WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

The meeting (**Meeting 23/05**) of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday, 13 October 2023** at, **9:30AM**, at, **Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02).**

For apologies and enquiries, contact Georgia Vasiliadis by email at: ████████████

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:

New members:
- Professor Rod McClure, Dean, School of Medicine

Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Clare Pollock

At the time of writing, apologies had been received from:
- Professor Barney Glover
- Professor Dennis Chang
- Professor Deborah Hatcher
- Professor Michelle Trudgett
- Professor Miroslav Filipović
- Ms Fiona Salisbury
- Professor Simeon Simoff

In Attendance:
- Ms Ellen Brackenreg (Executive Director, Equity, Safety and Wellbeing, Item 2.1 – Academic Integration Plans and Disability Governance)
- Ms Sophie Buck (Director, Office of Governance Services)
- Ms Shubha Devadasen (Associate Director, Office of Governance Services)

- Ms Jane Hutchison (University Secretary, Office of University Secretary)
- Ms Terri Mears (Manager, Disability Service, Item 2.1 – Academic Integration Plans and Disability Governance)
- Ms Georgia Vasiliadis (Senior Governance Officer)
- Emeritus Professor Paul Wormell (presenting Item 3.4 TEQSA Steering Committee Update)

☆ 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 – Academic Integration Plans and Disability Governance
- Item 3.1 – Chair's Report
- Item 3.2 – Vice Chancellor's Report
- Item 3.4 – TEQSA Steering Group Update
- Item 3.5 – External Review of Senate
- Item 3.6 – Update from Schools
- Item 3.7.1 - Enablers and Barriers to Improving Student Experience
- Item 3.8 – Academic Senate Policy Committee Update & Policy Review

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, 11 August 2023, (meeting 23/04) are attached for confirmation.
For Confirmation.

It is recommended:
That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on Friday, 11 August 2023, (meeting 23/04), 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 ACADEMIC INTEGRATION PLANS AND DISABILITY GOVERNANCE
A paper addressing and providing suggested actions to the three main issues raised in the paper by the student representing disability matters.

For Discussion and Noting.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

☆ 3.1 CHAIR'S REPORT

A written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 11 August 2023 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 4 October 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees, is appended to the Chair's report.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ 3.2 VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The Vice-Chancellor's Report is appended. Professor Clare Pollock, Acting Vice-Chancellor will speak to this report.

For Discussion and Noting.

3.3 STUDENT REPORT

There are no reports by the student representatives for noting.

☆ 3.4 TEQSA STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

The TEQSA Steering Group is working towards preparing the University for the TEQSA accreditation review scheduled for 2025. Emeritus Professor Paul Wormell is currently leading this group and will present an update.
Presentation and Discussion.

☆ 3.5 EXTERNAL REVIEW OF SENATE

A paper to present to Senate the proposal for an external review of Senate in 2024.

For Discussion and Endorsement.

It is recommended:
That Academic Senate endorses the proposal to conduct an external review of Senate in 2024, to be held in conjunction with the external review of the Board of Trustees. It is further recommended that the chosen reviewer or review panel has appropriate experience in Academic Governance.

☆ 3.6 UPDATE FROM SCHOOLS

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

3.6.1 SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

3.6.2 SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

3.6.3 SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

For Discussion and Noting.

3.7 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/HOT TOPICS

☆ 3.7.1 ENABLERS AND BARRIERS TO IMPROVING STUDENT EXPERIENCE AT WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

The purpose of this paper is to provide Senate with possible enablers and barriers to improving student ratings of the quality of their educational experience.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ 3.8 ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE & POLICY REVIEW

3.8.1 ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Academic Senate Policy Committee update report is appended. Professor Clare Pollock, Acting Vice-Chancellor will speak to this report.

For Discussion and Noting.

3.9   APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

The Committee is requested to consider and approve the following new scholarships and consider and approve the amendments to the following current scholarships.

New donor scholarship for approval
- Women in Industrial Scholarship for Women
- William Buck Indigenous Scholarship
- Greenplus Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping

Amendments to Existing Scholarships
- Asylum Seeker Scholarship
- Neville Amy Scholarship (current name)
- Rotary Club of Carlingford Nursing Scholarship (current name)
- Sydney Zoo Indigenous Scholarship (current name)
- The Lynch Group Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Horticulture (current name)
- Indigenous Smart Start Grant (current name)

For Approval.

3.10   POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

There are no posthumous awards for noting.

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

The report of the Senate Executive meeting (Meeting 23/03) is attached for noting by members, and consisted of the following item:
- Approval of the new University-funded scholarship, the *Vice-Chancellor's Diplomatic Scholarship*.

4.2   ACADEMIC PLANNING AND CURRICULUM APPROVALS COMMITTEE

The Report of the e-meeting of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee (APCAC) held on 1 August (meeting e23/01) and the report for the e-meeting held on 1 August (meeting e23/01) and 6 September (meeting 23/06) and relevant annexures are appended. The Chair of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee, Dr Nicolene Murdoch, will give a brief update.

For Approval.

It is recommended:
That Academic Senate notes the report and corresponding annexures of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee e-meeting held on 1 August 2023 (meeting e-23/01) and the meeting held on 6 September 2023 (meeting 23/06) and approves the recommendations contained therein.

4.3   SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Education Committee held on 3 August 2023 (Meeting 23/03) are appended for noting by the Senate. The Chair of the Senate Education Committee, Professor Simon Bedford, will give a brief update.

For Noting.

4.4   SENATE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

The unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Assessment Committee held on 22 August 2023 (Meeting 23/04) are appended for noting by the Senate.

For Noting.

4.5   RESEARCH COMMITTEE

There are no minutes from the Research Committee available for noting.

4.6   RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE

The confirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee held on 11 July, and 8 August 2023 (Meeting 23/06 and Meeting 23/07) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee held on 12 September 2023 (23/08) are appended for noting by the Senate. The Chair of the Research Studies Committee, Professor Clive Baldock, will give a brief update on the Research Studies Committee and the Graduate Research School.

For Noting.

4.7   ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE

The confirmed minutes of the Academic Senate Policy Committee (ASPC) held on 5 July 2023 (Meeting 23/03) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Senate Policy Committee (ASPC) held on 6 September 2023 (Meeting 23/04) are appended.

For Noting.

4.8   THIRD PARTY PROVIDER COMMITTEE

The Third-Party Provider Committee (TPPC) met on 17 August 2023 (Meeting 23/04). The unconfirmed minutes are appended.

For Noting.

4.9   BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for 4 October 2023. 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

5.	OTHER BUSINESS

If raised at the meeting.

6.	NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Academic Senate Committee (23/06) will be on 8 December 2023 at 9:30am at Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02).

The remaining meeting scheduled for 2023 is as follows:
- 23/06 – 8 December 2023