by members:

- Meeting 23/01 consisting of the following items:
 - Endorsement of Dr Ana Rodas as Deputy Chair of the Senate Education Committee.
 - 2022 Survey Results for Senate and its standing committees.
 - Senates 2023 priorities.

4.2 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND CURRICULUM APPROVALS COMMITTEE

The Report of the meeting of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee (APCAC) held on 29 March 2023 (meeting 23/02) was circulated for approval by the Senate.

It was resolved (AS 23/02:07):

That Academic Senate notes the report of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee meeting held on 29 March 2023 (meeting 23/02) and approves the recommendations contained therein.

4.3 SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

There have been no new meetings of the Senate Education Committee since the last meeting of the Academic Senate.

4.4 SENATE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

The minutes from the meetings of the Senate Assessment Committee held on 21 February 2023 and 11 April 2023 were not available for distribution and will be circulated at the next meeting of Senate.

4.5 RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Research Committee met on 2 February 2023 (meeting 23/01). The unconfirmed minutes were circulated for noting.

4.6 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE

4.6.1 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE 23 01 – 7 FEBRUARY 2023

The Research Studies Committee (RSC) met 7 February 2023 (meeting 23/01). The confirmed minutes were circulated for noting by the Senate.

4.6.2 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE 23 02 – 7 MARCH 2023

The RSC met on 7 March 2023 (meeting 23/02). The unconfirmed minutes were circulated for noting.

4.7 ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE

The Academic Senate Policy Committee (ASPC) met on 1 March 2023 (meeting 23/01). The unconfirmed minutes were circulated for noting.

4.8 THIRD PARTY PROVIDER COMMITTEE

The Third-Party Provider Committee (TPPC) met on 1 February 2023 (Meeting 23/01). The unconfirmed minutes were circulated for noting.

4.9 THE COLLEGE ACADEMIC PATHWAY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The following confirmed minutes of the meetings of the College Academic Pathway Program Committee were circulated for noting by the Senate:

- Confirmed minutes of e-meeting 23/01 held on 9 February 2023

4.10 2022 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.

| Item | Committee |
|-------------|---|
| 4.10.1 | School of Medicine SAC |
| 4.10.2 | School of Social Sciences SAC |
| 4.10.3 | School of Law SAC |
| 4.10.4 | School of Humanities and Communication Arts SAC |
| 4.10.5 | Graduate Research School SAC |
| 4.10.6 | Research Studies Committee |

4.11 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A link to the summaries and minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings were circulated to Senate in the appended papers. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees scheduled for 13 June 2023.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised at the meeting.

The Chair noted the work of Professor Mike Kagioglou and thanked him for his contributions to Senate.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Academic Senate Committee will be on 16 June 2023 at 9:30am at Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02).

The remaining meetings scheduled for 2023 are as follows:

- 23/03 – 16 June 2023
- 23/04 – 11 August 2023
- 23/05 – 13 October 2023
- 23/06 – 8 December 2023

The meeting formally closed at 12:39pm.