

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



ACADEMIC SENATE

The meeting (**Meeting 26/03**) of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University will be held on **Friday 3 July 2026** 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:

Western Sydney University acknowledges that today's meeting is being held on the country of the Burramattagal People of the Darug Nation People and acknowledges their ancestors who have been Traditional Custodians of their country for tens of thousands of years. Western Sydney University also wishes to acknowledge and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

The Chair will welcome all members and attendees.

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

Professor Kevin Dunn, Executive Dean, SABEL

Ms Jess Gleeson, Registrar

Professor Evelyn Smith, Senior Discipline Expert (Faculty of Health)

Mr Simon Potts, Deputy Registrar will be attending on behalf of Ms Jess Gleeson

Professor Michele Simons, Acting Executive Dean, SABEL will be attending on behalf of Professor Kevin Dunn

In Attendance:

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

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 [Integrity Compliance and Reporting Policy \(Conflicts of Interest, Gifts and Benefits\)](#) 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 Coursework Programs Committee Approvals
- Item 2.3 Update to the Standing Orders
- Item 4.1 Chair's Report
- Item 4.2 Vice Chancellor's Report
- Item 4.3 Provost Report
- Item 4.5 Pro Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation Report
- Item 4.6 Student Report
- Item 4.11 Research Strategy
- Item 4.12 Transnational Academic Governance
- Item 4.15 Questions on Notice

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 8 May 2026 (meeting 26/02) are attached for confirmation.

For Confirmation.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate confirms the minutes of the Senate meeting held on Friday 8 May 2026 (meeting 26/02) 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 2026 Forward Planner are attached.

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

2. APPROVALS

2.1 ☆ COURSEWORK PROGRAMS COMMITTEE APPROVALS

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 Chair's report – memo to Academic Senate following the Coursework Programs Committee (CPC) meetings held on 14 May 2026 (meeting 26/03) and 11 June 2026 (meeting 26/04), is appended for noting.

2.1.1 PROPOSAL-19612 DISCONTINUATION OF THE COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS FROM BLOCK E, 2025

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

7182	Undergraduate Certificate in Engineering
7181	Undergraduate Certificate in Early Childhood Studies
7180	Undergraduate Certificate in Business Management
7171	Undergraduate Certificate in Public Health Support
7176	Undergraduate Certificate in Disability Care Support
7175	Undergraduate Certificate in Environmental Sustainability
7174	Undergraduate Certificate in Information and Communications Technology
7173	Undergraduate Certificate in Aged Care Support
7172	Undergraduate Certificate in Health Services Management
7179	Undergraduate Certificate in Cybersecurity, Cybercrime and Behaviour
7170	Undergraduate Certificate in Counselling and Mental Health

For Noting.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate considers proposal 19612 and notes the program discontinuations.

2.1.2 PROPOSAL-20496 DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE INDUSTRIES AND COMMUNICATION - SUSPENSION FOR SPRING 2026 INTAKE ONLY

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Noting.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate considers proposal 20496 and notes the program suspension.

2.1.3 PROPOSAL-21361 MASTER OF DATA ENGINEERING

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Noting.

It is recommended:

For noting only. This program has been identified and approved for discontinuation by Provost.

2.1.4 PROPOSAL-20347 SUSPENSION AND DISCONTINUATION OF SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING, DESIGN AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

3703	Master of Building Surveying
3708	Master of Bushfire Protection
3730	Bachelor of Industrial Design
3782	Bachelor of Construction Management Advanced (Honours)
3801	Bachelor of Building Design Management (Honours)

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 20347 and:

- a) notes the programs for Suspension and Discontinuation, and*
- b) approves the transition arrangements.*

2.1.5 PROPOSAL-21742 2797 MASTER OF MANAGEMENT

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Noting.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 21742 and notes the program for Suspension and Discontinuation.

2.1.6 PROPOSAL-21743 2624 MASTER OF BUSINESS (OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT)

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Noting.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 21743 and notes the program for Suspension and Discontinuation.

2.1.7 PROPOSAL-21744 2821 GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN START UP SCALE UP

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Noting.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 21744 and notes the program for Suspension and Discontinuation.

2.1.8 PROPOSAL-20110 2845 MASTERS QUALIFYING PROGRAM WITH BUSINESS ENGLISH

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Noting.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 20110 and notes the delay to the program discontinuation.

2.1.9 PROPOSAL-21342 2826 JURIS DOCTOR & NEW SUBJECTS

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 21342 and approves the addition of the program offering.

2.1.10 PROPOSAL-21532 3762 BACHELOR OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT (HONOURS) & RELATED PROGRAMS, FOSS AND SUBJECTS

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

3762	Bachelor of Construction Management (Honours)
3806	Bachelor of Construction Management (exit only)
3692	Bachelor of Construction Technology

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 21532, and;

a) approves the new program, and;

b) notes the program discontinuation, and;

c) approves the transition arrangements.

2.1.11 PROPOSAL-21755 CHEMISTRY, TESTAMUR MAJOR

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 21755 and approves the field of study variation (offerings).

2.1.12 PROPOSAL-19813 MASTER OF CREATIVE MUSIC THERAPY

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

1953 Master of Creative Music Therapy

1650 Master of Creative Music Therapy

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 19813, and;

a) approves the new program, and;

b) notes the program discontinuation, and;

c) approves the transition arrangements.

2.1.13 PROPOSAL-19417 MASTER OF EDUCATION

The Committee is requested to review the curriculum items for consideration at this meeting via the Curriculum Management Platform (CMP), [CMP Meeting Book](#).

For Approval.

