

# WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



## ACADEMIC SENATE

The meeting (**Meeting 25/03**) of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday 20 June 2025** at, **9:30AM**, at, **Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02)**.

For apologies and enquiries, contact Georgia Vasiliadis by email at:  
[G.Vasiliadis@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:G.Vasiliadis@westernsydney.edu.au)

## 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 Kylie Steel, School of Health (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 Jane Frost, Interim Dean, School of Nursing and Midwifery

Dr Peter Lewis, School of Nursing and Midwifery (Level A, B or C Representative)

Dr Nicolene Murdoch, Pro Vice-Chancellor Global

Professor Jeff Powell, Interim Dean, Graduate Research School

Professor Catherine Renshaw, Dean, School of Law

Professor Brian Stout, Pro Vice-Chancellor Learning and Teaching

Associate Professor Chloe Taylor, Vice-Chancellor's Nominee, SAGE Chair

*Professor Gabrielle Weidemann, Interim Dean, School of Psychology*

*Professor Amir Mahmood, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Surabaya campus*

*Professor Alpha Possamai-Inesedy, Pro Vice-Chancellor Student Success*

*Professor Maryanne Dever, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Education*

*Professor Deborah Sweeney, Provost*

*Professor Gabrielle Drake, Interim Dean, School of Social Sciences*

*Associate Professor Mourad Tayebi, Deputy Chair of Academic Senate*

Associate Professor Leeanne Heaton, Deputy Dean, School of Nursing and Midwifery is attending on behalf of Professor Jane Frost.

Professor Juliette Overland, Deputy Dean, School of Law is attending on behalf of Professor Catherine Renshaw.

*Associate Professor Tania Perich, Acting Deputy Dean, School of Psychology is attending on behalf of Professor Gabrielle Weidemann.*

*Dr Ana Rodas, Associate Dean Teaching and Learning attending on behalf of Professor Drake*

In Attendance:

Ms Shubha Devadasen, Associate Director, Office of Governance Services, Secretariat

Ms Bianca Jordaan, Chief Information Officer

Mr Philip Maloney, University General Counsel

Professor Freya MacMillan, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor Research

Ms Karen Rae, Executive Officer, Office of the Vice-Chancellor and President

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 2.4 Ethical Decision Making in Research Partnerships
- Item 2.6 Commonwealth Prac Payment (CPP) - *inclusion of late item*
- Item 3.3 Question on Notice/Hot Topic
- Item 4.1 Chair's Report
- Item 4.2 Vice Chancellor's Report
- Item 4.3 Student Report
- Item 4.4 External Review of Academic Senate Implementation
- Item 4.5 School Review Update
- Item 4.6 Product Review Update
- Item 4.7 Teaching Quality Framework
- Item 5.2 Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee
- Item 5.3 Senate Education Committee
- Item 5.4 Senate Assessment Committee
- Item 5.5 Academic Senate Policy Committee
- Item 5.6 Research Committee
- Item 5.7 Research Studies Committee

**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 11 April 2025 (meeting 25/02) are attached for confirmation.

**For Confirmation.**

**It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on Friday 11 April 2025 (meeting 25/02) 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 reports for meeting 25/03 held on 6 May 2025 is appended.

**For Approval.**

**It is recommended:**

*That Academic Senate notes the report of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee meeting held on 6 May 2025 (meeting 25/03) and:*

- i. Approves the retirement of 1723 Master of Education (Social Ecology) and its nested programs; 1724 Graduate Certificate in Education (Social Ecology)*

*and 1725 Graduate Diploma in Education (Social Ecology) (exit only), from 2H 2025, endorses the transition arrangements.*

- ii. Notes the approval of the retirement of 2789 Bachelor of Business (Advanced Business Leadership)/ Bachelor of Laws from 2025.*
- iii. Notes the approval of suspension of Intake to program 4735 - Master of Nursing (Professional Studies) and its nested programs from Spring 2025.*
- iv. Notes the approval of the new Domestic Pathway Proposals 24L0141-24L0142 TAFE NSW MSF40222 Certificate IV in Furniture Design and Manufacturing, articulating into either the Bachelor of Design and Technology 3729 or Bachelor of Industrial Design 3730 at Western Sydney University, comprising of guaranteed entry only.*
- v. Notes the approval of the new pathways from the Foundation Studies (Science) program at Western Sydney University International College, articulating into the listed undergraduate programs, comprising of guaranteed entry only.*

The Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee reports for meeting 25/04 held on 3 June 2025 is appended.

### **For Approval.**

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

*That Academic Senate notes the report of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee meeting held on 3 June 2025 (meeting 25/04) and:*

- i. Approves the introduction of the new program 1947 - Associate Degree in Applied Policing to commence in Policing Trimester 1, 2026 at the Goulburn campus.*
- ii. Notes the approval of the discontinuation of the Business programs listed in the memo from 2025.*
- iii. Notes the approval of the suspension of the 2793 M Financial Planning, 2794 GD Financial Planning and 2795 GC Financial Planning programs from Q3, 2025 and discontinuation of the 2787 B Business (ABL) from 2025, as listed in the memo.*
- iv. Notes the approval of the revised pathways 25L0001-25L0006 Western Sydney University International College Diploma of Information and Communications Technology (3 Term and 2 Term Accelerated Programs), articulating into either the Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology 3639, Bachelor of Information Systems 3687, or Bachelor of Computer Science 3506 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 prizes.

