

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

The following statements have been provided by the candidates to be made available to voters. The order of presentation was determined by lot.

Jo Maguire
Returning Officer
15 March 2011

David TRAUTSCH



In 2009, I was nominated to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA). RYLA was a series of intense leadership-training programs for young people who the Rotary Club believes have the capacity to become leaders of positive change within their communities. This experience was invaluable and is one reason I believe I can contribute to the Board of Trustees.

As a non-Muslim who actively engages with Student Islamic Association I am also able to appreciate diversity and have an excellent understanding of issues affecting young people from a wide range of cultural backgrounds and affiliations. This willingness to engage is another way I believe I will be able to contribute to Board of Trustees.

More personally, as a young man who grew up in South-West Sydney I have a deep appreciation for UWS and its commitment to the Greater Western Sydney region, its academics, its staff and its students. UWS has given me the opportunity to earn a degree. I am the first among my family to do so and in being fully aware of how much this will assist me later in life, I am eager for the opportunity to give something back to the University. As a member of the Board of Trustees, I believe I can do this. This is because I am committed to seeing UWS continue to grow as an institution. I believe UWS is a rising star. And I am eager to be a part of that rise to prominence. Having studied at both the undergraduate and post-graduate level I am confident my perspective will be of value when the Board of Trustees is required to consider key issues affecting the University and its students.

Alison ROTHWELL



I commenced my PhD in July, after working in private industry since completing university. This prior role was as Compliance Manager (Aus/NZ) for a multinational medical company. This high level governance role was responsible for ensuring the right policies and Key Performance Indicators were implemented, and for fixing deficient systems.

I left this role last year to undertake my PhD because I feel strongly about leaving a positive legacy to the wider community. And so, I hope this PhD will deliver outcomes that enhance food security and resilience of our cities into the future. With over 2 years remaining on this PhD, I will certainly be able to fulfil the 2 year Board term.

My input as a postgraduate is self-evident. Additionally I believe my prior experience will be beneficial for all students. I believe I can make valuable, ethical and well-considered contributions to the Board's key deliverables, including:

- Student education;
- Policies;
- Strategic plans;
- Performance Monitoring; and
- Representation of the University.

As a results driven person I believe I would be a strong advocate for students and for UWS. The multiple benefits that UWS brings to our communities, and working to ensure that UWS maintains its international standing, will be an advantage not only for our credentials but for future generations. I grew up here, I live here, and therefore feel strongly about ensuring that this University remains a place of good learning and opportunity for students and academic staff. I hope that you will support me to become elected to the Board, and if so, I will certainly endeavour to be a first-class Postgraduate Student Board Member.



David LENTON

David is a third year PhD student and has been involved in student representation at UWS since early 2005. This involvement has included holding various positions on the Board of Directors of UWSSA, being the Postgraduate Vice-President of The Hive, holding the position of Postgraduate representative on the Academic Senate for the College of Arts and serving one term as the Postgraduate representative on the Board of Trustees. He is also a proud and active member of the UWS Ally Network.

His main goals throughout these years has been to make sure that the voice of students is being heard, that their needs are being met and that UWS is a safe, equitable and enjoyable environment for all of its students; and these will continue to be his main focus if he is re-elected as the Postgraduate representative on the Board of Trustees.

Craig GRIFFITHS



Craig Griffiths is a technology consultant with over ten years experience designing, implementing and supporting communication and technology solutions. During this time he has gained valuable experience working with various organisations across the hospitality, manufacturing, information technology & telecommunications, finance, insurance and energy sectors.

Craig has previously completed a Bachelor of Business & Commerce degree at UWS and is currently enrolled as an MBA student with the Sydney Graduate School of Management. He has lived in the Parramatta area since 2000, and when he is not studying or working he is kept busy by his two young daughters.

Craig is passionate about education, and believes that tertiary education should be within the reach of every person. He has also studied at many other educational facilities in the past and believes that he is well equipped to add value to UWS as a member on the Board of Trustees.

Linda AYACHE

At a young age, the spectacles I chose to view the world with, was that of education. At UWS, my lenses are focused on the delivery and quality of education to all students.

During my undergraduate and postgraduate studies at UWS, I have gained a well-rounded understanding of policy and procedure at UWS in both practice and theory. Working for the UWS *Learning Skills Unit* from 2006-2008, I was involved in a pilot program funded by UWS, as an instructor helping new students with E-learning as well as note-taking duties. In 2008, I was invited to attend a *UWS Student Forum* regarding the proposed structural changes. I voiced strong opinions about decisions, for example, I suggested that 'student centers not to be closed as they remain an integral point of communication between students and the University'. I am trained by the DET as an "Employment, Education and Training" officer providing professional mentoring services. I am able to implement many strategies to liaise between the agencies at UWS: The Board of Trustees, Academics and Students. I am effective at communicating across cultures to build understanding at and implement strategies to transform conflict in UWS.

Throughout my time at UWS, I have observed and engaged in the structural, social and physical changes across the campuses. The key priorities listed by the Board of Trustees for 2011 are of great significance to my fellow students and me; with a strong focal point on 'learning and teaching strategies for growth scenarios.' I am seeking this opportunity to voice practical ideas on proposed plans such as the improvement of 'academic standards and ICT enabled learning.' As a current Postgraduate student I hope to offer a refreshed insight to the Board of Trustees which incorporates a 'continuing focus on quality and return from postgraduate programs'.

James OLIVER

Currently, I am a confirmed PhD Candidate with the School of Natural Sciences at the University of Western Sydney starting my second year. I am situated primarily on the Hawkesbury campus where I completed both my Bachelor of Science (Gene Science) as well as my Bachelor of Science (Honours) Class 1 and was placed on the Deans Merit list in 2009.

I am involved with the Academic Senate serving as the elected Higher Degree Representative of the UWS Senate Committee for Research. I continually endeavour to remain proactive in the school by taking up laboratory demonstration and tutor positions. I have previously volunteered my time at university functions such as open days, 'O' week, and expeditions at the Hawkesbury Show. I am the Hawkesbury campus representative of the Science Society 'UWS Lab Rats' and through them have ran and participated in events to enhance campus life.

I have participated in a number of work experience programs with companies such as Diageo Australia and Varian Medical. Previously I was involved in the hospitality industry as a Restaurant Manager at a highly successful restaurant and, whilst there, completed a certificate IV in Hospitality Supervision. As a Higher Degree Research Candidate I wish to find new ways in which to support the University of Western Sydney and contribute to making it an institution of knowledge and equality.