

# WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



## ACADEMIC SENATE

The meeting (**Meeting 25/05**) of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday 10 October 2025** 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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## AGENDA

### 1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

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#### ☆ 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 Dr Evan Crawford, School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences (Level A, B or C Representative).

*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.

At the time of writing, apologies had been received from:

Professor Ian Anderson, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research and Enterprise  
Professor Saba Bebawi, Dean, School of Humanities and Communication Arts  
Ms Jess Gleeson, Director, Data Integrity, Quality and Operations and Registrar  
Associate Professor Lei Si, School of Health Sciences (Level D, E Representative)  
Professor Deborah Sweeney, Provost  
Professor Gabrielle Weidemann, Interim Dean, School of Psychology

Dr Nicolene Murdoch, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Global Partnerships and Transnational Education to attend on Professor Sweeney's behalf.

Mr Simon Potts, acting Director, Data Integrity, Quality & Operations and Registrar will be attending on Ms Gleeson's behalf

Associate Professor Michael Tyler, acting Deputy Dean, School of Psychology will be attending on Professor Weidemann's behalf.

In Attendance:

Ms Shubha Devadasen, Associate Director, Office of Governance Services, Secretariat  
Distinguished Professor Brian Falzon, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering,  
Computing and Science (ECS)

Ms Julia Haremza, Director of Risk and Resilience

Professor Sarah Lewis, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health

Mr Philip Maloney, University General Counsel

Professor Freya MacMillan, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor Research

Ms Georgia Vasiliadis, Senior Governance Officer

## ☆ 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 Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee
- Item 2.6 Selection Criteria for Discipline Experts
- Item 3.1 Question on Notice
- Item 3.2 Revised Academic Capabilities Framework
- Item 4.1 Chair's Report
- Item 4.2 Vice Chancellor's Report
- Item 4.3 Provost Report
- Item 4.4 Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education and Students' Report
- Item 4.5 Pro Vice-Chancellor Research and Enterprise' Report
- Item 4.6 Student Report
- Item 4.7 Engaged Teach Project
- Item 4.9 Student Administration Policy Suite
- Item 4.10 Academic Careers at Western: Towards Trust and Autonomy in Academic Workloads
- Item 4.11 2026-2030 Indigenous Strategy

### **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 15 August 2025 (meeting 25/04) are attached for confirmation.

### **For Confirmation.**

#### **It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on Friday 15 August 2025 (meeting 25/04) 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) and the 2025 Forward Planner are attached.

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

## 2. APPROVALS

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### ☆ 2.1 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND CURRICULUM APPROVALS COMMITTEE

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.2.1, 6.3.1a, c, 6.3.2c, d, f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 2, 3*

The Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee recommendations to Senate for meeting 25/07 held on 26 August 2025 and 25/08 held on 30 September 2025 are appended.

#### **2.1.1 APPROVAL FOR ADDITION OF T045 SPORT MANAGEMENT TESTAMUR MAJOR FOR 4741 BACHELOR OF SPORT DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS**

*Endorsed at APCAC Meeting on 26 August 2025 (Resolution 25/07:14).*

#### **It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate approves the field of study variation consisting of the addition of T045 Sport Management Testamur Major to 4741 Bachelor of Sport Development, as listed in the memo, to commence from 2025 onwards.*

### **2.1.2 SCHOOL OF COMPUTER, DATA AND MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES: DISCONTINUATION OF PROGRAMS**

*Noted at APCAC Meeting on 26 August 2025 (Resolution 25/07:26).*

#### **Rationale:**

Due to ongoing challenges with enrolment, retention, and accreditation, it is believed the programs listed in the memo no longer offer sufficient academic or strategic value.

