8 April 2009

The Board of Trustees met on Wednesday 8 April 2009, in the Boardroom, Building AD, Werrington North. A summary of matters discussed is provided below.

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the 25 February 2009 meeting of the Board of Trustees were confirmed and can be downloaded from this page.

Postgraduate Student Election

The Board welcomed Mr David Lenton, the newly elected postgraduate student member to the Board of Trustees.

Vice-Chancellor's Report

The Vice-Chancellor's report to the Board of Trustees included the following items:

- Universities Australia Higher Education Conference – Canberra 4-6 March
- NSW Vice-Chancellor's Committee – Sydney 17 March
- Meeting with Senator Kim Carr
- International Women's Day
- EdFest
- UWS Honoured for Sixth Consecutive Year as Employer of Choice for Women
- UWS Welcomes Visiting Professor from the University of Oslo
- UWS Launches Year of Respect and Inclusion
- ACMA Renews TVS Broadcasting Licence
- Indigenous Elders Celebrate Seniors Week at UWS Hawkesbury
- NSW Police Leadership Centre Opens on Hawkesbury Campus
- What Matters Writing Competition

Executive Presentation – School of Medicine

Professor Neville Yeomans, Foundation Dean of the School of Medicine, provided a presentation on the Medical School's priorities, significant challenges and areas of achievement and key opportunities for next 3-5 years

Audited Financial Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

The Board adopted the audited UWS 2008 financial statements and authorised certification thereof by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor. The statements had been reviewed by the 25 March meeting of the Audit and Risk Management Committee which members of the Strategy and Resources Committee attended and included discussions with representatives of the Audit Office of New South Wales. The NSW Audit Office representative advised the Board that he is able to issue an unqualified independent audit report.

Board Report for UWS Annual Report

The Board approved the 'UWS Board of Trustees Report' to be included in the UWS Annual Report and authorised the Chancellor to approve the document on the Board's behalf.

Academic Governance Revision

To overcome technical difficulties arising from the first phase of implementation of the new School academic committees, the Board approved amendments to the Academic Governance Policy and the associated Standing Committees of Academic Senate Policy.

1. The Policies be amended to rename the School Academic Standards and Quality Assurance Committees (SASQACs) *School Academic Committees* with the membership being changed to provide for the Head of School to be the Chair of the Committee; and

2. The Academic Senate membership be amended to remove the reference to the chairs of SASQACs so that the category of membership is simply for an elected member of the School Academic Committee.

3. The membership of the College academic committees be amended to provide for the Executive Deans to be members.

4. Any other consequent changes to the wording of clauses in the policies relating to the membership of Senate and its committees and the College and School academic committees.

Board Standing Committee and Remuneration & Nominations Committee

The Board confirmed the decisions taken by the Board Standing Committee on the Board's behalf to:

- repeal the Fees for Undergraduate Level Programs Policy
- endorse that UWS College at Blacktown Campus be referred to as UWSCollege, Nirimba Education Precinct; and that all other references to University activities be noted as Nirimba Education Precinct, Blacktown Campus from 1 June 2009
- accept the NSO constitution
- endorse the appointments to the boards of Cadre and UWSCollege.

The Board approved the renewal of membership for the Audit and Risk Management Committee, the conferral of honorary awards and the appointment of two Board members.

Lismore Clinical School

The Board endorsed the recommendations of the Campus Development Committee in relation to this matter.

Other Reports and Items Considered by the Board

- New Student Organisation – progress report
- Higher Education Reviews
- Planning for Board Strategy Day
- Strategy and Resources Committee
- Audit and Risk Management Committee
- Report from the Chair of Academic Senate
- Campus Development Committee
- Indigenous Advisory Council
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Staffing Matters
- Postgraduate Student Election
- IDP Education Australia Pty Ltd

Date of Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is its annual strategy day, which will be held on Wednesday 27 May. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday 24 June 2009.