ACADEMIC SENATE

Circulated: 06-04-09 (Revised)

Confirmed Minutes of meeting 09/01 of the Academic Senate of the University of Western Sydney held on Friday 20 March 2009 at 9:30am in the Boardroom, Building AD, at Werrington North.

Present:

Professor Anne Cusick (Chair) 
Dr Trevor Bailey 
Associate Professor Shelly Burgin 
Professor Stuart Campbell 
Dr Carmel Coady 
Dr Peter Dallow 
Associate Professor Andrew Francis 
Ms Laurel Jackson 
Dr David Low 
Professor Michael McDaniel 
Associate Professor Pauline Ross 
Dr Penny Rossiter 
Dr Elfriede Sangkuhl 
Ms Thea Seabrook 
Professor Simeon Simoff 
Mr Sean Toohey 
Mr Brett Wheldon 
Professor Ian Wilson 
Associate Professor Paul Wormell

Associate Professor Berice Anning 
Professor Bobby Banerjee 
Associate Professor Robyn Bushell 
Dr Maggie Clarke 
Ms Liz Curach 
Dr Kevin Daly 
Professor Beryl Hesketh 
Professor Gregory Kolt 
Dr Lauretta Luck 
Associate Professor Robyn McGuiggan 
Associate Professor Phil Ross 
Dr Swapan Saha 
Professor Geoff Scott 
Dr Meg Smith 
Professor Stephen Teo 
Professor Brian Uy 
Professor Lesley Wilkes 
Associate Professor Steve Wilson 
Professor Nancy Wright

In Attendance:

Ms Saba Ambreen (undergraduate student observer) 
Ms Michelle Bissett (postgraduate student observer) 
Mr Martin Derby (Executive Officer, Academic Secretariat) 
Dr Gu Fang 
Mrs Debra Moodie-Bain 
Mr Charles Noonan (Committee Officer, Academic Secretariat) 
Dr Janette Perz 
Mr John Phillips AO (Chancellor – for opening address) 
Ms Kate Shane (for item 3.4 – Amendment to Higher Degree Research Policies) 
Mr Jeff Warnock (Head, Academic Secretariat) 
Mr Greg Wheatley (Secretary)

Apologies:

Professor Nigel Bond 
Professor Andrew Cheetham 
Dr Betty Gill

Dr David Burchell 
Dr Graydon Davison 
Professor Barbara Holland
1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 INTRODUCTION, APOLOGIES AND WELCOME

The Chair of Academic Senate, Professor Anne Cusick, chaired the meeting. As a matter of protocol and out of respect, she acknowledged the traditional owners and custodians of the land at which the meeting took place, the Dharug people. She thanked the owners, past and present, for the opportunity to meet and enhance the work of the University.

The Chair welcomed new members to the reconstituted Senate. She especially welcomed Ms Saba Ambreen and Ms Michelle Bissett (undergraduate and postgraduate UWS students respectively) to attend as observers to meetings of Senate until the election for student representatives on Senate has been declared.

The Chair acknowledged the tragedy of academic colleagues in Victoria who had lost their lives as a consequence of the recent bushfires in that State. Their passing was a significant loss to the Australian academic community.

The Chair foreshadowed that she would provide, at agenda item 3.2, an overview of the new academic governance arrangements and a summary of the consultation and approval process that underpinned it.

The Secretary read the apologies received.

The Chair then invited the Chancellor of the University, Mr John Phillips AO, to officially open the meeting.

1.2 OFFICIAL OPENING BY THE CHANCELLOR

The Chancellor of the University, Mr John Phillips AO, delivered an opening address to the newly constituted Senate and canvassed the following:

- The newly constituted Senate marks a new stage in the development, and importance, of the Academic Senate. Both the Federal Government and students expect, and are entitled to, high academic quality in the courses offered by the University. To this end, the University is recognised for producing outstanding graduates.

- Outlined the governance structure of the University and the particular role the Senate plays within the structure. The Board of Trustees (the Board) is the governing authority of the University responsible inter alia for generally defining the University’s educational profile. Academic Senate is a Committee of the Board. The Senate operates autonomously but is not independent of the Board. The Chair of Senate is one of three ex officio
members of the Board, together with the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

- 2009 will present new challenges for the University and the Higher Education sector generally. Some of those challenges will be responding to the outcomes of the Bradley (Expert Panel Review into Australian Higher Education) and Cutler (Review of the National Innovation System) reviews, the impact of the May Federal Budget, the impact of the international financial crisis on the University’s financial situation, and the preparatory work associated with the forthcoming AUQA audit.

In conclusion, Mr Philips wished members of Senate well for the year ahead.

The Chair thanked the Chancellor for his informative address. The text of the address is an attachment to these minutes.

