

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



ACADEMIC SENATE

The meeting (**Meeting 25/04**) of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday 15 August 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

☆ 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 Associate Professor Margarite Poulos, School of Humanities and Communication Arts (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 Kevin Dunn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Transformation
Dr Ranjith Liyanapathirana, School of Engineering, Design and Built Environment (Level A, B or C Representative)
Mr Glenn Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, The College
Professor Samantha Liyanapathirana, School of Engineering, Design and Built Environment (Level D or E Representative)
Professor Awais Piracha, School of Social Sciences (Level D or E Representative)
Professor Catherine Renshaw, Dean, School of Law

Professor Jane Frost, Interim Dean, School of Nursing and Midwifery to attend on behalf of Professor Ken Dunn

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 Bianca Jordaan, Chief Information Officer

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 2.3 Academic Senate Charter
- Item 3.1 Teaching Quality 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 Standing Committees
- Item 4.8 Retention
- Item 4.9 Revised Academic Capabilities Framework
- Item 4.12 Question on Notice/Hot Topics

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 20 June 2025 (meeting 25/03) are attached for confirmation.

For Confirmation.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on Friday 20 June 2025 (meeting 25/03) 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

☆ 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 Report to Senate for meeting 25/05 held on 23 June 2025 and 25/06 held on 10 July 2025 is appended.

2.1.1 1948 - BACHELOR OF PERFORMING ARTS (ACTING)

Endorsed at APCAC Meeting on 10 July 2025 (Resolution 25/06:03).

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate approves the introduction of the new program 1948 - Bachelor of Performing Arts (Acting) to commence in Autumn 2026 at the Penrith campus.

2.1.2 4741 - BACHELOR OF SPORT DEVELOPMENT

Endorsed at APCAC Meeting on 10 July 2025 (Resolution 25/06:30)

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the Vice-Chancellor's approval of the suspension of 4741 - Bachelor of Sport Development from 2026 and approves the transition arrangements.

2.1.3 4791 - BACHELOR OF HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PATHWAY TO TEACHING SECONDARY)

Endorsed at APCAC Meeting on 10 July 2025 (Resolution 25/06:31).

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the Vice-Chancellor's approval of the suspension of 4791 - Bachelor of Health and Physical Education (Pathway to Teaching Secondary) from 2026 and approves the transition arrangements.

2.1.4 2+2 INTERNATIONAL PATHWAY 25N0002 BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL TOURISM MANAGEMENT AT LYCEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES UNIVERSITY, ARTICULATING INTO THE BACHELOR OF TOURISM AND EVENT MANAGEMENT 1916 AT WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

Approved at APCAC Meeting on 10 July 2025 (Resolution 25/06:32).

For Noting.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate notes the new 2+2 International Pathway 25N0002 Bachelor of Science in International Tourism Management at Lyceum of The Philippines University, articulating into the Bachelor of Tourism and Event Management 1916 at Western Sydney University, comprising of guaranteed entry and 80cps of credit for prior learning.

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

- Medich Future Leader's Indigenous Scholarship
- Medich Indigenous Undergraduate Scholarship

Amendments to Existing Scholarships

- Network Rail Scholarship
- Warwick Cumming Refugee Scholarship
- Harvey Norman Young Women's Leadership Academy Scholarships

New Donor Prizes and Grants for Approval

- Bathurst Regional Council School of Medicine Rural Grant

For Approval.

It is recommended:

The Academic Senate review and approve the proposed new scholarships, review and approve the amendments to scholarships and review and approve the new donor funded grant for immediate execution.

☆ 2.3 ACADEMIC SENATE CHARTER

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.1.3d, 6.3
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

Professor Robert Mailhammer, Chair of Academic Senate to present a draft Academic Senate Charter to Academic Senate for discussion and endorsement.

For Discussion and Endorsement.

It is recommended:

It is recommended that the Academic Senate endorses the Academic Senate Charter and recommends its approval to the Board of Trustees.

