

4 August 2021

The Board of Trustees met on 4 August 2021 via Zoom. A summary of matters discussed in the open session is provided below.

The minutes of the previous Board meeting held on [9 June 2021](#) were confirmed.

Chancellor's Report

The Chancellor briefed the Board on a number of matters, including his work as Chair of the NSW Education Standards Authority and the impact the current challenges in delivering the HSC in NSW, a meeting with the Minister for Education and Youth and the recent External Review of the performance of the Board of Trustees.

Vice-Chancellor's Report

The Vice-Chancellor provided a comprehensive update to Board members on the University's response to the COVID-19 lockdown in Greater Western Sydney. He also updated the Board on a meeting with the Minister for Education and Youth, on the University's selection as the preferred partner for the Institute for Applied Technology, Kingswood, on the University's Foreign Arrangements response, and an update on the Quality Initial Teacher Education Review.

Chair of Academic Senate Report

The Chair of Academic Senate briefed the Board on a number of matters, including an update from the Academic Senate Executive Committee which considered a number of policy variations to address the impact of COVID-19 on students, and the approval of the revised Charter of Academic Freedom.

Response to the Walker Review

The Board approved the amendments to the Code of Conduct, the Freedom of Speech Policy and the Explanatory Note: Model Code for Protection of Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom in Australian Higher Education Providers in response to the Report of the Independent Review of the Adoption of the Model Code on Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom by Emeritus Professor Sally Walker AM.

Gender Equity Strategy and Action Plan

The Board approved the Gender Equity Strategy and Action Plan for 2021-2026, which reflects the University's ongoing commitment to prioritising gender equity.

Western Sydney University (Governance) Rule

The Board approved the revised Western Sydney University (Governance) Rule.

Sophie Buck
Director of Governance