1.3 INDUCTION SESSIONS FOR MEMBERS
The Chair said that all members were welcome to attend a training session “Introduction to Academic Governance” to follow the Senate meeting. Also, incoming Committee Chairs were invited to attend a training session that follows the first session, “Chairing Senate Committee meetings”.

Members noted that the sessions will shortly be available on-line via the vUWS e-learning system.

1.3 STARRING OF ITEMS
Apart from procedural matters, items that were already starred on the agenda were:

- 3.2 Overview of the New Academic Governance Arrangements
- 3.3 AUQA Cycle 2 update
- 3.4 Amendments to Higher Degree Research policies: admission.

Senate members were asked which matters they wish starred for discussion. Members requested that the following additional items be starred:

- 3.9 Approval of University Medal
- 4.2 Research Committee
- 4.4 Education Committee

It was resolved (AS09/01.01):

*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.*

1.3 ORDER OF BUSINESS
There was no re-arrangement of the order of business required.

1.4 OTHER BUSINESS
Members were invited to nominate other relevant matters. No items were nominated.

1.5 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
Members noted that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 21 November 2008 were confirmed by the former Senate by rotary circulation.
It was resolved (AS09/01.02):
That Academic Senate note the minutes of the meeting of Senate held on 21
November 2008 that were previously confirmed by rotary circulation.

2 BUSINESS ARISING

2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 ACADEMIC ADVISING POLICY
Members noted that a guideline related to the Academic Advising Policy, that identifies
a technical impediment for those academics who wish to send a copy of the email
(record of advice) to the student file but do not have level 3 access to the TRIM File
Management System, would be submitted to Senate shortly.

3 GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF SENATE
Members noted the report by the Chair of Senate, covering recent activities
undertaken on behalf of the Senate since the previous Senate meeting.

The Chair cited a typographical error in the report (the reference under the sub-
heading Senate Training should be TDU [Teaching Development Unit], not PDU
[Professional Development Unit]) in relation to the development of orientation and
training modules for Senate members.

3.2 OVERVIEW OF NEW ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS
The Chair outlined the new Senate committee structure, associated delegations and
the adjustments to academic policy made consistent with the new academic
governance restructure and highlighted the following:

- The University governance structure reflects a binary system i.e. a
management function and an academic function. The Board of Trustees
(the Board) is the governing authority of the University and is subject to the
provisions the Corporations Act 2001. The Academic Senate reports to the
Board on academic matters. The Vice-Chancellor is the University’s Chief
Executive Officer and is responsible to the Board for the management of the
institution.

- The Academic Senate exercises delegated responsibility from the Board for
academic policy formulation and is the primary custodian of academic
values, quality and standards for the University. Details of the role, function
and membership of Academic Senate are included in the University’s
Academic Governance Policy.

The establishment of the Academic Senate is enshrined in the University of
Western Sydney Act 1997 (the Act). The Act also provides for the position of Chair
of Academic Senate. The Board has the authority to determine the method of
selection of the Chair of Senate. The Board has determined that the mode of
selection for the Chair be by election by the members of Senate. In the Australian
tertiary sector, Chairs of Academic Boards/Academic Senates are normally
appointed, not elected.
• Academic Senate and its relationship with its Specialist, College and School committees feature a hierarchical structure with delegated authority within the relevant committee Terms of Reference. The functions of the Specialist, College and School academic committees were outlined.

• The Board of Trustees approved revised Committees, memberships and terms of reference for the current Academic Senate on 8 October 2008. Revision to the membership of Academic Senate was also approved. The Terms of Reference for Senate were not altered. The consultative process undertaken in developing the revised arrangements was outlined.

• The revised academic governance structure is designed to ensure quality assurance and integrity is built into the processes at each level. These are the principles that underpin the rationale for the new structure. The new Senate membership comprises about 50% elected component and 50% ex officio/appointed component. The membership composition of Senate and its committees reflect the expertise required to achieve those goals.

• The core business of Senate is to decide academic policy and advise management on academic issues. The Chair invited new members to participate and be involved in the important work of Senate.

Following a request from a member, the Chair undertook to submit details of the names and positions of Senate committee members to the next meeting.

Action: Chair, Secretary

3.3 AUQA CYCLE 2 UPDATE
Professor Geoff Scott, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Quality), presented this item and highlighted the following:

• The key lessons from Cycle 1 AUQA audit process should be applied to make Cycle 2 audit as productive as possible.

• Outlined the key lessons and benefits from Cycle 1 e.g. if used well, the process can develop positive cultural change. Self assessment requires a willingness to be self-critical. The School Academic Standards and Quality Committees will be part of the self-assessment process.

• In Cycle 2 ‘Academic Risk’ is to be used to inform the selection and analysis of an institution’s audit themes. There will be an explicit focus on Standards and Outcomes, with greater attention given to (a) Benchmarking activities and (b) Investigating how standards are determined.

