WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

The meeting (**Meeting 23/04**) of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday, 11 August 2023** at, **9:30AM**, at, **Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02).**

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

Present:
Professor Janice Aldrich-Wright, Associate Dean, HDR, Graduate Research School
Dr David Arness, Academic Course Advisor, Undergraduate Psychology, School of Psychology (exited 12:19pm)
Professor Clive Baldock, Dean, Graduate Research School (exited at 10:53am)
Professor Simon Barrie, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Vice-President, Academic
Professor Si Bedford, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning Futures
Mr Glenn Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, The College
Dr Ritesh Chimoriya, Postgraduate Student Representative (arrived 9:49am exited 10:56am)
Professor Anna Cody, Dean, School of Law
Dr Evan Crawford, Academic Program Advisor, BICT and Information Systems, School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences
Associate Professor Ann Dadich, Associate Professor, School of Business
Professor Miroslav Filipovic, Discipline Lead, Applied Physics, School of Science (exited 10:52am)
Ms Jess Gleeson, Director, Data Integrity, Quality and Operations (exited 12:03pm)
Professor Barney Glover AO, Vice-Chancellor and President (exited 11:54am)
Dr Erika Gyengesi, Senior Lecturer, School of Medicine
Professor Deborah Hatcher, Dean, School of Nursing and Midwifery
Associate Professor Ana Hol, Associate Dean, Learning & Teaching, School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences
Professor Gregory Kolt, Dean, School of Health Sciences
Dr Ranjith Liyanapathirana, Senior Lecturer, School of Engineering, Design and Built Environment
Professor Samanthika Liyanapathirana, Professor, School of Engineering, Design and Built Environment
Dr Erin Mackenzie, Director, Postgraduate Specialist Studies. School of Education
Professor Robert Mailhammer, Chair of Academic Senate
Professor Matt McGuire, Dean, School of Humanities and Communication Arts (exited 10:56am)
Professor Tanya Meade, Dean, School of Psychology
Associate Professor Jennifer Mensch, Associate Professor in Philosophy, School of Humanities and Communication Arts
Professor Graciela Metternicht, Dean, School of Science
Dr Nicolene Murdoch, Pro Vice-Chancellor Educational Partnerships and Quality
Professor Susan Page, Director of Indigenous Learning and Teaching

Dr Alexie Papanicolaou, Associate Professor in Bioinformatics, Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment
Dr Ben Perry, Lecturer, Anatomy and Physiology, School of Science
Professor Clare Pollock, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost
Mx Vicky-Rae Reed, Disability Matters Student Representative
Dr Ana Rodas, Senior Lecturer in Criminology and Policing, School of Social Sciences
Ms Fiona Salisbury, Executive Director, Library Services
Ms Vidushi Sethi, International Student Representative (exited 10:56am)
Ms Payal Shah, Postgraduate Student Representative
Ms Tiffany Sharpe, Indigenous Australian Student Representative
Ms Sirjan Sidhu, Undergraduate Student Representative (exited 10:56am)
Professor Simeon Simoff, Pro Vice-Chancellor STEM and Dean, School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences
Professor Michele Simons, Dean, School of Education
Dr Liesel Spencer, Associate Professor, School of Law
Dr Ayda Succarie, Lecturer, School of Business
Associate Professor Corrinne Sullivan, Associate Dean (Indigenous Education), School of Education
Professor Linda Taylor, Pro Vice-Chancellor, International
Professor Michelle Trudgett, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Leadership
Associate Professor Jacqueline Ullman, Associate Professor, School of Education (exited 11:49am)
Professor Anna Williams, Professor of Ageing, School of Nursing and Midwifery
Professor Sarah Zhang, Deputy Chair of Academic Senate