#### **It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate notes the Provost's approval of the suspension and discontinuation of programs listed in the memo from June 2025, and approves the transition arrangements.*

### **2.1.3 9034 – UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATION PROGRAM – APPLIED POLICING**

*Endorsed at APCAC Meeting on 26 August 2025 (Resolution 25/07:27).*

#### **It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate approves the introduction of the new program 9034 – Undergraduate Preparation Program – Applied Policing to commence in Spring Block 4 2025 as a fully online program.*

### **2.1.4 UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATION PROGRAM - 1947 ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN APPLIED POLICING**

*Approved at APCAC Meeting on 26 August 2025 (Resolution 25/07:29).*

#### **It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate notes the attached pathway for eligible students who complete the Undergraduate Preparation Program in Applied Policing, articulating into the Associate Degree in Applied Policing 1947 at Western Sydney University.*

### **2.1.5 WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE GENERAL FOUNDATION STUDIES PROGRAM**

*Approved at APCAC Meeting on 26 August 2025 (Resolution 25/07:30).*

#### **It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate notes the new pathway proposal from Western Sydney University International College General Foundation Studies Program, providing articulation into the Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology 3639 or Bachelor of Data Science 3769, comprising of guaranteed entry only.*

### **2.16 GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SONOGRAPHY**

*Endorsed at APCAC Meeting on 30 September 2025 (Resolution 25/08:03).*

#### **Rationale:**

This proposal is to: 1. unite the three current sonography graduate diploma programs into one graduate diploma (with three specialist majors) 2. Create one additional subject (which will be common to cardiac, obstetric and gynaecological and vascular

sonography majors). If the proposal is accepted, the program will include: Four common subjects. Four discipline specific subjects for each specialty (i.e. four cardiac specific, four obstetrics and gynaecology specific, and four vascular specific subjects). This design is aimed at enhancing intellectual and material resources while maintaining (essential) specialty specific elements.

<https://cmp.westernsydney.edu.au/courseloop/proposal-landing#/6669bff6936f2250d3da39cdfaba1040>

**It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate approves the new program 4807 Graduate Diploma in Sonography.*

## **2.17 SUSPENSION OF 7022 ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN ENGINEERING**

*Noted at APCAC Meeting on 30 September 2025 (Resolution 25/08:03).*

**It is recommended:**

*That Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee notes the Provost's approval for the suspension of 7022 Associate Degree in Engineering as listed in the memo from Quarter 1 2026, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for noting. TRIM reference: D25/2410128*

## **2.2 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 6.3.1b, c, 6.3.2b, d  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

The Committee is requested to consider and approve the following new donor-funded scholarships, consider and approve the amendments to the following existing scholarships and consider and approve the following new donor-funded grant.

*New Donor-Funded Scholarships for Approval*

- City Branch of Graduate Women Indigenous Advancement Grant

*Amendments to Existing Scholarships*

- Scholarship Name: Commonwealth Prac Payment (CPP)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Achievement Scholarship
- Academic Excellence Scholarship
- Vice-Chancellor's Leadership Scholarship
- Western Sydney University Sport Scholarship
- Opportunity Scholarship
- Sydney Zoo Indigenous Scholarship

**For Approval.**

**It is recommended:**

*The Academic Senate review and approve the proposed new scholarships/grants and amendments to scholarships/grants for immediate execution*

## **2.3 GRADUAND LISTS, UNIVERSITY MEDALS AND POSTHUMOUS AWARDS**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3, 1.5.4, 6.2.1h  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

### **2.3.1 OCTOBER CONFERRAL OF UNIVERSITY AWARDS**

A paper for Academic Senate to approve the conferral of awards to students identified in the October 2025 conferral, and a list of conferred students for noting.

**For Approval.**

#### **It is recommended:**

*The Academic Senate:*

- i. *Approve the award of degrees with distinction to graduands listed Attachment A – Graduands for awards with distinction.*
- ii. *Approve the award of the University Medal to the graduates listed in Attachment B – Graduates to be awarded the University Medal.*
- iii. *Note the conferral of awards to graduates with pass or honours coursework degrees as listed in Attachment C - Graduates with pass and honours coursework degrees approved within SAC delegation.*
- iv. *Note the conferral of awards to graduates with a research degree as listed in Attachment D - Graduates with research degrees approved within RSC delegation.*
- v. *Note the conferral of the posthumous award as listed in Attachment E – Posthumous graduates with research degrees approved within RSC delegation.*

### **2.3.2 POSTHUMOUS AWARD**

*Higher Education Standard(s) Satisfied: 1.5, 6.2.1h*

There are no posthumous awards for noting.

## **2.4 SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE UPDATE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-c, 6.3.2.d-f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

A paper to amend the Terms of Reference of the Senate Education Committee to reflect several updates relating to membership.