• The University’s focus themes for its Cycle 2 audit are:
  o Internationalisation
  o Transition – the first year experience and retention
  o Quality management for assessment.

• In Cycle 2 audits, Internationalisation is mandatory unless a university’s operations are minimal. The historical background to the rationale for inclusion of the particular theme was provided.
Schools being reviewed in 2009 will focus on the agreed Cycle 2 themes in addition to their more specific terms of reference. The other UWS Schools, Units, Divisions and Colleges will self-assess. The self-assessment document is scheduled to be produced in mid 2010. The overall strategy, process and timetable of events was outlined.

There is a need to ensure consistent application of academic standards across all campuses.

In terms of linkage between Cycle 1 and Cycle 2 audits, the Office of Planning and Quality will test the veracity of actions taken in relation to Cycle 1 audit Recommendations and Affirmations i.e. "close the loop". There may also be a check on progress in sustaining the Commendations made in the Cycle 1 AUQA audit report.

The University was initially scheduled to be audited in 2012 but has requested that this be brought forward to approximately May 2011.

The Chair thanked Professor Scott for his informative presentation.

It was resolved (AS09/01.03)
That Academic Senate note the report of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Quality) relating to the AUQA Cycle 2 Update.

3.4 HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH POLICIES

In the absence of Professors Ingleson and Cheetham, Professor Lesley Wilkes, Dean of Research Studies, presented this item. She requested Academic Senate to consider approval of amendments to particular Research Higher Degree Policies to allow the delegation of approval for admission of Higher Degree Research candidates to be given to the Executive Dean of the College on advice of the College Research and Higher Degrees Committee, chaired by the Associate Dean Research. The proposal provided for immediate implementation of the changes.

Professor Wilkes referred to Appendix 1 of the agenda paper entitled Revised Application and Admission of domestic Higher Degree Research Applications Procedures and stated that in respect of the Doctor of Philosophy Rule (the Rule), the proposed changes provide for the following:

- Clauses 4b, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 19 (Part A and B) reflect the delegation changes to admission of candidates.
- Clause 7 also allows for the Graduate Certificate in Research Studies or other accredited units to be undertaken concurrent to enrolment in the PhD.
- Clause 34 reflects a change to the range of time for completion of the Confirmation of Candidature.

Members made the following suggested corrections to the section of the Rule dealing with Approval of Resources, Thesis Topic and Supervisory Panel:

- The reference to "Director of Research" in Clause 8 should be amended to "Director of Research Centre".
• The reference to “Director of Research-Head of School” in Clause 9 should be amended to "Director of Research Centre and, where applicable, the Head of School".

Professor Wilkes agreed to the forgoing suggested changes.

Members considered amendment to Clauses 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 19 (Part A and B) that reflect the proposed delegation changes to admission of candidates.

In response to those proposed clauses, Professor Wilkes moved the following motion:

**It was resolved (AS09/01.04)**

*That Academic Senate approve the proposed amendment to clauses 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 19 (Part A and B) in respect of the Doctor of Philosophy Rule and that Professional Doctorate Policy, Doctor of Medicine Policy, Research Masters (Hons) Policy, Supervision of Research Candidates Policy and Research Higher Degree Candidature Essential Resources Policy be similarly amended.*

The motion was carried unanimously.

**Recommendation contained in the agenda relating to Clause 34:**

Members considered the recommendation, contained in the agenda paper, regarding the proposed amendment to clause 34 of the *Doctor of Philosophy Rule* relating to Measures of Achievement and Confirmation of Candidature, (and that *Professional Doctorate Policy, Doctor of Medicine Policy, Research Masters (Hons) Policy, Supervision of Research Candidates Policy and Research Higher Degree Candidature Essential Resources Policy* be similarly amended) as follows:

*Candidates must successfully complete a formal Confirmation of Candidature within 3 to 12 months of commencement of candidature. Full-time candidates will normally complete the Confirmation of Candidature within six months.*

Members suggested several variants to the timeframe for both Full-time and Part-time students to successfully complete a formal Confirmation of Candidature. The Chair then invited members to put a motion.

**Motion 1:**

A motion to amend the proposed clause 34 was moved by Dr Fang and seconded by Dr Low. The following proposal was then put to the meeting by the Chair for discussion (changes in **bold**):

*Candidates must successfully complete a formal Confirmation of Candidature within 3 to 12 months of commencement of candidature. Full-time candidates will normally complete the Confirmation of Candidature within six months. **Part time range is 3 - 24 months.***

The motion was put to a vote. The motion received one vote and was therefore lost.
Motion 2:
A further motion, moved by Associate Professor Wormell and seconded by Dr Saha, was foreshadowed to amend the proposed clause 34 as follows (changes in **bold**):

**It was resolved (AS09/01.05)**

Candidates must successfully complete a formal Confirmation of Candidature within 3 to 12 months of commencement of candidature. Full-time candidates will normally complete the Confirmation of Candidature within six months. **Part time range is 3 - 18 months.**

The motion was put to a vote and was carried by an overwhelming majority.