Apologies:
Associate Professor Amit Arora, Senior Lecturer, School of Health Sciences
Dr Evan Atlantis, Senior Lecturer, School of Health Sciences
Professor Dennis Chang, Professor of Pharmacology/Associate Director Research, Engagement & Partnerships, Asia, NICM Health Research Institute
Professor Kevin Dunn, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research
Ms Leanne Hunt, Senior Lecturer, Deputy Director Clinical, School of Nursing and Midwifery
Professor Amir Mahmood, Dean, School of Business
Professor Alphia Possamai-Inesedy, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Engagement and Advancement
Professor Brian Stout, Pro Vice-Chancellor Humanities, Arts and Social Science Cluster and Dean, School of Social Sciences
Professor Deborah Sweeney, Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Vice President, Research, Enterprise & International

Absent:
Dr Maria Bhatti, Lecturer, School of Law
Mr Bowen Fucile, Undergraduate Student Representative
Distinguished Professor Annemarie Hennessy, Pro Vice-Chancellor Health and Medicine Cluster and Dean, School of Medicine
Professor Andy Marks, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Strategy, Government and Alliances
Professor Neil Merrett, Foundation Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine
Dr Margarite Poulos, Senior Lecturer, School of Humanities and Communication Arts
Associate Professor Swapan Saha, Interim Dean, School of Engineering, Design and Built Environment

In attendance:
Mrs Katie Aguilera, Manager, Academy, Scholarships and Partnerships (arrived 11:56am and exited 12:19pm)
Ms Ellen Brackenreg, Executive Director, Equity, Safety and Wellbeing (arrived 11.30am and exited 11:54am)
Ms Sophie Buck, Director, Office of Governance Services

Ms Allyson McDonald, Executive Governance Officer (Acting)
Ms Terri Mears, Manager, Disability Service (arrived 11.30am and exited 11:54am)
Ms Christine Sharpe, Acting Associate Director, Office of Governance Services
Associate Professor Chloe Taylor, Associate Professor Sport and Exercise Science (arrived 10:41am)
Ms Georgia Vasiliadis, Senior Governance Officer
Emeritus Professor Paul Wormell

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 welcomed all members and attendees, with specific mention to:

New member Interim Dean Associate Professor Swapan Saha, School of Engineering, Design and Built Environment.

1.2   DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were 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 were reminded that they should also declare any interests that become apparent during this meeting.

No declarations of interest were reported.

1.3   STARRING OF ITEMS

Members were asked which items they wish starred for discussion.

Apart from procedural items, the items below were starred:

- Item 3.1 – Chair's Report
- Item 3.2 – Vice Chancellor's Report
- Item 3.3 – Student Report
- Item 3.4 – Academic Promotions
- Item 3.5 - Academic Literacy Strategy and Advisory Group Strategy and Terms of Reference

- Item 3.6 – Transnational Education
- Item 3.7 – Australian Universities' Accord Interim Report
- Item 3.9 – Academic Senate Policy Committee Update & Policy Review

It was resolved (AS 23/04:01):
All unstarred items noted and items endorsed.

1.4 ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 3.3 Student Report to be deferred to after Item 3.6 Transnational Education. Item 3.9 Academic Senate Policy Committee Update & Policy Review to follow Item 3.3 Student Report.

1.5 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business raised at this meeting.

Members were 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, 16 June 2023, (meeting 23/03) were attached for confirmation.

For Confirmation.

It was resolved (AS 23/04:02):
The unconfirmed minutes of the scheduled meeting of the Academic Senate held on Friday, 16 June 2023, (meeting 23/03), were confirmed 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) was attached.

Members were requested to report on any developments in relation to the items.

Action: 23/03:3.1 Chair's Report
Status: The Chair advised that a Progression report will be included in the Chair's report on an annual basis, at the appropriate time. This action item was closed.

Action: 23/03:3.3 Student Report
Status: The International Student Representative updated on the progress regarding this item. Spring session payments will not be delayed. The Terms and conditions have been added to website next to the corresponding scholarship. Feedback from students has been positive; the information has been helpful to students, and they are happy with the details. One on one sessions have also been implemented. Western Now form is to be implemented with the International Student Representative to work with Jo Byng, Director International Strategy, Mobility & Operations, on this.

After confirmation from the student representative that the requested changes had been made, this item was supported was closed.