*New Donor-Funded Scholarships for Approval*

- GO Foundation Environmental Scholarship
- Eastern Tunnelling Package Indigenous Scholarship
- Network Rail Scholarship
- Turner Freeman Scholarship in Succession and Elder Law
- Turner Freeman Scholarship in Torts Law

*Amendments to Existing Scholarships*

- William Orule Memorial Law Scholarship
- Dean's Western Sydney Local Health District Master of Art Therapy Indigenous Scholarship
- The ACMA Charitable Trust Scholarship
- GPT First Nations Scholarship
- AirTrunk STEM Scholarships

*New Donor Funded Prizes for Approval*

- Built Australia Award for Academic Excellence
- Antigone Kefala Memorial Prize
- Buttar, Caldwell & Co. Solicitors Award in Revenue Law
- Australian Law Advocates Prize
- Riverwood Migration Award in Immigration Law
- The Nufail Ali Prize in History of Religion

**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 prizes 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 AWARDING OF UNIVERSITY MEDALS**

The report of the Chair of Academic Senate approval on 22 May 2025 is appended for noting by members and consisted of the following item:

*The approval of the award of the University Medal to the graduates listed in the Attachment – Graduates awarded the University Medal, by the Chair of Academic Senate on behalf of Academic Senate.*

**For Noting.**

### **2.3.2 JUNE CONFERRAL OF UNIVERSITY AWARDS**

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

### **2.3.3 POSTHUMOUS AWARD**

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

There are no posthumous awards for noting.

### **☆ 2.4 ETHICAL DECISION MAKING IN RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 4.1.1.a, 4.2.4  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1,3, 6*

Professor Freya MacMillan, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research to present a paper on Ethical Decision Making in Research Partnerships to Academic Senate.

#### **For Discussion and Endorsement.**

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

*That Academic Senate endorse the use of and embedding of the Ethical Decision Making in Research Partnerships framework within the Responsible Conduct of Research Policy.*

## **2.5 RESEARCH 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 Research Committee to reflect the membership change of the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprise replacing the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice President, Research, Enterprise & International.

**For Approval.**

**It is recommended:**

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

## **☆ 2.6 COMMONWEALTH PRAC PAYMENT (CPP)**

*Higher Education Standard(s) :6.3.3  
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 3*

A paper to seek the Academic Senate's approval of the new Commonwealth Prac Payment (CPP) student grant. Ms Jess Gleeson, Director, Data Integrity, Quality & Operations and Registrar to speak to this item.

**It is recommended:**

*The Academic Senate review and approve the proposed details the Commonwealth Prac Payment (CPP).*

## **3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

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### **☆ 3.1 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*

A discussion on how Academic Senate can ensure that the current levels of information technology (IT) support promote 'academic quality' and 'quality... research' in the University. Professor Ann Dadich to speak to this.

**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 11 April 2025 has been circulated. The Chair will provide an update on any recent developments and will answer any questions in relation to the report. The Chair's report to the 4 June 2025 meeting of the Board of Trustees is appended to the Chair's 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 **STUDENT REPORT**

*Higher Education Standard(s) :6.3.3*

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

The Student Representatives may provide a verbal report.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ 4.4 **EXTERNAL REVIEW OF ACADEMIC SENATE IMPLEMENTATION**

*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 provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ 4.5 **SCHOOL REVIEW UPDATE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.3*

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

Professor Kevin Dunn, Provost, to provide an update to the Academic Senate on Next Steps for the School Review.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ 4.6 **PRODUCT REVIEW UPDATE**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 5.3.1, 6.3.1d, 6.3.2c+f, 7.2.2a*

*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 Product Review.

**For Discussion and Noting.**

☆ **4.7 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.**

**4.8 RESEARCH QUALITY FORUM REPORT**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 4.1.1a, 4.2.1f, 5.2.1, 6.3.2h*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 6*

A report to update Academic Senate on updated on the discussions that took place at the Research Quality Forum held on Thursday, 29 May 2025.

**For Noting.**

**4.9 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.**

**4.10 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.

**4.11 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*

There are no Questions on Notice/Hot Topics.

**4.12 WSU/CSU JOINT PROGRAM IN MEDICINE – TRANSITION PLAN**

*Higher Education Standard(s): 3.1.4, 3.1.5, 5.4.2*  
*Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1,3, 5*

A memorandum outlining the transition plan to phase out the Western Sydney University and Charles Stuart University Joint Program in Medicine.

**For noting.**

## **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 6 May 2025 (meeting 25/03) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Academic Planning and Curriculum Approvals Committee (APCAC) meeting held on 3 June 2025 (meeting 25/03) 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 10 April 2025 (meeting 25/02) and the unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Education Committee held on 29 May 2025 (meeting 25/03) 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 13 May 2025 (meeting 25/03) 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 19 February 2025 (meeting 25/01) and the unconfirmed 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 meetings held on 8 April 2025 (Meeting 25/03) and 13 May 2025 (Meeting 25/05), and the unconfirmed minutes of the Research Studies Committee meeting held on 27 May 2025 (Meeting 25/06) 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*

There are no Third-Party Provider Committee minutes for noting.

**5.9 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Friday 12 September 2025. 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](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/about_uws/leadership/board_of_trustees)

## **5.10 2024 ANNUAL REPORTS**

The purpose of this item is for Senate to ensure that all Standing Committees of Academic Senate are carrying out their functions in accordance with their Terms of Reference.

Chairs of the Senate Standing Committees will provide brief updates regarding the committee.

### **5.10.1 ACADEMIC SENATE APPEALS COMMITTEE**

The Academic Appeals and Integrity Committee Annual Report for 2024 is appended for noting.

**For Noting.**

## **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 (25/04) will be Friday 15 August 2025 at 9:30am at Parramatta South Campus, Boardroom 1 (PS-EB.2.02).

The meetings scheduled for 2025 is as follows:

- 25/04 - Friday 15 August 2025
- 25/05 - Friday 10 October 2025
- 25/06 - Friday 5 December 2025