

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



ACADEMIC SENATE

The next meeting (Meeting 18/01) of the Academic Senate of Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday 23 February 2018 at 9:30am** in the **Board Room, Ground Floor, Building AD, Werrington North campus.**

For apologies and enquiries, please contact Angela MacDonald on (02) 9678 7894 or email a.macdonald@westernsydney.edu.au

AGENDA

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

☆1.1 INTRODUCTION, WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES

The Chair of Academic Senate, Associate Professor Alpha Possamai-Inesedy, will chair the meeting. The Chair will welcome all members with the following in particular:

- Elected members of Academic Senate who will not be serving in 2018 (not yet acknowledged as a departing member):
 - Dr Terri Mylett
 - Professor Carol Reid

At the time of writing, apologies had been received from Professor Barney Glover, Professor Michele Simons, Professor Kevin Dunn, Professor Annemarie Hennessy and Professor James Arvanitakis.

☆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 [Leadership and Governance 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 Consultation on the Strategic Plan and Academic Structure
- 3.5 Research
- 3.6 Senate Executive Committee Membership
- 3.7.2 Academic Governance Policy

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 travel to 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

AS18/01-1.6
Page 001

Revised unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Senate meeting held on 8 December 2017 are appended. The Sports Scholarship approved at the 8 December meeting, was missing a resolution number in the minutes circulated on 20 December. This revision has been incorporated in the minutes appended.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on 8 December, as an accurate record.

☆1.7 ACTION SHEET FROM LAST MEETING

AS18/01-1.7
Page 019

To assist members with monitoring the work of the Academic Senate, an action sheet from previous meetings is provided.

2 BUSINESS ARISING

Items of business arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda are included in this section for noting.

2.1 ACADEMIC SENATE ELECTIONS

AS18/01-2.1

Page 020

In accordance with the *Elections Policy* and the *Academic Governance Policy*, a call for nominations was held to fill the School Academic Staff positions and one Research Institute position on Academic Senate. A third round of nominations to fill the member position representing the School of Education (Level D/E) will soon commence, the Deputy Chair position will go to election with a result available after 27 February. The current results of the elections are appended.

The term of office for newly elected members will be from 1 January 2018 and ending 31 December 2019.

For information

2.2 ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS 2017

AS18/01-2.2

Page 021

A report of Academic Promotions in 2017 is appended. This report is provided in accordance with the Western Sydney University *Academic Promotion Procedure*: <https://policies.westernsydney.edu.au/document/view.current.php?id=301>

For consideration

3 GENERAL BUSINESS

☆3.1 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

AS18/01-3.1

Page 028

A written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 8 December is appended. The Chair will provide an update on any recent developments and will answer any questions in relation to the reports, if requested.

The Chair's report to the 21 February meeting of the Board of Trustees will be provided as a **late paper**.

☆3.2 REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

AS18/01-3.2

Page 030

The Vice-Chancellor's Report is appended.

☆3.3 CONSULTATION ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN AND ACADEMIC STRUCTURE

AS18/01-3.3

Page 040

Professor Sharon Bell will provide an update on changes that have been generated through the consultation processes to date, and incorporated in the Draft 2018-2020 Strategic Plan as appended.

For discussion

3.4 SENATE WORK PLAN

[Securing Success: 6.5 Promote inclusive and participatory decision-making; 6.7 Foster a strong culture and track record of successful renewal and innovation, achieved through the determination, creativity and hard work of all staff; 6.16 Aspire to the highest standards of university governance and accountability]

3.4.1 Senate Work Plan

AS18/01-3.4.1

Page 064

The Work Plan has been updated detailing items delayed by staff vacancies and Shared Services changes, and to reflect the Review of Assessment Final Report recommendations. The latest Senate Work Plan is appended.

For information

☆3.5 RESEARCH

3.5.1 Research Impact and Engagement

AS18/01-3.5.1

Page 073

An update will be provided on the 2018 Engagement and Impact Assessment: Selection of Impact Case Studies and Next Steps paper.