Action: 23/02:3.1 Chair's Report -Deputy Chair of APCAC
Status: The Chair advised that although there had been some enquiries and conversations, no EOIs had been received. Consequently, this role as well as that of the Deputy Chair of the Third Party Provider Committee remain open.

Action: 23/02:3.7 Learning Guide Data
Status: As Ms Debra Farrelly has left the University, Ms Jess Gleeson, Director, Data Integrity, Quality and Operations has taken carriage of this item.

Action: 23/01:4.6 MRes Scholarships Metrics
Status: It was advised that there would be an update at Meeting 23/06 – 8 Dec 2023

Action: 23/04:3.2 Graduate Research School Review
Status: Update as part of the report of the Chair of the Research Studies Committee.

Action: 22/02:3.1 SMS Update
Status: It was advised that there would be an update at Meeting 23/06 – 8 Dec 2023

Action: 21/03:3.7.1 Credit for Prior Learning
Status: It was established that Senate Education Committee has oversight of Credit for Prior Learning and of ensuring consistent standards across the University.

The Director, DIQO advised that there were several stumbling blocks which had impacted on the progress made. However, standard procedure documents have been produced and sent to Schools for comment. In consultation with the Schools, but managed by DIQO, these would be introduced to School for training but only at the policy level, and reviewed on an annual basis. It was advised that the consultation period finished at the end of August.
It was pointed out that consistency of standard for prior learning was something that TEQSA looks for.
This work is estimated to be completed by the end of the year with a summary of the work presented to the Senate Education Committee; however, it is also contingent on the curriculum database. This work also connects with the pathways credit through APCAC.
The item was closed and moved to Senate Education Committee, as per that committee's Terms of Reference.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 TEQSA STEERING GROUP 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 presented an update at the June meeting of the Academic Senate. The paper with responses from questions arising from that presentation was noted.

2.2 EDUCATION QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORTING TO SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The internal audit report on Education Quality Assurance reporting to Senate Education Committee was appended with a briefing paper and was noted.

2.3   THE COLLEGE ACADEMIC PATHWAYS PROGRAM COMMITTEE

As recommended, the Academic Senate noted:

a. That The College Academic Pathway Program Committee be removed as a regular item on the Senate agenda and be treated like a School Academic Committee (SAC). Thus, the minutes should not be tabled.

b. That The College Joint Management Committee feed into the Third Party Provider Committee, as per other partnerships – where there is a level of academic oversight and Quality Reporting to the Third Party Provider Committee.

c. That an annual report of The College Academic Pathway Program Committee be presented to Senate each year at the start of the year for the previous year.

3.   GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1   CHAIR'S REPORT

A written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 16 June 2023 was circulated. The Chair's report to the 3 August 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees, was appended to the Chair's report.

The Chair took the report as read and highlighted the following:
The Chair encouraged elected academic members of Senate to consider submitting an EOI for the position of Deputy Chair of APCAC and the Third Party Providers Committee, as this was an excellent development opportunity.
One focal point of the Chair's activities has been the involvement with the CoCABS and OZCABS, the state and national committees of Chairs of Academic Boards and Academic Senates, preparing a submission to the Accord Panel emphasising the critical importance of independent academic governance as part of university governance. The committees have also discussed a more formal structure on a national level, possibly supported through a tertiary education commission, the Accord papers have been proposing.
The Vice-Chancellor and Chair of Academic Chair Forum on 4 August was well attended, and the Chair of the Academic Senate thanked all that participated including the Vice-Chancellor and the panel for their contributions, and the audience for their insightful questions. The Chair asked for suggestions for topics for future forums.

The Chair invited the Chairs of the peak standing committees of Academic Senate to provide a brief update on current work.

Academic Planning and Curriculum Approval Committee (APCAC)
The Chair of the Committee, Professor Simon Barrie informed Senate that the Microcredential Management Committee, new subcommittee of APCAC, met for the first time. Professor Barrie also noted a new approach to the issue of multi-term subjects that was focusing more on the academic pedagogical rationale.

