



ACADEMIC SENATE

The extraordinary meeting (**Meeting ex26/01**) of the Academic Senate, Western Sydney University will be held on **Tuesday 4 August 2026** at, **1:30pm**, 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:

Dr Miranda Daly, Level A or B Representative, Faculty of Health

Professor Jacqueline Ullman, Senior Discipline Expert, Faculty of SABEL

In Attendance:

Professor Freya MacMillan, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor Research

Ms Christine Sharpe, Associate Director, Office of Governance Services, Secretariat (Acting)

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 Educational Delivery and Award Formats
- Item 2.2 Research
- Item 2.3 Reporting
- Item 2.4 Academic Workload
- Item 2.5 Academic Promotions Review
- Item 2.6 Curriculum Structure Procedure

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.

2. GENERAL BUSINESS

2.1 ☆ EDUCATIONAL DELIVERY AND AWARD FORMATS

Higher Education Standard(s): 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 5.1
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 4, 5

A discussion on Block Mode teaching and alternative award formats. Professor Brian Stout to speak to this item.

For Discussion and Noting.

2.2 ☆ RESEARCH

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

A discussion on research quality, the research quality framework, reporting on research quality and research priorities. Professor Ian Anderson may speak to this item.

For Discussion and Noting.

2.3 ☆ QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING

Higher Education Standard(s): 5.3, 6.3.1a, b, 6.3.2d, e, f, g, h
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6

A paper on reporting student performance and research. Mr Omer Yezdani to speak to this item.

For Discussion and Noting.

2.4 ☆ ACADEMIC WORKLOAD

Higher Education Standard(s): 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3a-c, 3.2.5, 5.1.3c, 6.2.1f, 6.3.1a, 6.3.1c
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6

A discussion on academic workloads, the application of the 40-40-20 workload model, and regular reporting, monitoring or review processes. Professor Deborah Sweeney may speak to this item.

For Discussion and Noting.

2.5 ☆ ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS REVIEW

Higher Education Standard(s): 2.3 4.1, 4.2
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6

A discussion to incorporate the views of Senate members within the Review process. Dr Kiernyn McKay to speak to this item.

For Discussion and Noting.

2.6 ☆ CURRICULUM STRUCTURE PROCEDURE: TOWARDS A SIMPLER, MORE FLEXIBLE AND MORE TRANSPARENT CURRICULUM ARCHITECTURE

Higher Education Standard(s): 1, 3
Mitigation against risk(s) in Academic Senate Risk Register: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6

A paper that introduces the proposed new Curriculum Structure Procedure and seeks early feedback from Academic Senate on its overall direction and intended benefits. Professor Cath Ellis may speak to this paper.

For Discussion and Noting.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

If raised at the meeting.

4. NEXT MEETING

The meetings scheduled for 2026 are as follows:

- 26/04 – Friday 11 September 2026
- 26/05 – Friday 11 December 2026.

Meeting Date	Paper Submission Deadline
26/04 Friday 11 September 2026	Friday 28 August 2026
26/05 Friday 11 December 2026	Friday 27 November2026