Members commented on the related procedures at Appendix 2 of the agenda paper entitled *Revised Application and Admission of domestic Higher Degree Research Applications Procedures*. Members noted that the related procedures come within the purview of management and are provided to Senate as advisory only. The procedures will be amended to reflect the requirements of management as a consequence of the change in delegations.

**It was resolved (AS09/01.06)**

That Academic Senate approve amendment of the following policies:

- Doctor of Philosophy Rule
- Professional Doctorate Policy
- Doctor of Medicine Policy
- Research Masters (Hons) Policy
- Supervision of Research Candidates Policy
- Research Higher Degree Candidature Essential Resources Policy

To allow the delegation of approval for admission of Higher Degree Research candidates to be given to the Executive Dean of the College on advice of the College Research and Higher Degrees Committee chaired by the Associate Dean Research, for immediate implementation.

**Action:** Wilkes, Krone, Derby

**It was resolved (AS09/01.07)**

That Academic Senate approve consequential amendment to the Standing Committees of Academic Senate Policy in relation to the terms of reference for the following Committees:

- College Research and Higher Degrees Committee
- Research Studies Committee

To allow the delegation of approval for admission of Higher Degree Research candidates to be given to the Executive Dean of the College on advice of the College Research and Higher Degrees Committee chaired by the Associate Dean Research, for immediate implementation.

**Action:** Warnock
3.5 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO GRADUATION POLICY
Members noted that the Education Committee considered, at its meeting on 9 March 2009, amendment to the Graduation Policy. The Office of the Academic Registrar had requested an amendment to the clauses in the Graduation Policy covering Replacement Testamurs, because of requests from graduates for the re-issue of documentation to reflect name changes. These are not currently catered for in the Graduation Policy.

It was resolved (AS09/01.08)
That Senate approve the proposed amendment to the Graduation Policy clauses covering Replacement Testamurs, and associated procedures, with immediate effect.

Action: Derby

3.6 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ASSESSMENT POLICIES
Members noted that the Education Committee considered, at its meeting on 9 March 2009, amendment to the Assessment Policy - Interim and the Assessment Policy - Criteria and Standards-Based Assessment. The changes are designed to ensure consistency between the two Policies, cover arrangements for grading UWS exchange units – i.e. units taken at other providers as part of UWS courses, and explicitly state that supplementary assessment in the final unit of a course will not be allowed if the fail grade in the final unit is the result of a disciplinary determination.

It was resolved (AS09/01.09)
That Senate approve the amendment to the following:
(a) Assessment Policy – Interim, with immediate effect;
(b) Assessment Policy – Criteria and Standards-based Assessment, with immediate effect;

to ensure consistency between the two Assessment Policies, cover arrangements for grading UWS exchange units and explicitly state that supplementary assessment in the final unit of a course will not be allowed if the fail grade in the final unit is the result of a disciplinary determination:

Action: Derby

3.7 UWS REPRESENTATION ON THE HSC TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON SCALING
Members noted that Associate Professor John MacFarlane is continuing as the UWS representative on the Board of Studies NSW (the Board) Technical Committee on Scaling.

It was resolved (AS09/01.10)
That Academic Senate note that Associate Professor John MacFarlane is the continuing UWS representative on the Board of Studies NSW Technical Committee on Scaling.

3.8 SCHOLARSHIP APPROVALS
Senate considered, in accordance with the University’s Scholarships and Prizes for Undergraduates Policy, the following scholarship proposals:

3.8.1 The Michael Lynch Scholarship
Members noted that the scholarship provides for $10,000 to fund five Student Summer Research Program Scholarships valued at $2,000 per scholarship.
The $10,000 grant to the UWS School of Medicine, in relation to the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery, will provide for expansion of the School’s Summer Research Program.

**It was resolved (AS09/01.11):**
That Academic Senate approve the proposed Michael Lynch Scholarship for eligible students in the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery course.

### 3.8.2 Shanthi Ramanathan Medical Scholarship

Members noted that the scholarship provides for $3,000 per annum for up to four years for students who have successfully completed year one of the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery.

The aim of the scholarship is to benefit students who are financially disadvantaged.

**It was resolved (AS09/01.12):**
That Academic Senate approve the proposed Shanthi Ramanathan Medical Scholarship for eligible students who have successfully completed year one of the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery course.

### 3.8.3 RailCorp “Women in Engineering” Scholarship

Members noted that the scholarship provides $15,000 per annum for up to two years for students entering their third year of a Bachelor of Engineering Degree at UWS in 2009.

