WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of meeting 2025/3 of the Board of Trustees of Western Sydney University, held at 1.00pm, Wednesday 4 June 2025 in Conference Room 4, Level 9, Peter Shergold Building, One Parramatta Square, 169 Macquarie Street, Parramatta and Zoom.

Present:

Members present in Conference Room 4
Professor Jennifer Westacott AO, Chair and Chancellor
Distinguished Professor George Williams AO, Vice-Chancellor and President
Professor Robert Mailhammer, Chair of Academic Senate
Ms Elizabeth Dibbs, Deputy Chancellor
Ms Kerry Stubbs, Deputy Chancellor
Ms Gabrielle Trainor AO, Pro-Chancellor
Mr Lee Pinder, Pro-Chancellor
Dr Linda O'Brien AM, Pro-Chancellor
Ms Georgia Lee
Mr Simon Hickey – *arrived at 1.08pm*
Mr Brendan Thomas
Mr Doug Taylor
Mr Leslie Cowles
Professor Alison Downham-Moore
Miss Swetha Kumar

Board member in attendance via Zoom
Dr Amanda Larkin – *joined at 1.27pm*

Apologies:

Mr Sonu

In Attendance:

Professor Deborah Sweeney, Provost
Professor Kevin Dunn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Transformation
Professor Maryanne Dever, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education and Students
Professor Michelle Trudgett, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Indigenous Leadership
Professor Geoff Lee, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Western Sydney and External Engagement
Professor Ian Anderson, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprise
Mr Bill Parasiris, Chief Operating Officer
Mr Darren Greentree, Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer
Mr Philip Maloney, General Counsel
Ms Elisabeth Burn, Executive Director, Risk and Internal Audit
Ms Christine Sharpe, Executive Governance Officer (minutes)
Ms Teneille Rousianos, Administration Officer (meeting support)

In attendance for Items 2.2.2 and 2.2.3 Vice-Chancellor's Update:
Mr Ben Wise, Chief Information and Security Officer

1. OPENING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Welcome

The Chair declared the meeting open, confirmed a quorum and welcomed members and observers.

The Chancellor welcomed Professor Geoff Lee, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Western Sydney and External Engagement, Professor Ian Anderson, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprise, and Mr Philip Maloney, General Counsel.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

Associate Professor Alison Downham-Moore gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

1.3 Apologies

Apologies were noted from Mr Sonu.

1.4 Declarations of Material Interests

The Chair invited Board members to declare any new material interests in relation to matters on the agenda or their role on the Board more generally. No new declarations were noted.

1.5 Confirmation of Minutes

The Board resolved as follows:

Resolution

The Board of Trustees approved the minutes and confidential minutes of its 9 April 2025 meeting.

[4/06/2025:1]

1.6 Action Sheets from Previous Meetings

The Board noted the actions taken on the items listed.

1.7 Starring of Items and Arrangement of Business

The following items were identified for consideration in the meeting: 1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5.

Deputy Chancellor Dibbs requested to star item *3.5 Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom Update.*

Resolution

The Board of Trustees resolved to approve all unstarred items as having been considered and noted, and their respective recommendations as adopted.

[4/06/2025:2]

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2. REPORTS

2.1 Chancellor's Report [Open Session Item]

The Chancellor spoke to the following matters:

- *Strategy Day* – The focus has been directed toward preparations for the Strategy Day, with a focus on the Operational Model and key strategic decisions for the University.
- *University Challenges* – The Chancellor acknowledged that this is a challenging period for universities however, the University is navigating it more effectively than others, supported by a clear set of messages from the Vice-Chancellor that have resonated well with stakeholders. The Chancellor further advised that she is in daily communication with the Vice-Chancellor regarding key decisions required to ensure the University's long-term financial stability and sustainability.
- *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* – The University recently signed an MOU with OMRON, a global leader in robotics and automation.
- *Ministerial Meeting* – The Chancellor advised that she has attended a number of meetings with Ministers, including Minister Tim Ayres and Minister Katy Gallagher.

2.2 Vice-Chancellor's Updates [Closed Session Item]

2.2.1 Vice-Chancellor's Report [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

2.2.2 Risk and Assurance [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

2.2.3 Crisis Management Board Engagement Protocol [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

2.2.4 Policy and Regulatory Landscape [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

2.3 Academic Senate Report [Open Session Item]

The Chair of the Academic Senate presented his report, highlighting:

- *TEQSA re-registration* – Academic Senate considered and discussed the draft self-assurance reports for the TEQSA re-registration, and Academic Senate was satisfied with the process. The University is well placed for re-registration.
- *Schools Review* – In-principle support was provided for the proposed faculty model. The Chair of the Academic Senate noted that further clarification is required regarding the specific disciplines and the relationship between faculties and schools. The Vice-Chancellor advised that, subject to approval of the faculty model, the project will proceed to the design phase.
- *External Review on Academic Governance* – The Academic Senate External Review Implementation Group is currently prioritising the revision of the Academic Governance Policy and the Academic Senate Charter, both of which are scheduled for consideration at the September meeting.

3. MATTERS FOR APPROVAL

3.1 Western Sydney University – India Campus [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.2 Establishment of the WSU Student Union [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.3 Revocation of Award [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.4 Modern Slavery Statement [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.5 Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom Update [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.6 Sub-Lease to TAFE NSW Bankstown City Campus [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.7 Revised Investment Policy [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.8 Business Resilience Policy Update [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.9 Delegated Approvals – Division of Operations [Closed Session Item]

The Board approved the recommendation without discussion.

This item was considered in closed session.

3.10 Accessing Medium-Term Note Funding [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.11 Uses of the University Seal [Open Session Item]

The Board approved the recommendation without discussion.

Resolution:

The Board of Trustees approved the affixing of the University Seal to those documents listed in the attached report, pursuant to the *Western Sydney University (University Seal and Authentication) Rule 2021*.

[4/06/2025:13]

3.12 Strategic Plan [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.13 Schools Review [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.14 Campus Reset Strategy – Current Initiatives [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

3.15 Financing Our Ambition [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session

4. STANDARD REPORTS

4.1 Finance Update [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

4.2 People Report [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

4.3 Legal Risk Report–Privileged and Confidential [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

5. MATTERS FOR NOTING

5.1 2025 TEQSA Renewal of Registration and Self-Assurance [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

5.2 Changes to the Delegation of Authority Policy Schedules [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

5.3 Sustainability Annual Report 2024 [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

5.4 WSU 2025 Events Calendar [Open Session Item]

The Board noted the WSU 2025 Events Calendar.

5.5 2026 and 2027 Board Meeting Dates [Open Session Item]

The Board noted the report without discussion.

6. BOARD COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY BODIES

6.1 Audit and Risk Committee [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

6.2 Cyber and Information Technology Committee [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

6.3 Finance and Investment Committee [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

6.4 People and Culture Committee [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

6.5 Remuneration and Nominations Committee [Closed Session Item]

This item was considered in closed session.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 In-Camera Session

This item was considered in closed session.

8. CLOSURE

The Board meeting adjourned at 4.45 pm on 4 June 2025 and reconvened at the conclusion of the Strategic Sessions at approximately 4.00pm on 5 June 2025.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Friday 12 September 2025 at 9.00 am in Boardroom 1, The Chancellery, Barney Glover Building, Level 2, Parramatta South campus.

Confirmed by: ______________________
(Chair)

Date: 12/9/2025