2.4 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*

2.4.1 AUGUST CONFERRAL OF UNIVERSITY AWARDS

A paper for Academic Senate to approve the conferral of awards to students identified in the August 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.*

2.4.2 POSTHUMOUS AWARD

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

The School of Social Sciences approved the awarding of 1710 Bachelor of Criminology posthumously. The Senate Assessment Committee noted this posthumous award at the meeting held on Tuesday 15 July 2025 (meeting 25/04).

For Noting.

2.5 SENATE EXECUTIVE 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*

To amend the membership Terms of Reference of the Senate Executive Committee.

For Approval.

It is recommended:

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

2.6 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*

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.

2.7 THIRD PARTY PROVIDERS 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*

To amend the membership Terms of Reference of the Third-Party Providers Committee.

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate approves the updates to the membership in the Terms of Reference of the Third-Party Providers Committee.

2.8 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND CURRICULUM APPROVALS 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*

To amend the membership Terms of Reference of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee.

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate approves the updates to the membership in the Terms of Reference of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

☆ 3.1 TEACHING QUALITY FRAMEWORK

Higher Education Standard(s): 3.1.3, 3.2.1-4, 6.3.1.a, 6.3.2.h
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1,3, 5

Professor Maryanne Dever, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education and Students to provide an update to the Academic Senate on the Teaching Quality Framework.

For Discussion and Noting.

3.2 TEQSA RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION AND SELF-ASSURANCE

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.3.2
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1

A paper to provide Academic Senate with an update on the University's (1) renewal as a TEQSA registered Australian University provider, (2) renewal as a provider on the CRICOS register, and (3) post-renewal approach to self-assurance.

For Noting.

3.3 EXTENDED HOURS IT SUPPORT

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

A paper outlining three options for extending IT support hours across Western Sydney University campuses.

For Noting.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

☆ 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

Professor Deborah Sweeney 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

Professor Ian Anderson, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research and Enterprise may provide a verbal report.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ 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 **STANDING COMMITTEES**

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.1.3d, 6.3

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

A discussion on the Standing Committee structure. Professor Robert Mailhammer, Chair of Academic Senate to speak to this item.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ **4.8 RETENTION**

Higher Education Standard(s): 1.3.5, 5.3.3, 5.3.4.a,5.3.7, 6.3.1b, 6.3.2e, 6.3.2.g
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6

Professor Alphia Possamai-Inesedy, Pro Vice-Chancellor Student Success and Professor Kurt Langfeld, Dean, School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences, to speak to this item.

For Discussion and Noting.

☆ **4.9 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 Jane Frost to brief Academic Senate on the update and refresh of the Academic Capabilities Framework (ACF).

For Discussion and Noting.

4.10 ACADEMIC DECASUALISATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Higher Education Standard(s): 3.2.1-2, 6.3.1.a, 6.3.2.e
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6

Professor Jane Frost may provide an update Academic Senate on the progress of the University's Academic Decasualisation Program.

For Noting.

4.11 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.

☆ **4.12 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

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.

5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

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 23 June 2025 (meeting 25/05) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee (APCAC) meeting held on 10 July 2025 (meeting 25/06) 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 biannual Delegation Report for the Senate Education Committee is appending for noting.

The unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Education Committee held on 26 June 2025 (meeting 25/04) 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 15 July 2025 (meeting 25/04) 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 confirmed minutes of the Research Committee held on 30 April 2025 (meeting 25/02) 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 17 June 2025 (Meeting 25/07), and the unconfirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee meetings held on 1 July 2025 (meeting 25/08) and on 8 July 2025 (meeting 25/09), 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*

A summary and the biannual Delegation Report for the Third-Party Provider Committee is appending for noting.

The confirmed minutes of the Third-Party Provider Committee meeting held on 2 April 2025 (meeting 25/02) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Third-Party Provider Committee meeting held on 16 July 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 Friday 12 September 2025.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

If raised at the meeting.

7. NEXT MEETING

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:

- 25/05 - Friday 10 October 2025
- 25/06 - Friday 5 December 2025