Senate Education Committee and Senate Assessment Committee
Professor Simon Bedford, spoke on behalf of both Committees and noted that both committees have been focusing on quality assurance activities in their last two meetings. It was noted that there was a need to have better access to data sources that provide real time evaluation for teaching activities, updates to the timetabling system and prioritise the development of engagement activities for retention and success.

Generative artificial intelligence needed to be monitored to mitigate risk, and the professional development of staff needed to continue including in areas such as digital and AI literacy. The new timetabling and assessment procedures and strategies would support more inclusive and flexible assessment, and the majority of Schools and programs had a more flexible delivery of teaching activities.

A question was asked regarding local vs. university-wide approaches to retention, and whether schools were autonomous in the retention strategies they implement. It was explained that the Vice-Chancellor's Retention Task Force was looking at all initiatives. There were 90 initiatives, and the challenge was to know which works best. All Deans had been sharing successful strategies.

Research Studies Committee
Professor Clive Baldock noted that there had been a reduction in the processing time for thesis processing, and knowledge articles had been developed to reduce the number of questions by research students. He also pointed out that Western Now was the platform student could now use to liaise with GRS, and that the Deloitte review was nearing completion with recommendations to come.

Research Committee
The current Deputy Chair of the Research Committee, Associate Professor Ann Dadich, noted the participation at the Research Quality Forum that the committee was reviewing the Terms of Reference to ensure that they are aligned with the work going through to the committee.

Third Party Provider Committee
The Chair of the committee, Dr Nicolene Murdoch, noted that the focus of the work continued to evolve regarding policy and compliance. The Committee was reviewing the policy to ensure compliance, and its work was moving away from operational to more strategic focused work.

The Chair of Senate noted that there would be a change in the way the Committee Chairs of standing committees give their updates at future Senate meeting. The Chairs would be asked to give their updates at the point in the agenda that also includes the minutes of the relevant committee.

3.2   VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The Vice-Chancellor's Report was appended. It was taken as read but the VC emphasised the following.
The Vice-Chancellor thanked the Chair of the Academic Senate for the facilitation of the Forum on 4 August 2023 and noted that the questions by the audience were very insightful.

The Vice-Chancellor discussed recent developments in the context of the Accord. He noted that the five major recommendations of the Interim Report were about to be legislated. The Vice-Chancellor commented especially on the Education Minister's push for greater student support by universities, and the detrimental effect of the low completion rule for Western Sydney. The Vice-Chancellor also reported on the Accord workshop held be Universities Australia, noting discussions about a Tertiary Education Committee and its role in career advice, as is the case in New Zealand, as well as student funding (HELP program). He also mentioned the steps outlined in the UA response to sexual harassment.

The Vice-Chancellor also updated Senate on the progression of international expansion, noting the final steps to the establishment of a campus in Surabaya, Indonesia, and steps towards developing a campus in India.

Following media reports, a member was wondering the University was exploring options in Dubai. The Vice-Chancellor confirmed that this was not the case.

Another question was raised regarding the Decasualisation Program, whether the University was keeping track on how these staff are transitioning and who was responsible for supporting them.The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor advised that these academic were being treated as a cohort with a six-month tailored bespoke professional development teaching and research program. The Dean of the Graduate Research School and Researcher Development noted that this cohort had had their first session this week. This consisted of a three-hours session with another three-hours next week, followed by monthly sessions to ensure that they are successful researchers. This program would be made available to all staff in the future. The Vice-Chancellor noted that there is a need to make sure that this is a financially viable program, which explained a higher teaching allocation in the first three years for these staff. The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor will keep Senate abreast of developments.

A member requested to know what is the University was doing to re-engage with students who were discontinued because of the 50% pass rate requirement, and what the impediments were to re-engaging with these students?
The answer was that the Office of Student and University Planning was actively looking at how the University can best engage with and support affected students. The Director, Data Integrity, Quality and Operations would be able to update Senate on any developments.

3.3 STUDENT REPORT

A report compiled by the elected student member of Senate representing students with disabilities was provided for noting. It highlighted three major points:

- The need to update the current Disability Inclusion Plan (DAIP);
- inadequacies of some of the support measures for students with disabilities, especially note-taking and staff familiarity with Academic Integration Plans (AIPs);
- the recommendation of a University-wide disability committee to have a university level oversight of disability matters.

