ACADEMIC SENATE

The next meeting (Meeting 12/02) of the Academic Senate of the University of Western Sydney will be held on Friday 4 May 2012 at 9:30am in the Boardroom, Building AD at Werrington North.

For apologies and enquiries, telephone (02) 9678 7894, fax (02) 9678 7831 or email m.derby@uws.edu.au.

AGENDA

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

✰1.1 INTRODUCTION, WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES AS12/02-1.1

The Chair of Academic Senate, Associate Professor Paul Wormell, will chair the meeting.

This is the first Senate meeting for Professor Deborah Stevenson who has been appointed as an Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research).

Any apologies will be reported.

✰1.2 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Members are requested to declare any conflict of interest, in terms of the Conflict of Interest Guidelines, they may have in relation to the items on this agenda. The Conflict of Interest Guidelines are available on the Policy DDS at: http://policies.uws.edu.au/view.current.php?id=00093.

Members are reminded that they should also declare any conflicts that become apparent during a meeting of Academic Senate or one of its committees.

✰1.3 STARRING OF ITEMS

Senate members will be asked which items they wish starred for discussion.

Apart from procedural items, items already starred on the agenda are:

• 3.2 TEQSA Higher Education Standards and Regulatory Risk Framework
• 3.3 AQF Compliance
• 3.4 Learning and Teaching Plan
• 3.9 Education for Sustainability Conference

It is recommended:

That the documents for all unstared agenda items be noted and, except where alternative action is noted as appropriate, all recommendations contained in those items be endorsed.

✰1.4 ORDER OF BUSINESS

If a re-arrangement of the order of business is required.
1.5 OTHER BUSINESS
Members are invited to nominate other relevant matters, noting that such items will normally be included on the agenda for a future meeting.

1.6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AS12/02-1.6

The minutes of the Academic Senate meeting held on 24 February 2012 are appended.

It is recommended:
That Academic Senate confirm the minutes of the Senate meeting held on 24 February 2012 as an accurate record.

2 BUSINESS ARISING

2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 MINUTE 3.5 – CHANGES TO ACADEMIC POLICIES

At the 24 February 2012 meeting...

“It was resolved (AS12:01/07):
That the Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the Academic Policies Framework, effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.

It was resolved (AS12:01/08):
That the Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the Review of Grade Policy, effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.

It was resolved (AS12:01/09):
That the Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the External Advisory Committee Policy, effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.

It was resolved (AS12:01/10):
That the Academic Senate endorse the proposed amendments to the Scholarships for Undergraduates Policy, and recommends the Policy to the Vice-Chancellor for approval.

It was resolved (AS12:01/11):
That the Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the Graduation Policy, effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.

It was resolved (AS12:01/12):
That the Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the Advanced Standing Policy, effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.

It was resolved (AS12:01/13):
That the Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the Award Courses and Units Approval Policy, effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.”
All of these policies have now been published on the Policy DDS or will be published shortly.

2.2 MINUTE 2.2 – STUDENT ELECTIONS

At the 24 February 2012 meeting...

“It was resolved (AS12:01/04):

That the individuals who were elected as:
- the undergraduate student on the School of Law School Academic Committee
- the undergraduate student on the School of Medicine School Academic Committee
- the undergraduate student on the Education Committee
- the undergraduate student on the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee
- the higher-degree research student on the Research Committee

... for the period 1 June 2011 to 31 May 2013 be invited to continue in office for the remainder of their terms. If they are unwilling to serve, or are otherwise unavailable to be members of their respective committees, their positions will be filled by an election; and

that Senate approve the calling of elections to fill positions for elected students on the Senate’s standing committees, for two-year terms, with the call for nominations to be after the 31 March 2012 Census Date.”

The undergraduate student on the School of Law School Academic Committee is continuing in the position, and all the other student elections are currently in progress. Notices of election have been issued, with nominations closing on 4 May 2012.

3 GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 CHAIR’S REPORT AS12/02-3.1

A written report from the Chair, covering recent activities undertaken on behalf of the Senate since 24 February 2012 is appended.

The Chair will answer any questions in relation to the report, if requested.

3.2 TEQSA HIGHER EDUCATION STANDARDS AND REGULATORY RISK FRAMEWORK

The TEQSA “Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards)” was published in December 2011, and can be obtained from the web-site at: http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2012L00003/Download

As stated in the explanatory statement ....
“The introduction of a higher education standards-based quality regulatory framework under TEQSA will ensure that all higher education providers meet or exceed the Threshold Standards under the Standards Framework.”