The scholarship was established to accelerate the focus of Women in Engineering at RailCorp. This strategy is part of an organisational wide cultural change initiative designed to attract, engage and develop future Women Engineers.

**It was resolved (AS09/01.13):**
That Academic Senate approve the proposed RailCorp “Women in Engineering” scholarship for eligible students entering their third year of a Bachelor of Engineering Degree at UWS in 2009.

**Action:** Secretary

### 3.9 APPROVAL OF UNIVERSITY MEDAL

Members noted that the Chair of Senate, on behalf of Academic Senate, on the recommendation of the Chair of the relevant College Education, Assessment and Progression Committees and the relevant Executive Dean, had approved, in accordance with the UWS Graduation Policy, the list of students for the University Medal, contained in the agenda paper entitled University Medal Winners 2009.

Members noted that there was a disproportionately low number of recipients from the College of Business. It was suggested that the eligibility criteria relating to selection of the award may disadvantage disciplines within the College of Business.

Members agreed to refer the matter to the Senate Education Committee and recommend that a Working Party be established to investigate the matter i.e. advantages/disadvantages for particular disciplines in relation to eligibility criteria for
the University Medal award and request the Committee to recommend criteria that is equitable across disciplines.

**It was resolved (AS09/01.14):**

*That Academic Senate*

(a) Note the decision of the Chair of Senate, on behalf of Academic Senate, on the recommendation of the Chair of the relevant College Education, Assessment and Progression Committees and the relevant Executive Dean, to approve in accordance with the UWS Graduation Policy, the University Medal to the students listed in the agenda paper entitled University Medal Winners 2009; and

(b) Request the Education Committee to establish a Working Party to investigate the possible advantages/disadvantages for particular disciplines in relation to eligibility criteria for the University Medal award and recommend criteria that is equitable across disciplines.

**Action:** Derby

### 3.10 SENATE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2009

The Academic Senate meeting schedule for 2009 is as follows:

- 20 March
- 1 May
- 29 May (Note: the meeting initially scheduled for 5 June will now be held on 29 May)
- 14 August*
- 16 October
- 20 November*

* Provisional only.

The Chair informed members that there were four scheduled meetings of Senate during 2009 and two provisional meetings. The School Academic Standards and Quality Assurance Committees have four mandated meetings for the year.

### 3.11 VOTE OF THANKS TO MEMBERS OF PREVIOUS ACADEMIC SENATE

Members noted that the Chair of Academic Senate moved a formal vote of thanks to members of the previous Academic Senate and sought leave of Senate to convey to those members, by letter, the appreciation of Senate for their contributions.

**It was resolved (AS09/01.15)**

*That Senate move a formal vote of thanks to members of the previous Academic Senate and will seek leave of Senate to convey to them, by letter, the appreciation of Senate for their contributions.*

**Action:** Chair, Secretary,
4 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Members noted that the Senate Executive Committee met on 17 December 2008 and 27 February 2009.

It was resolved (AS09/01.16):
That Academic Senate note the report of the Senate Executive Committee meetings held on 17 December 2008 and 27 February 2009.

4.2 RESEARCH COMMITTEE:
Members noted that the Research Committee met on 18 November 2008 and 3 February 2009.

Members also noted that the Register of Research Activity was discussed at the November 2008 meeting. A key element is the measurement of research activity through the allocation of points for particular levels of activity (a research activity index). Members sought details regarding the proposed date of introduction of the proposed changes and quality measurement criteria relating to the index.

Professor Wilkes understood that the proposal had been circulated to the colleges for comment.

Members noted that role of the Academic Senate is inter alia to consider academic integrity in research related policies whereas administration of research activity falls within the domain of management.

Members requested that the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) be requested to present a draft of the Research Activity Index to Senate for information and comment prior to approval by the University Executive.

Action: Cheetham

It was resolved (AS09/01.17):
That Academic Senate note the minutes of the Research Committee meetings held on 18 November 2008 and 3 February 2009.

4.3 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE:
Members noted that the Research Studies Committee met on 4 November and 2 December 2008 and 3 February 2009.

It was resolved (AS09/01.18):
That Academic Senate note the minutes of the Research Studies Committee meetings held on 4 November and 2 December 2008 and 3 February 2009.

4.4 EDUCATION COMMITTEE:
Members noted that the Education Committee met on 2 February and 9 March 2009.

The Chair of the Committee, Professor Stuart Campbell, foreshadowed matters that will be considered by the Committee during 2009:
• An integrated ethical scholarship framework would be developed to provide “a one stop shop” for students.

• Innovative degree models would be developed including Bachelor/Master combinations and the proposed Double degrees; there would be closer integration and collaboration with the VET sector, and consideration of Associate Degrees; student enrolment will be demand driven and we will need to think flexibly if we are to meet the Government’s increased participation agenda; we will do more to provide support for students who are not suitably proficient in the English language.