Responding, the Executive Director, Equity, Safety and Wellbeing noted that the review of the action plan was already underway, and there would be appropriate engagement with stakeholders. The one instance of problematic note-taking that was known had been dealt with swiftly and efficiently. It was also raised that more training of staff about the implementation of AIPs would be beneficial. Support from the Schools was crucial to this. The suggestion was made to take the conversation offline and for the student representative to liaise with Disability Services about the recommendation the paper made.

New Action 23/04:3.3
An update to be provided to Senate by the student member representing students with disability.

3.4 ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS 2022 – REPORT TO THE ACADEMIC SENATE

A written report provided to the Academic Senate in accordance with the Western Sydney University Promotions Policies. Professor Sarah Zhang spoke to this paper noting that there were two rounds of promotions in 2022, the first in early August

and the second in mid-November. 99 applications for promotions with 52 female applications submitted. 78 of the applications that were submitted were approved, which is an approval rate of 79%. Two appeals were submitted; however, both were dismissed. The report includes detailed tables for each School, and a table to show comparison in 2020 vs 2021.The Deputy Vice Chancellor, Indigenous Leaderships sat in both reviews and there is a change in the Indigenous Strategy Report. In the 2022 rounds of promotions, more strength was given to equity, including health and carer issue considerations. A summary is tabulated below.

Level	Female			Male			Total Successful	Total Unsuccessful	Total Applications
	Success-ful	Unsuccess-ful	Total Female	Success-ful	Unsuccess-ful	Total Male			
B	2	1	3	6	0	6	8	1	9
C	16	3	19	8	5	13	24	8	32
D	14	6	20	15	1	16	29	7	36
E	9	1	10	8	4	12	17	5	22
Total	41	11	52	37	10	47	78	27	99
% of Total	79%		53%	79%		47%	79%		

NB: Percentages relate to the total of each category (e.g. Successful Female applicants as percentage of Total Successful Female Applicants; Total Successful as a percentage of Total Applications).
Figure 1: Summary of 2022 Academic Promotions outcomes

The committee discussed the perception that applicants need to demonstrate achievement at the level applied for. Especially in governance, this would depend on the availability of suitable positions. It was pointed out that the policy clearly lays out the eligibility criteria of governance position, including the academic level, but that exceptions were possible. In addition, it was commented that achievement was dependent on workload allocations and that there were different avenues to show achievement in the governance area, including professional service. The notion of "career capital" captures this more holistic view that the Academic Promotion Committee takes. It was acknowledged that juggling governance allocations with teaching and research was a challenge, but that connections between fields of attainment could help. Furthermore, it was noted that it was not necessarily a good strategy to rely only on governance positions to demonstrate attainment, and that there was a need to advice junior academics accordingly. The work that Professor Denise Kirkpatrick and Professor Deborah Sweeney did in this space was acknowledged, where promotions moved away from relying on research papers only, to looking at academic as individuals.

3.5 ACADEMIC LITERACY STRATEGY AND ADVISORY GROUP STRATEGY AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Executive Director, Library Services spoke to the strategy and said that the Academic Literacy strategy was taking whole-of-university approach ensuring that academic literacy support was accessible and available for all students as an ecosystem of skill support systems. The approach taken had been to look at what we already have and enhance it. The Academic Literacy Advisory Group had been created with both professional and academic staff and the Executive Director, Library Services, as Chair, after extensive consultation.

A member noted that the academic literacy strategy to date had been fragmentated and there had been a lack of awareness. It was queried whether it would be appropriate for each learning guide to have links to support, noting that many learning guides had this, but that it might be appropriate to unify. The suggestion was made that it would be more appropriate for the Learning Guide Task and Finish Group to look at learning guides to investigate this. It was also noted that it was important for professional requirements to be incorporated with periodical reviews

due to frequent changes in requirements. It was also noted that scientific literacy was not mentioned and that perhaps there should be 10 key areas rather than nine key areas. This was taken up as an item for further discussion with a potential to enhance this to be broadly about disciplinary literacy with the Schools also involved.