For discussion

3.5.2 Draft Research Plan 2018-2020

AS18/01-3.5.2

Late paper

An updated draft *Research Plan 2018-2020* is appended, following input from the Schools and University Research Institutes, and discussion by the Research Committee.

For information

☆3.6 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Academic Senate Executive Committee includes two members, appointed by the Chair of Academic Senate, to achieve gender balance and/or appropriate expertise.

The Chair will address elected members of Senate proposing an informal expression of interest for the two available positions. If suitable interest is received, the Chair may appoint these members to the Senate Executive Committee.

For information and comment

3.7 ACADEMIC POLICY REVIEW

3.7.1 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 18 October 2017.

Policy	Status
<i>Course Design Policy</i>	A Working Party has been established to work with the 21 st Century Curriculum Project Implementation Advisory Group.
<i>Disruption to Studies Policy (renamed from Special Consideration Policy)</i>	An implementation plan is under development noting the influence of the E-Form Project on progressing this new policy. The revised timeline for the e-Forms Project will be reviewed at the 14 February meeting of APAG.
<i>Lecture Recording Policy Review</i>	A proposed <i>Multimedia Production Policy</i> is being progressed by LaTTe with a view to the draft policy being discussed at the May meeting of APAG.
<i>Progression and Unsatisfactory Academic Progress</i>	A revised <i>Progression Policy</i> was endorsed at the 7 March 2017 meeting of Education Committee, recognising that an extensive implementation plan is required. The new policy will be provided to a University Executive Committee meeting in March regarding resourcing implications and will be provided for consideration of Senate when a detailed implementation plan has been developed.
<i>Student Placement Policy</i>	Amendments by the WHS unit to the <i>Student Placement Policy</i> with the introduction of checklists were endorsed by the University Executive Committee and Education Committee at the 7 November 2017 meeting. An implementation plan has been developed noting that the allocation of staff in this area have not yet been completed under the Shared Services Project. This revised policy will be provided to the April meeting of Academic Senate for consideration.

The Academic Policy Advisory Group has proposed the following additional academic policies for review in 2018:

- *Graduations Policy* – regarding University Medal Provisions
- *Graduate Attributes*
- *Postgraduate Coursework Policy*
- *Structure and Nomenclature of Bachelor Awards Policy*
- *Associate Degree Policy*

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).

For information

The purpose of this paper is to seek Academic Senate's endorsement of changes to the Academic Governance Policy to align the membership of Academic Senate to the changes in the University executive staffing arrangements in 2018. Academic Senate's approval is also sought for some corresponding amendments to the membership of some Senate standing committees. Ms Sophie Buck, Director of Governance Services will introduce the paper.

For consideration, recommendation and decision

It is recommended:

"That Academic Senate considers and endorses the proposed amendments to the membership of Senate in the Academic Governance Policy, and recommends it to the Board of Trustees for approval."

It is recommended:

"That Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the membership of the listed Standing Committees of Senate."

3.8 AWARDS OF THE UNIVERSITY MEDAL AND POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

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 meeting on 7 February 2018, the School of Science and Health School Academic Committee approved a posthumous award to Mr Simon Wang (17966841).

The Physiotherapy Unit would like to recognise the achievements of former student, Mr Simon Wang (17966841) with a posthumous award – Bachelor of Health Science/Master of Physiotherapy. Mr Wang passed away in November 2017, and was to conclude his physiotherapy degree at the end of 2017. During his illness Mr Wang has continued to study as much as he has been able to, and has remained dedicated to the completion of his degree despite his illness and all the challenges associated with this. The approval of this posthumous award will allow him to graduate in April 2018 alongside his graduating cohort of 2017.

There were no objections received from the School Academic Committee members. It was noted that this should remain confidential as the School is yet to speak to the student's family.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the award of the Bachelor of Health Science/Master of Physiotherapy posthumously to Mr Simon Wang SID 17966841, under the Posthumous Awards and Aegrotat Grades Policy.