Following the discussion at the 24 February Academic Senate meeting, the Chair will report on measures the University is undertaking to comply with the Provider and Qualification Standards, taking into account the TEQSA Regulatory Risk Framework which “...sets out TEQSA’s policy and processes for identifying and assessing risk in the higher education sector.”

For consideration and discussion

3.3 AUSTRALIAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK COMPLIANCE AS12/02-3.3

At the 24 February Academic Senate meeting, it was noted ...

“... TEQSA had adopted the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), and the University would have to look at courses, learning outcomes, and assessment to ensure compliance.”

The Chair will lead a discussion on the arrangements to ensure the University’s compliance with the AQF. A paper is appended.

Recommendation

That Senate endorse the process and timeline for ensuring that all UWS award courses comply with the revised Australian Qualifications Framework.

3.4 LEARNING AND TEACHING PLAN 2012-2014 AS12/02-3.4

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) will discuss the University’s draft Learning and Teaching Plan for 2012-2014. The latest iteration of the Plan is appended.

For consideration and discussion

3.5 REPORT OF THE AHEGS (AUSTRALIAN HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATION STATEMENT) STEERING COMMITTEE AS12/01-3.5

Appended is a report from the AHEGS Steering Committee,

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate note the report of the AHEGS Steering Committee.

3.6 MINOR CHANGES TO ACADEMIC POLICIES – INHERENT REQUIREMENTS AS12/02-3.6

The Inherent Requirements Working Party of Education Committee has considered the policy changes required to support the implementation of inherent requirements across UWS courses and units, and the Education Committee is now recommending amendments to the following policies:

- Academic Advising Policy
A paper is appended explaining the rationale for these changes.

**It is recommended:**
*That the Academic Senate approves the proposed amendments to the:*  
- Academic Advising Policy  
- Admissions Policy  
- Assessment Policy – Criteria & Standards-Based Assessment

... effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.

Also appended, for information and noting, is the "Inherent Requirements of Nursing Education (IRONE) Final Project Report". (Note – this report will NOT be circulated in hard copy – only provided by email.)

**It is recommended:**  
*That the Academic Senate note the “Inherent Requirements of Nursing Education (IRONE) Final Project Report”.*

### 3.7 Academic Senate Standing Committees Policy AS12/02-3.7

Appended is a proposal to amend the Academic Senate Standing Committees Policy, covering:

- a change to the membership of the School Research and Higher Degrees Committee to ensure that the Dean is always a member  
- the proposal to establish a new Committee – the Student Experience and Engagement Committee – as a standing committee of the Senate, reporting through the Education Committee. This new Committee would replace the current First Year Experience Expert Advisory Group and a paper from the Education Committee covering this proposal is appended.  
- a change to the membership of the Curriculum Quality Committees, to clarify the positions of the Pro Vice-Chancellors (Education).

**It is recommended:**  
*That the Academic Senate approves the proposed revisions to the Academic Senate Standing Committees Policy effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.*

### 3.8 Doctor of Philosophy Policy AS12/02-3.8

A proposal to amend the Doctor of Philosophy Policy, recommended by the Research Studies Committee, will be provided before the meeting.

**It is recommended:**  
*That the Academic Senate approves the proposed revisions to the Doctor of Philosophy Policy effective from the date of publication of the revised Policy.*
Appended is a report of the Education for Sustainability Conference, held on 19 April 2012.

For consideration and discussion

3.10 AWARDS OF THE UNIVERSITY MEDAL

The following students were awarded the University Medal at the April 2012 ceremonies, as approved by the Chair of Academic Senate, on behalf of the Senate.