New Action 23/04:3.5
Executive Director, Library Services to provide Senate with a revision including the provision being made with disciplinary literacy and where that may sit, to the next meeting of Senate.

It was resolved (AS 23/04:03):
That the Academic Senate approved the Academic Literacy strategy and the Academic Literacy Advisory Group Terms of Reference.

3.6   **TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION**

The Pro Vice-Chancellor International, Professor Linda Taylor, provided an update on the Transnational Education Transformation Project. She remarked that one aspect of transnational education were the University's offshore campuses. The University was building on successful campuses in Ho Chi Minh City and Hong Kong, which had been in operation for 20 years and for over 30 years. The next chapter was taking overseas campuses to the next level. The University had been looking at potential markets for the last 4 years and was expanding in Indonesia, India, and Vietnam. Professor Taylor mentioned that the University was progressing in Surabaya and was hoping that the Prime Minister would be able to make announcement next month. She added that offshore campuses were not only focusing on revenue, but that they were also able to accelerate multi-layered collaboration, and innovation research. The University was moving in new direction, that of a global university, taking the quality of teaching, student experience of Western to students overseas.

The discussion raised a question about fairness and equity if economic capabilities in developing countries were not on the level of Australia. Professor Taylor advised that the strategy aimed precisely about alleviating these inequities by taking high-quality education to developing countries to drive access and equity, making it affordable for a broader community. One example was the School of Education, which had been for instance working with universities in Indonesia with a strong enabling focus. Another question raised was about maintaining oversight of consistent standards through consistent academic governance, so that offshore campuses offer a learning experience on par with onshore campuses. It was noted that Western Sydney University policies and procedures are valid for offshore campuses, allowing for cultural sensitivities. They had Academic Boards which would report to Senate. Oversight of program levels for all programs would be through the Third-Party-Provider committee. A specific question asked whether engineering programs had to be completed oversees or whether they needed to be completed in Australia? The answer provided was that there were engineering programs in the new campus in Indonesia, and they would need to be completed fully in Surabaya. Work had been completed with Engineers Australia and the School of Engineering, Design and Built Environment to ensure that the program meet school requirements.

New Action 23/04:
Pro Vice-Chancellor Educational Partnerships and Quality to put together a high-level view of the governance and the appropriate Academic Senate level oversight for Western Sydney Universities overseas. Dr Murdoch to advise when the report is ready.

3.7   AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES ACCORD INTERIM REPORT

The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost reminded all members and observers that any input was to be sent through by Tuesday 15 August 2023. Professor Pollock mentioned the Universities Australia workshop on the Accord, where the Chair of the Accord Panel, Emerita Professor Mary O'Kane asserted that universities needed to reflect about how we as a sector can contribute to society more broadly and not just through teaching and research. Professor O'Kane also spoke about the importance to support smaller subjects, for instance languages, and mentioned structural issues, such as increasing diversity. Professor Pollock pointed out that the Accord was about the purpose of universities. Members were assured that all submissions would be considered by the panel. Responding to questions from members about submissions from social groups and also by LGBTQ communities, Professor Pollock pointed to submissions from for example the disability sector, and that submissions could be made by everyone and would be publicly available through the Accord website.

3.8   QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/HOT TOPICS

There were no Questions on Notice/Hot Topics for this meeting.

3.9   ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE & POLICY REVIEW

3.9.1 ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Academic Senate Policy Committee update report was appended.

3.9.2 PROGRESSION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The proposed *Progression Policy and Procedures* was listed within the appended papers. The Director, Data Integrity, Quality and Operations briefly highlighted key changes.

It was resolved (AS 23/04:04):
That Academic Senate approved the revised Progression Policy and Procedures from the date of publication with the caveat that if legislation regarding student support was passed, the policy would be aligned with the legislation.

3.9.3 REVIEW OF GRADE POLICY

The proposed *Review of Grade Policy* (which included amendments to the Assessment Policy) was listed within the appended papers. The Director, Data Integrity, Quality and Operations briefly highlighted key changes.

