SCHOOL OF BUSINESS WORK PLAN COMMITTEE ELECTION
CANDIDATE STATEMENTS
(Four staff to be elected)

As at the close of nominations the following valid nominations were received:

Mr Michael STACK
Professor Suzan BURTON
Professor John LODEWIJKS
Professor George LAFFERTY
Associate Professor Philip ROSS

The following statements have been provided by the candidates. The order of the statements was determined by lot.

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Mr Michael STACK
(Property)

Hopefully this candidature will secure the confidence of fellow academic staff representing their interests & seek permission to continue the work of those esteemed recently departed colleagues on the SoB Workplan Committee if successful.

Mick joined UWS as a Lecturer in Valuation in the former Faculty of Business and Land Economy in 1991, Hawkesbury. Circa 1996, Blacktown based as property group in SCPP until a second restructure with SEF, 2006; finally succumbing to a third organisational change, SoB upon relocation to Parramatta, 2010.

Prior academic administrative experience:
- various teaching and HoS selection committees;
- external distance undergraduate and acting postgraduate Masters course program-coordination roles over 20 years;
- student welfare issues; and
- on-going extra-curricular UWSH sporting team involvement as a coach, player, club official/venue-cleaner and gear-steward.

Previous to academe, held senior certified practising property valuation public/private sector positions whilst maintaining current unrestricted licence registration, professional affiliations and industry links.

The tenor of leadership of our school sets the culture and vision. Excellent leadership is exhibited by exemplary standards in integrity, innovation and inspiration. Such hallmarks enhance open and transparent communication to all stakeholders engendering a trusting, cooperative workplace-environment without the need for onerous protocols. Mindfully, Mick will strive for achievable outcomes:
- halting deterioration of hard-won conditions with counter-balanced constructive suggestions and positive incentives;
widely canvassing collective concerns;
advocate educator/researcher needs irrespective of aspiration or métier;
highlight vital resourcing challenges: blended learning, CPD and maintaining high quality tertiary standards; &
due recognition and communication of the extent of tasks executed daily by academics, a core objective.

Mick is a suitable candidate because he:
• is a proud educator, diligent, fair-minded and will give it a red hot go;
• uniquely experienced a successful defence outcome under the workplace dispute referral system.

Professor Suzan BURTON
(Marketing)

I’m a Professor in the Marketing discipline in the School of Business. While I have a decreased teaching load compared to some staff due to my research, I know only too well the pressures on academics who are trying to develop or maintain research activity, or even just cope with the demands of teaching. So I am nominating for this committee because I think it is important that the work plan agreement provides scope for different staff to balance different proportions of time spent on research, teaching, and administration. As a former Associate Dean Research (acting) I want to ensure we have a work plan that supports research.

I also know that within the School of Business people contribute in different ways: some may prefer not to pursue research, so will appropriately have a workload which requires more teaching and/or administrative hours than those who are working on research. Particularly for those people, with the likely implementation of another term/semester, we need to have a work plan which ensured people have adequate time to use their annual leave.

I’m aware that several of the people nominating for the work plan committee are professors, which may suggest a committee that is dominated by one academic viewpoint. In contrast, however, I think the other professorial nominees, like me, see the increasing pressures on more junior staff, and want to work on developing a work plan that provides more junior staff with some of the opportunities that we had to develop our careers.

Professor John LODEWIJKS
(Economics)

John is a former Head, School of Economics and Finance, at UWS and Head, Department of Economics at UNSW. He was awarded the Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence, UNSW, and the Carrick Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning while at UWS. He has been a Director of a Research Centre and Editor of a Journal. Under the new UWS Workplan procedures, the School of Economics and Finance Workplan committee was
the first of all Schools to submit a workplan to the university committee. The workplan followed all agreed processes and procedures and was developed harmoniously and collegially by all staff concerned.

Professor George LAFFERTY  
(employment relations)

I’m currently Professor, Employment Relations. Previously I was Professor & Director of the Industrial Relations Centre, Victoria University of Wellington. Before that I worked at Griffith University and the University of Queensland, where I occupied a wide range of governance roles.

The main background and experience I’d bring to the Work Plan Committee would be: 1) previous membership of numerous local, state and national committees on employment-related issues; and 2) research and teaching on topics closely related to workloads (e.g. flexible working arrangements).

I’d hope to make a constructive contribution to the Committee, to ensure that all staff can have a balanced, manageable workload suited to their career goals and personal commitments. I also believe that this Committee may offer one avenue towards developing a more participatory approach to serious workplace issues.

Associate Professor Philip ROSS  
(accounting)

Phil Ross was the Chair of the College of Business and Law Workload committee at UWS for four years. He is also a former Head, School of Accounting at UWS where he completed a five year term in December 2011. These two roles have given Phil a strong background in policy formulation and implementation. Phil also has significant experience across all areas of academic life including coordinating small and large units. He understands the complexities involved in these roles and the significant time it takes to fulfil them properly. Phil’s experience places him in a strong position to make significant contributions to the workplan committee in order to develop a policy that is consistent with the University-wide Work plan Policy Framework and the Academic Staff Agreement.