It is recommended:

That the Academic Senate Committee considers proposal 19417 and approves the new program and discontinuation of programs.

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 scholarships, amendment to the Scholarship Continuing Eligibility Requirements to Existing Scholarships, amendments to existing scholarships, new donor funded prizes and amendments to existing donor funded prizes for immediate execution.

New Scholarships

- Wilma Legacy Scholarship for Women

Amendments to Existing Scholarships

- Aunty Kerrie Doyle Scholarship in Medicine and Nursing & Midwifery
- Elizabeth Dibbs Law & Social Justice Scholarship
- Elizabeth Dibbs Performing Arts Scholarship
- AirTrunk STEM Scholarships

New Donor Funded Prizes

- Leo Cussen Prize for Professional Responsibility and Legal Ethics
- MistryFallahi Moot Cup

Amendments to Existing Prizes

- APA Physiotherapy prize
- Oxford University Press Award for Legal Analysis and Critique

For Approval.

It is recommended:

The Academic Senate review and approve the proposed new scholarships, the amendment to the Scholarship Continuing Eligibility Requirements to Existing Scholarships, amendments to existing scholarships, new donor funded prizes and amendments to existing donor funded prizes for immediate execution.

2.3 ☆ UPDATE TO THE STANDING ORDERS

*Higher Education Standard(s): 6.2.1f, 6.3.1a-d, 6.3.2.b, 6.3.3
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 2*

A paper to seek Academic Senate (Senate) approval on the revised Academic Senate - Standing Orders as presented with this paper.

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate approves the revised Academic Senate - Standing Orders to become effective as on the date of its approval.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There is no business arising from previous meetings.

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 8 May 2026 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 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

The Provost's Report is appended. Professor Deborah Sweeney, Provost will speak to this 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

There is no Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education and Students' Report.

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 will 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 student report is appended. Mr Harsumeet Singh, the postgraduate coursework student representative to speak to this report.

For Discussion and Noting.

4.7 UPDATED APPROACH TO PROGRAM TEACH OUT AND TRANSITION

Higher Education Standard(s): 1.3.2, 1.3.5, 1.3.6, 5.4.2, 6.2.1f, 6.2.1i, 6.3.2c-f, 7.2.2d

Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 2, 3, 5

To present to Senate the updated approach to capturing teach out and transition plans for suspended and discontinued programs, replacing the current E18 form.

For Noting.

4.8 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BI-ANNUAL REPORT

Higher Education Standard(s): 6.2.1c, 6.2.1d

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

A paper to provide the Academic Senate Committee with a bi-annual update on coursework scholarships for 2026.

For Noting.

4.9 TRANSNATIONAL ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE

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

A paper to formalise Senate the academic governance and reporting arrangements for the University's transnational education (TNE) and educational partnership activities.

For Noting.

4.10 RESEARCH SCORECARD

*Higher Education Standard(s): 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 6.3.1.a-b, 6.3.2.e+h
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

A paper to inform Academic Senate of the University's research performance.

For Noting.

4.11 ☆ RESEARCH STRATEGY

*Higher Education Standard(s): 4.1.1-2, 6.1.3.c, 6.3.1.a, 6.3.2.d+h
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

To provide the Senate with the draft Research Strategy for discussion.

For Discussion and Noting.

4.12 THIRD PARTY PROVIDER ANNUAL QUALITY REPORT SUMMARY 2025

*Higher Education Standard(s) Satisfied: 5.3.7, 5.4.2, 6.3.1a-d, 6.3.2d-h
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3*

To provide Academic Senate with a summary overview and findings from the 2025 Annual Quality Review Reports for the University's third party partner providers.

For Noting.

4.13 SHORTER-FORM LEARNING: A NEW APPROACH REPLACING MICROCREDENTIALS

*Higher Education Standard(s): 3.1.1a-g, 3.1.2a-c, 3.1.3, 3.1.4, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3a, 5.3.2, 6.3.2c-f
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 5, 6*

To inform Academic Senate of a new approach to shorter-form learning replacing the current microcredentials approach with a suite of non-accredited and non-credit-bearing short courses, created based on externally identified demand.

For Noting.

4.14 UPDATE FROM FACULTIES 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 Faculties and Institutes.

4.15 ☆ QUESTIONS ON NOTICE/HOT TOPICS

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

The Question on Notice has been appended.

5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

5.1 COURSEWORK PROGRAMS 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 Coursework Programs Committee (CPC) meeting held on 14 May 2026 (meeting 26/03), and the unconfirmed minutes of the Coursework Programs Committee (CPC) meeting held on 11 June 2026 (meeting 26/04), are appended for noting.

For Noting.

5.2 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 unconfirmed minutes of the Senate Education Committee held on 28 May 2026 (meeting 26/02) are appended for noting.

For Noting.

5.3 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 9 June 2026 (meeting 26/03) are appended for noting.

For Noting.

5.4 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 2026 (meeting 26/02) are appended for noting.

For Noting.

5.5 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 minutes held on 20 May 2026 (meeting 26/02) are appended for noting.

For Noting.

5.6 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday 3 September 2026.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

If raised at the meeting.

7. NEXT MEETING

The meetings scheduled for 2026 are as follows:

- EX26/01 – Tuesday 4 August 2026
- 26/04 – Friday 11 September 2026
- 26/05 – Friday 11 December 2026.

Meeting Date	Paper Submission Deadline
EX26/01 Tuesday 4 August 2026	Tuesday 21 July 2026
26/04 Friday 11 September 2026	Friday 28 August 2026
26/05 Friday 11 December 2026	Friday 27 November2026