Members pointed out that there would be training necessary to implement this policy, and it was queried whether this training would be mandatory. In response it was noted that any mandated training that has drawbacks; it might be better undertaken as part of the induction to School Academic Committees (SACs), and to ask SACs discuss any issues, and report on this annually. Another query was raised in relation to attaching a cover sheet, as the clause referring to cover sheets was not seeking to be updated. The response was that

this clause would be reviewed and commented on when in the review of the Assessment Policy.

It was resolved (AS 23/04:05):
That Academic Senate approved the revised Review of Grade Policy including amendments to the Assessment Policy from the date of publication.

3.10 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

The Committee was requested to consider and approve the following new scholarships and consider and approve the amendments to the following current donor-funded scholarships.

New donor scholarship for approval:
- Sydney Zoo Indigenous Scholarship
- Peter Eichhorn Indigenous Scholarship
- Sydney Zoo Engineering & Robotics Scholarship
- Yara Australia Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping

Amendments to the current scholarships:
- Liverpool Boys High School Scholarship (current name)
- Neville Amy Scholarship in Science
- Hawkesbury Foundation George Bennett Memorial Food Scholarship (current name)
- Rotary Club of Richmond Scholarship

It was resolved (AS 23/04:06):
That the Academic Senate approved the following proposed new donor-funded scholarships:
- Sydney Zoo Indigenous Scholarship
- Peter Eichhorn Indigenous Scholarship
- Sydney Zoo Engineering & Robotics Scholarship
- Yara Australia Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping
And that the Academic Senate approved the amendments to the following current scholarships:
- Liverpool Boys High School Scholarship (current name)
- Neville Amy Scholarship in Science
- Hawkesbury Foundation George Bennett Memorial Food Scholarship (current name)

3.11 POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

There were no posthumous awards for noting.

4. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There were no Senate Executive Committee Meetings held since the last Academic Senate Meeting on 16 June 2023

4.2   ACADEMIC PLANNING AND CURRICULUM APPROVALS COMMITTEE

The Report (and corresponding annexures – Attachment 1 and 2) of the meetings of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee (APCAC) held on 6 June (meeting 23/04) and 6 July 2023 (meeting 23/05) were appended.

It was resolved (AS 23/04:07):
That Academic Senate noted the report and corresponding annexures of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee meetings held on 6 June (meeting 23/04) and 6 July 2023 (meeting 23/05) and approved the recommendations contained therein.

4.3   SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Education Committee held on 8 June 2023 (Meeting 23/02) were appended for noting by the Senate.

4.4   SENATE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

The unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Assessment Committee held on 30 May 2023 (Meeting 23/03) and the report from the e-meeting held on 23 – 29 June 2023 (e23/02) were appended for noting by the Senate.

4.5   RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The unconfirmed minutes of the Research Committee meetings held on 5 April 2023 (Meeting 23/02) and 14 July 2023 (Meeting 23/03) were appended for noting by the Senate.

4.6   RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE

The confirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee held on 9 May 2023 (Meeting 23/04) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee held on 13 June 2023 (23/05) were appended for noting by the Senate.

4.7   ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE

The unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Senate Policy Committee (ASPC) held on 5 July 2023 (Meeting 23/03) were appended.

4.8   THIRD PARTY PROVIDER COMMITTEE

The Third-Party Provider Committee (TPPC) met on 31 May 2023 (Meeting 23/03). The unconfirmed minutes were appended.

4.9   THE COLLEGE ACADEMIC PATHWAY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The unconfirmed e-minutes of the College Academic Pathway Program Committee held on 5 – 9 June 2023 were appended for noting by the Senate.

4.10 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees was scheduled for 3 August 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

No items.
The meeting closed at 12:30pm.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Academic Senate Committee (23/05) will be on 13 October 2023 at 9:30am at Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02).

The remaining meetings scheduled for 2023 are as follows:
- 23/05 – 13 October 2023
- 23/06 – 8 December 2023