• The multi-campus structure of UWS encourages a “silo mentality”. A whole of University approach needs to be adopted in the future, and this will be assisted by the advent of the School Academic Standards and Quality Assurance Committees, which devolves accountability and responsibility for certain academic matters to schools.

• The University has received a grant to develop Indigenous Graduate Attributes, the outcomes of which will be considered by Senate during 2009. The inclusion of the Badanami School Academic Standards and Quality Assurance Committee within the University’s academic governance structure brings Indigenous academic issues from the periphery to the centre of University academic activity. The initiative is an example of human rights in action.

Professor Campbell said that the University’s Strategic Plan 2009-2011 has been approved by the Executive but not yet published. He added that the University’s submission in response to the Review of Higher Education Discussion Paper argued that the University is well placed to cater for the needs of a vibrant metropolitan University.

It was resolved (AS09/01.19):
That Academic Senate note the report of the Education Committee meetings held on 2 February and 9 March 2009 and the Committee’s projected activities during 2009.

4.5 COURSES APPROVALS AND ARTICULATIONS COMMITTEE:
Members noted that the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee (CAAC) met on 13 March 2009. The recommendations contained in the CAAC report of the meeting were submitted for consideration by Academic Senate.

Members also noted that the Board of Trustees, at its meeting held on 25 February 2009, endorsed the proposed development of undergraduate double degree programs to be offered at Parramatta, Hawkesbury and Campbelltown campuses in 2010.

It was resolved (AS09/01.20):
That Academic Senate note the report of the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee meeting held on 13 March 2009, and the following recommendations contained therein be approved:
It was resolved CAAC09:2/04
That the Courses Approvals and Articulation Committees endorses in principle and recommends to Academic Senate for approval of further development the following double degree programs for offer in 2010:

a) Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Laws - Parramatta
b) Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Laws Parramatta and Campbelltown with Biological Science; Chemistry; Mathematical Science; No key program Key programs.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/05
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses in principle and recommends to Academic Senate for approval of further development the following double degree programs for offer in 2010:

a) Bachelor of Science/ Bachelor of Arts - Parramatta Campus with Biological Science; Chemistry; Mathematical Science; No key program
b) Bachelor of Science/ Bachelor of International Studies – Parramatta Campus with Biological Science; Chemistry; Mathematical Science; No key program.
c) Bachelor of Science/ Bachelor of Business and Commerce with Biological Science; Chemistry; Mathematical Science; No key program.
with BBC key programs:
- Applied Economics
- Applied Finance
- Global Operations and Supply Chain Management
- Hospitality Management
- Human Resource Development and Organisation Development
- Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations
- Marketing
- International Trade and Finance (Parramatta campus only)
- International Business (Parramatta campus, may be at Campbelltown campus in 2010)
- Sport Management (Campbelltown campus only).
- Management (students to undertake a Science sub-major to replace the requirement for a business sub-major to be taken in conjunction with the Management key program).

It was resolved CAAC09:2/06
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses in principle and recommends to Academic Senate for approval of further development the following double degree programs for offer in 2010:

a) Bachelor of Medical Science/Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology - Campbelltown with Biomedical Science Major; Human Bioscience Major; Medicinal Chemistry Major.
It was resolved CAAC09:2/07
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses in principle and recommends to Academic Senate for approval of further development the following double degree programs for offer in 2010:

a) Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology/Bachelor of Arts - Parramatta
b) Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology/Bachelor of Business and Commerce (Accounting) - Campbelltown and Parramatta
c) Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology/Bachelor of Business and Commerce with BBC key programs:
   - Applied Economics
   - Applied Finance
   - Global Operations and Supply Chain Management
   - Hospitality Management
   - Human Resource Development and Organisation Development
   - Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations
   - Marketing
   - International Trade and Finance (Parramatta campus only)
   - International Business (Parramatta campus, may be at Campbelltown campus in 2010)
   - Sport Management (Campbelltown campus only).
   - Management (the BICT degree will replace the requirement for a business sub-major to be taken in conjunction with the Management key program).