- Timothy Galvin (SID 16525304) Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours)
- Donna Catherine BRITTEN (SID 16802461) Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours)
- Naomi Clare COOPER (SID 16519392) Bachelor of Music (Honours)
- Lesley Joan GISSANE (SID 16435979) Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
- Jacinta Bernice HERBORN (SID 16133310) Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
- Louise Kathryn JILLETT (SID 16357219) Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
- Shannon John SAID (SID 16508864) Bachelor of Music (Honours)
- Glenn Bernard STEWART (SID 16230563) Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
- Sharon WILLIAMS (SID 16597701) Bachelor of Music (Honours)
- Robert EBEYAN (SID 16496226) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Mark Julian FERRARA (SID 16509098) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Stephanie Marie FOWLER (SID 16554825) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Michael FRANKLIN (SID16954641) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Andrew GHERLENDA (SID 13105163) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Adiel Nathan GOUNDER (SID 16455393) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Abhishek GUPTA (SID 16446872) Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours)
- Sarah MILLEN (SID 16495412) Bachelor of Applied Science (Honours) Occupational Therapy
- Alison Nicole SMITH (SID 16546048) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Jessica Daniela TANNER (SID 16298444) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Amanda VELLA (SID 16521269) Bachelor of Applied Science (Honours) Occupational Therapy
- Samantha WALKER (SID 16496079) Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- Erin BEST (SID 16572339)
- Leanne BUGDEN (SID 16042865)
- Maria CHRISTOU (SID 16520279)
- Kate CHURRUCA (SID 16508268)
- Catherine O’GORMAN (SID 16550197)

It is recommended:

That Academic Senate note the awards of the University Medal, approved by the Chair of Academic Senate, on behalf of the Senate.

3.11 APPROVAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Appended are proposals for two new University Scholarships, prepared by the Office of Development, as follows:

The George WH Lan Business Scholarship – this is intended for one full-time Bachelor of Business and Commerce student who has demonstrated academic
excellence. Applicants who are new students must have achieved an ATAR of 80 or above. Applicants who are continuing students must have achieved above a credit average in their UWS studies to date.

**The Hawkesbury City Council Scholarship** – This scholarship is for female students, with preference given to mature age students and single parents, enrolled in a full time degree at the Hawkesbury campus. Applicants must have resided in the Hawkesbury LGA for at least one year prior to commencement of study at UWS, must have completed their HSC within two years of commencement of study at UWS and be under 20 years of age at the time of their application for the scholarship. Applicants must also have attended a local high school in the Hawkesbury LGA or a selective high school outside of the area, with the successful applicant determined based on the highest ATAR or equivalent program at UWS College.

**It is recommended:**

That Academic Senate approve the proposed George WH Lan Business Scholarship.

That Academic Senate approve The Hawkesbury City Council Scholarship.

4 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS12/02- 4.1

The Senate Executive Committee held an electronic meeting between 19 and 20 March 2012, and a face-to-face meeting on 23 March 2012. Reports of the meetings are appended.

**It is recommended:**

That Academic Senate note the reports of the Senate Executive Committee electronic meeting conducted between 19 and 20 March 2012, and the Senate Executive Committee face-to-face meeting held on 23 March 2012.

4.2 RESEARCH COMMITTEE AS12/02- 4.2

The Research Committee met on 7 February and 3 April 2012. The minutes of these meetings will be provided before the meeting.

**It is recommended:**

That Academic Senate note the minutes of the 7 February and 3 April 2012 Research Committee meetings.

4.3 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE AS12/02- 4.3

The Research Studies Committee met on 6 March and 3 April and 1 May 2012. The minutes of the 6 March and 3 April 2012 meetings are appended. Minutes of the 1 May 2012 meeting are not yet available.

**It is recommended:**

That Academic Senate note the minutes of the 6 March and 3 April 2012 Research Studies Committee meetings.
4.4 EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee met on 2 April 2012. A report of the meeting is appended.

It is recommended:
That Academic Senate note the report of the Education Committee meeting held on 2 April 2012.

4.5 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND COURSES APPROVALS COMMITTEE

The Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee (APCAC) conducted electronic meetings between 12-19 March and 4-13 and 18-24 April 2012.

The report of the 12-19 March 2012 electronic meeting was noted by the 23 March 2012 Senate Executive Committee meeting – see item 4.1

A report of the 4-13 and 18-24 April 2012 e-meetings will be provided before the meeting.

It is recommended:
That Academic Senate note the report of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee electronic meeting conducted between 4-13 and 18-24 April 2012, and ratify the recommendations contained therein.

4.6 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees most recent meeting was held on 11 April 2012.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7 June 2012. Summaries of Board of Trustees meetings, and minutes of Board of Trustees meetings, are available on the web-site at: http://www.uws.edu.au/boardoftrustees.

5 FOR INFORMATION

No items

6 NEXT MEETING

Senate meeting dates for 2012 are as follows:
- Friday 22 June – venue to be confirmed
- Friday 17 August
- Friday 26 October
- Friday 7 December (provisional meeting - to be held if necessary)

All the meetings start at 9.30 AM, and will be held in the Board Room, Building AD, at Werrington North (except for the 22 June meeting where the venue is to be confirmed.)