3.9 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

3.9.1 University Donor Funded Scholarships

Academic Senate is requested to consider the following proposal for a University Donor Funded Scholarship, prepared by the Office of Advancement and Alumni:

FDC Scholarship Empowering Women in Construction

This new undergraduate scholarship is intended for students who are commencing study or currently enrolled in any year of any course within the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics. Applicants must be female.

The recipient is expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress by passing all subject attempts and maintaining a Pass average (GPA 4.0 or greater) over the academic year (January to December) for the duration of the scholarship.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate approves the following proposed University Donor Funded Scholarship:

- *FDC Scholarship Empowering Women in Construction*

3.9.2 University Funded Scholarships

AS18/01-3.9.2

Page 089

Academic Senate is requested to consider the following variation proposal for University Funded Scholarships, prepared by Pathways and Programs, Office of Marketing and Communication:

PATHE Scholarship

Western Sydney University processes a number of scholarships for domestic undergraduates who have benefitted from involvement in the University's engagement programs. The Fast Forward Academic Excellence Scholarship supporting high achieving students who participated in the Fast Forward Program, is one such scholarship. Following the success of this scholarship, it's recommended that a similar scholarship be established for the Pasifika Achievement to Higher Education Program (PATHE) Program, to be funded through the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP).

Western Sydney University's PATHE Program, established in 2012, strives to encourage further education and training in Pacific communities through the delivery of student support, outreach activities and innovative projects. It's recommended that a PATHE Scholarship be created to support this growing group of students commencing undergraduate degrees.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate approves the following proposed University Funded Scholarship:

- *PATHE Scholarship*

4 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

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

4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

AS18/01-4.1

Page 092

The Senate Executive Committee held an electronic meeting conducted from 13-18 December 2017. The report of this meeting is appended.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the report of the electronic meeting held from 13-18 December 2017 of the Senate Executive Committee.

4.2 RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Research Committee met on 13 February 2018. The minutes of this meeting will be provided at the 20 April meeting of Academic Senate.

4.3 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE

AS18/01-4.3

Page 094

The Research Studies Committee met on 5 December 2017. The minutes of this meeting is appended.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the Research Studies Committee held on 5 December 2017.

4.4 EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AS18/01-4.4

Page 102

The Education Committee held a joint electronic meeting with the Academic Policy Advisory Group (APAG) from 21 November-1 December 2017. The report of this joint meeting is appended.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the joint report of the Education Committee and the Academic Policy Advisory Group held from 21 November-1 December 2017.

4.5 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND COURSES APPROVALS COMMITTEE

AS18/01-4.5

Late paper

The Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee (APCAC) met face to face on 23 January and 14 February 2018. The report of these meetings will be provided as a late paper.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the report of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee meetings held on 23 January and 14 February 2018, and approves the recommendations contained therein.

4.6 ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

AS18/01-4.6

Late paper

The Assessment Committee met on 6 February 2018. The minutes of this meeting will be provided as a late paper.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the Assessment Committee held on 6 February 2018.

4.7 THE COLLEGE ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

AS18/01-4.7

Page 105

The College Academic Committee met face to face on 23 November 2017, and conducted electronic meetings from 27-28 November 2017 and 16-19 January 2018. The minutes and reports of these meetings are appended.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the minutes of the face to face meeting on 23 November 2017, and notes the report of the College Academic Committee meetings conducted from 27-28 November 2017 and 16-19 January 2018.

4.8 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees met on 21 February 2018.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for 4 April 2018. Summaries and minutes of the Board of Trustees 2017 meetings are available on the University website at:

https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/about_uws/leadership/board_of_trustees/board_meetings/board_of_trustees_meetings_2017

5 FOR INFORMATION

No items.

6 NEXT MEETING

The next Academic Senate meeting is arranged for **Friday 20 April 2018** in the Boardroom, Ground Floor, Building AD, Werrington North campus.

The Academic Senate meeting dates for 2018 are as follows:

- 20 April
- 22 June
- 17 August
- 19 October
- 7 December

Meetings commence at 9:30am and conclude by 12:30pm.