It was resolved CAAC09:2/08
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses in principle and recommends to Academic Senate for approval of further development the following double degree program for offer in 2010:

a) Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery/Bachelor of Arts – Campbelltown and Arts campuses.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/54
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the major course variation to unit set SM2028 Property Law Sub Major consisting of the replacement of unit 200606 with 200711 to commence in Autumn 2009 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/55
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the major course variation to 2727.3 Bachelor of Financial Advising consisting of the removal of 200536 Intermediate Accounting as a compulsory unit to commence in Spring 2009 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/56
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the major variation to 2728.2 Master of International Hospitality and Hotel Management, consisting of a change from Semester to Quarters, change from Blacktown to Parramatta campus and change to admission category to commence in Quarter 3, 2009, executively approved by the College of Business Executive Committee, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.
It was resolved CAAC09:2/57
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee approves the major variation to 2729.2 Graduate Diploma In International Hospitality and Hotel Management, consisting of a change from Semester to Quarters and change from Blacktown to Parramatta campus to commence in Quarter 3, 2009, executively approved by the College of Business Executive Committee, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/58
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the major variation to 2730.2 Graduate Certificate In International Hospitality and Hotel Management, consisting of a change from Semester to Quarters and change from Blacktown to Parramatta campus to commence in Quarter 3, 2009, executively approved by the College of Business Executive Committee and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/70
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the major course variation to 4641 Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery consisting of addition of an Embedded Honours award as an alternative pathway program to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/72
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee ratifies the decision made by the Chair between meetings to endorse the course changes to 3640 Bachelor of Science and 3637 Bachelor of Natural Science, and recommends the proposals to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/73
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 4668 Bachelor of Health Science (Honours)/Master of Physiotherapy to commence in Spring 2012 at the Campbelltown campus and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/74
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 4666 Bachelor of Health Science (Honours)/Master of Podiatric Medicine to commence in Spring 2012 at the Campbelltown campus and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/75
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 4665 Master of Podiatric Medicine to commence in Autumn 2010 at the Campbelltown campus and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/76
That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 4667 Master of Physiotherapy to commence in Autumn 2012 at the Campbelltown campus and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.
It was resolved CAAC09:2/125
(i) That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses, for implementation on 1 September 2009 for three years, the articulation proposal for students who have completed the first semester of coursework in the Master Program, or the In-service Master program, at the Institute of Industrial Management National Central University, Taiwan, to enter the 2624 Master of Business (Operations Management);
(ii) that students be given advanced standing of 20 credit points for units 51259 Purchasing and Materials Management and either 200223 Operations Management or 200224 Management of Quality;
(iii) That the proposal be recommended to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/126
(i) That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the proposed articulation agreement with University of Applied Sciences Kiel/Fachhochschule, Kiel, Germany for students enrolled in the Master Degree Business Management (consecutive), the Master Degree Business Management for non-Business Management students (non-consecutive), and the Master Degree Business Systems, to enter the:
2702 Master of Applied Finance
2703 Master of International Trade and Finance
2705 Master of Finance
2601 Master of Commerce (Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations)
2624 Master of Business (Operations Management)
2698 Master of Business (Marketing)
2692 Master of International Business;
(ii) That the students be given advanced standing of between 10 and 60 credit points as detailed in the mapping document provided by the College, commencing on 1 September 2009;
(iii) That the proposal be recommended to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved CAAC09:2/127
(i) That the Courses Approvals and Articulations Committee endorses the proposed articulation agreements with Canadian Colleges for students to be given advanced standing of 40 credit points in the courses detailed in Appendix A to the attached proposal, for implementation from 1 June 2009;
(ii) That the articulation agreements be effective for three years except for those for the Marketing and International Business degrees which are being reviewed;
(iii) That the proposals be recommended to Academic Senate for approval.

Action: Secretary, Lee

4.6 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Members noted that the Board of Trustees most recent meeting was on 25 February 2008.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for 8 April 2009. 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

5.1 THE BRADLEY REVIEW (Expert Panel Review into Australian Higher Education)
Members noted that the Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations released the Expert Panel's final report (the Bradley Report) on 17 December 2008 and were provided relevant web-based links.

6 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Academic Senate will be held on Friday 1 May 2009 in the Boardroom, Building AD, Werrington North, commencing at 9:30am.
Opening Of Academic Year 2009

I am delighted to have the opportunity to join you briefly this morning, to mark the beginning of a new academic year and also a new stage in the development, and the importance, of Academic Senate.

Our University, like every other university, expects increasingly higher standards in its programmes of teaching learning and research.

The Government also expects more, as demonstrated by the introduction of quality audits and the promise that they will be even more rigorous under the new Government.

And importantly, our students expect more and are entitled to have those expectations. I share them.

Like Martin Luther King, I have a dream. It is a dream that our University will be recognised, not because it is relatively new; and not because it services such a large part of the population of Sydney – a part that falls clearly into the Statistician’s lower socio-economic classification!

I dream we will be recognised and admired because of the outstanding calibre of our graduates, the relevance and quality of our research, our contribution to our community and the high ethical standards we espouse and pursue.

Slowly, but surely, we are making progress on all these fronts. But there is ample room for further progress.

Last week, I officiated at graduations in Hong Kong and also gave the occasional address, not a combination I recommend.

In speaking of the financial and economic woes besetting so many countries, I observed that “our modern world has seen deteriorating ethical standards in so many areas.”