**For Approval.**

#### **It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate approves the updates to the membership in the Terms of Reference of the Senate Education Committee.*

## 2.5 ACADEMIC SENATE E-MEETING

The reports of the e-meetings of the Academic Senate held on 22 – 29 August 2025 (meeting e25/02) and on 8 – 15 September 2025 (meeting e25/03) are appended for noting by members and consisted of the following items:

Meeting e25/02 | 22 – 29 August 2025

### **Revised Academic Senate Charter**

#### **It was resolved (AS e25/02):**

*That the Academic Senate endorsed the Academic Charter and recommended it to the Board of Trustees for approval, to replace the existing and current Academic Governance Policy.*

Meeting e25/03 | 8 – 15 September 2025

### **New Program | 9034 Undergraduate Preparation Program – Applied Policing**

*The resolution was not carried.*

## ☆ 2.6 SELECTION CRITERIA FOR DISCIPLINE EXPERTS

*Higher Education Standard(s): 3.2.1 - 3.2.4, 4.1.2  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

A paper for the discussion and approval of the selection criteria for the appointment of discipline experts. Professor Robert Mailhammer, Chair of Academic Senate to speak to this item.

### **For Discussion and Approval.**

#### **It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate approve the Academic Senate Discipline Experts Appointment Procedure.*

## 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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### ☆ 3.1 QUESTION ON NOTICE

*Higher Education Standard(s): 2.1.2, 4.1, 5, 7.3.3  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3*

How do we collect feedback from the students and how can we maximise student response rate in SFT and SFS? How can we involve the academics in the SFT/SFS collection process?

Professor Brian Stout, Pro Vice-Chancellor Learning and Teaching to respond to these questions.

### **For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ **3.2 REVISED ACADEMIC CAPABILITIES FRAMEWORK**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 3.1.2, 3.2.3-4, 6.3.1.a, 6.3.2.a+h*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

Professor Kevin Dunn to brief Academic Senate on the update and refresh of the Academic Capabilities Framework (ACF). The Academic Capabilities Framework (ACF) and the Feedback and Response Paper are appended.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

**4. GENERAL BUSINESS**

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☆ **4.1 CHAIR'S REPORT**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1, 6.3.2*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

A written report from the Chair covering activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 20 June 2025 has been circulated. The Chair will provide an update on any recent developments and will answer any questions in relation to the report.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ **4.2 VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1, 6.3.2*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

The Vice-Chancellor's Report is appended. Distinguished Professor George Williams AO, Vice-Chancellor and President, will speak to this report.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ **4.3 PROVOST REPORT**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1, 6.3.2*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

Dr Nicolene Murdoch, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Global Partnerships and Transnational Education will provide a verbal report.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ **4.4 DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR EDUCATION AND STUDENTS REPORT**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1, 6.3.2*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education and Students' Report is appended. Professor Maryanne Dever, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education and Students will speak to this report.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ 4.5 **PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE REPORT**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1, 6.3.2*

*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

There is no Pro Vice-Chancellor Research and Enterprise report.

☆ 4.6 **STUDENT REPORT**

*Higher Education Standard(s) :6.3.3*

*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 3*

The report from the Higher Degrees Research Student Representative, Mr Prasad Perera is attached.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ 4.7 **ENGAGED TEACHING PROJECT**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 3.1.3, 3.2.3b, 6.3.2e+f*

*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5*

An annual update on the Engaged Teaching Project (ETP), which has been designed to lift the engaged teaching practices of Western Sydney University (WSU) by responding directly to what students expect and need from their learning experience. Ms Kristin Wiese, Director of Learning Experience and the Engaged Teaching Project to speak to this paper.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

4.8 **TEQSA'S CORPORATE PLAN 2025-29**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.1.3a, 6.2.1a, 6.3.1d*

*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1*

A paper to provide Academic Senate with a summary of the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) Corporate Plan 2025–29.

**For Noting.**

☆ 4.9 **STUDENT ADMINISTRATION POLICY SUITE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.1.3.b, 6.3.1.d, 6.3.2.a, 7.2.2.d*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 2, 3, 5*

A paper to provide Academic Senate an opportunity to discuss the new Student Administration Policy. Mr Simon Potts, acting Director, Data Integrity, Quality & Operations and Registrar, will speak to this item.