I told the graduates we badly needed to redress that trend and it would be up to “the good people” to drive that process.

I reminded them that, as graduates, they were among the genuinely elite of society. I encouraged them to place themselves firmly also among the ‘good people.

I urge you, likewise, as senior academics and members of the Academic Senate to put yourselves among the “good people” and to use your decisions in this august assembly, to encourage high standards of ethical scholarship among our students and researchers.”

I know that some of you are new to Academic Senate, so let me say just a few words about the governance structure of the University.

A couple of weeks ago, I was invited to appear before a Committee of the NSW Parliament, which is enquiring into the governance of NSW universities.

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*Address by Chancellor John Phillips to Opening Session of Academic Senate, UWS Board Room, Werrington, 20 March 2009*
I don’t expect to have the same difficulty in explaining the system to you as I encountered with the parliamentarians.

Nonetheless, governance is not always well understood! Put simply, it describes the intricate web of relationships and responsibilities, which ensure, or should ensure, the pursuit of the objectives of the University in a prudent, fiscally sound, responsible and ethical manner.

The Board of Trustees, the Academic Senate, the other Committees of the Board, the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor, the senior members of the University community and many others, all are part of the governance structure of the University.

It is the functions of these various groups and individuals, and the way they relate to each other, that we are talking about when we use the term governance.

So, we need to understand the roles of the various elements in the University’s corporate structure. This starts with the Board of Trustees, which is at the top of the governance tree.

By law and by necessity, it has to be so. The buck has to stop somewhere.

Like the Board of Directors of a corporation, the Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- Setting the policies within which the University operates, and monitoring adherence to those policies;
- Ensuring that the University is run on financially prudent lines, among other things, approving budgets, strategic plans and major items of capital expenditure and investment;
- Appointing the Vice Chancellor, determining her/his conditions of appointment, monitoring her/his performance;
- Maintaining, usually with the assistance of an Audit Committee, proper relations with the University’s auditors (external and internal);
- Working with the Vice Chancellor to ensure that the senior positions at the University are appropriately filled and that proper succession planning is in place.

It must be stressed that the Board is a strategy/policy/risk management/oversight body, not a management committee. While the distinction can become blurred at times, it is an important role of the Chancellor, as Chairman of the Board, to ensure that incursions by the Board into management, or by the executive into setting policy without Board endorsement, are discouraged and kept to a minimum.

Academic Senate is a vitally important part of the governance structure. You might say it has both an aggressive and a defensive function.

It must aggressively pursue excellence and integrity in all the University’s academic pursuits.

Defensively, it is an integral part of the machinery of risk management, seeking to prevent, or at least to minimise, unethical or unprofessional practices, which can have unfortunate implications for the University’s reputation.

In this University, Senate’s major purpose is to assure academic standards and quality. Some other universities have a broader role for their academic senate. But we have seen the issue of quality and standards as so important that we have chosen not to trammel Senate, qua Senate, with managerial functions.

Senate operates autonomously but not independently of the Board of Trustees. It handles its responsibilities within parameters established by the Board and reports its findings and
decisions of substance to the Board. But its importance is reflected in the fact that the Chair is one of the three ex officio members of the Board and reports to each Board meeting. The other two ex officio Board members are the Vice Chancellor and myself.

And personally, I regard Senate as so important that I read the papers for all the meetings. I wouldn’t feel that I was sufficiently informed about the important things happening at the University if I didn’t.

I have to say, in my experience, our University has been very well served by Academic Senate, particularly in recent years when so much reorganisation and rationalisation was necessary.

I don’t recall a serious dispute arising between Senate and the Board. If one did arise, of course, the Board (as the origin of University policy) would prevail.

However, the Board is not, and should never seek to establish itself as, the arbiter of academic issues other than at the level of strategy and high policy.

As we begin the 2009 academic year, I would like to say that this will be a much easier year than those that have preceded it. I would like to say that, but it would be a fib; and you wouldn’t believe me anyway.

I think 2009 will be exciting and full of challenges.

We face the outcome of the Bradley and Cutler Reports, the impact on Higher Education of the May Federal Budget, the effects of the Global Financial Crisis on our own financial situation, and the likely growth in competition for students and staff as we move towards uncapped admissions.

We must prepare for the next Quality Audit and we have an ambitious capital development programme and much happening in the teaching, learning and research areas.

And we are embarked on an exciting experiment with UWS College.

We are well placed to deal with these challenges but we will be depending to a major extent, as we always do, on the skill and the diligence of Academic Senate in maintaining and further improving the quality and standards of our performance.

Thank you very much for inviting me here today. Be sure you have my support and the support of the Board of Trustees in your endeavours.

To slightly bowdlerise the old saying, as we enter on this new Academic Year, God bless you, and all who sail with you!

Mr John Phillips AO
Chancellor, UWS
20 March 2009