*Draft Student Administration Policy*  
*Draft Admissions Procedures*  
*Draft Conferral and Academic Documentation Procedures*  
*Draft Credit for Prior Learning Procedures*  
*Draft Enrolment Procedures*  
*Draft Posthumous Awards Procedures*  
*Draft Progression Procedures*  
*Draft Recognition of Academic Excellence Procedures*  
*Draft Student Fees Procedures*  
*Draft Timetabling Procedures*

**For Discussion and Noting.**

**It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate notes:*

- i. the new Student Administration Policy and associated procedures; and*
- ii. Senate Executive Committee will be asked to approve the policy suite for implementation from 1 January 2026.*

☆ 4.10 **ACADEMIC CAREERS AT WESTERN: TOWARDS TRUST AND AUTONOMY IN ACADEMIC WORKLOADS**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 4.1.2, 4.2.3*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5*

Professor Kevin Dunn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Transformation to speak to this paper.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ 4.11 **2026-2030 INDIGENOUS STRATEGY**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 6.2.1g*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

A paper to present the 2026–2030 Indigenous Strategy to Academic Senate. This Strategy outlines Western Sydney University’s commitment to Indigenous excellence, leadership, and truth-telling, and sets a clear direction for embedding Indigenous perspectives across all areas of the University.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

**4.12 2024 THIRD PARTY PROVIDER ANNUAL QUALITY REVIEW REPORTS  
PART A - SUMMARY**

A paper to provide Academic Senate with a summary overview and findings from the 2024 Annual Quality Review Reports (Part A) for the University's third party partner providers.

**For Noting.**

**4.13 UPDATE FROM SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTES**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a, b, c, 6.3.2d-f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

There are no Updates from Schools and Institutes.

**4.14 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/HOT TOPICS**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 2.1.2, 4.1, 5, 7.3.3  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3*

**5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

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Chairs of the Senate Standing Committees will provide brief updates of the key developments from the committee.

**5.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a, 6.3.1d, 6.3.2d  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 3*

There are no reports from the Senate Executive Committee for noting. The Senate Executive Committee has not met since the last meeting of Academic Senate.

**5.2 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND CURRICULUM APPROVALS COMMITTEE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.2.1, 6.3.1a, c, 6.3.2c, d, f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 2, 3*

The confirmed minutes of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee (APCAC) meeting held on 26 August 2025 (meeting 25/07) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee (APCAC) meeting held on 30 September 2025 (meeting 25/08) are appended for noting.

**For Noting.**

**5.3 SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-d, 6.3.2d-f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3*

The confirmed minutes of the Senate Education Committee held on 7 August 2025 (meeting 25/05) are appended for noting.

**For Noting.**

**5.4 SENATE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-d, 6.3.2e-f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5*

The unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Assessment Committee held on 16 September 2025 (meeting 25/05) are appended for noting.

**For Noting.**

**5.5 RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-, 6.3.2e-f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 6*

The unconfirmed minutes of the Research Committee held on 17 September 2025 (meeting 25/04) are appended for noting.

**For Noting.**

**5.6 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.1a-, 6.3.2e-f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 6*

The confirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee meeting held on 5 August 2025 (Meeting 25/10), and the unconfirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee meetings held on 19 August 2025 (meeting 25/11) and on 2 September 2025 (meeting 25/12), are appended for noting by the Senate.

**For Noting.**

**5.7 ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.2.1, 6.3.1a-c, 6.3.2.d-f  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 2*

The are no Academic Senate Policy Committee minutes for noting.

## **5.8 THIRD-PARTY PROVIDER COMMITTEE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.4.2, 6.3.1a, 6.3.1d, 6.3.2d  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1,3*

The unconfirmed minutes of the Third-Party Provider Committee meeting held on 13 August 2025 (meeting 25/03) are appended for noting.

**For Noting.**

## **5.9 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday 3 December 2025.

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

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If raised at the meeting.

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

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The next meeting of the Academic Senate Committee (25/05) will be Friday 10 October 2025 at 9:30am at Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02).

The meetings scheduled for 2025 is as follows:

- 25/06 - Friday 5 December 2025