ACADEMIC SENATE

Circulated: 26/06/09 [Revised]

Confirmed Minutes of meeting 09/02 of the Academic Senate of the University of Western Sydney held on Friday 29 May 2009 at 9:30am in the Boardroom, Building AD, at Werrington North.

Present:
- Professor Anne Cusick (Chair)
- Dr Trevor Bailey
- Professor Nigel Bond
- Dr Maggie Clarke
- Dr Peter Dallow
- Dr Betty Gill
- Professor John Ingleson
- Dr Lauretta Luck
- Associate Professor Robyn McGuiggan
- Mr David Mutton
- Ms Jeni Ryde
- Professor Geoff Scott
- Dr Meg Smith
- Professor Stephen Teo
- Mr Brett Wheldon
- Professor Ian Wilson
- Associate Professor Paul Wormell
- Associate Professor Berice Anning
- Professor Bobby Banerjee
- Dr David Burchell
- Ms Liz Curach
- Dr Kevin Daly
- Professor Beryl Hesketh
- Ms Laurel Jackson
- Ms Margaret Malak
- Ms Robyn Moroney
- Dr Penny Rossiter
- Dr Elfriede Sangkuhl
- Professor Lynette Sheridan Burns
- Professor Simeon Simoff
- Mr Sean Toohey
- Professor Lesley Wilkes
- Associate Professor Steve Wilson

In Attendance:
- Mr Jeff Warnock (Head, Academic Secretariat)
- Mr Greg Wheatley (Secretary)

Apologies:
- Associate Professor Shelly Burgin
- Professor Stuart Campbell
- Mr David Clarke
- Dr Graydon Davison
- Professor Barbara Holland
- Mr David Lenton
- Ms Shaneen McGlinchey
- Associate Professor Phil Ross
- Professor Brian Uy
- Associate Professor Robyn Bushell
- Professor Andrew Cheetham
- Dr Carmel Coady
- Associate Professor Andrew Francis
- Professor Gregory Kolt
- Professor Michael McDaniel
- Professor Wayne McKenna
- Ms Thea Seabrook
- Professor Nancy Wright

Absent:
- Professor Michael Atherton
- Professor Janice Reid
- Dr David Low
- Dr Swapan Saha
1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 INTRODUCTION, APOLOGIES, WELCOME AND FAREWELL
Members noted that this was the final meeting of Professor Anne Cusick as Chair of Senate. Her farewell address to Senate is presented as an attachment to these minutes.

Apologies were noted.

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting. She especially welcomed Ms Margaret Malak to her first meeting, as the elected Undergraduate Student Member of Senate. The Chair also welcomed, in their absence, Mr David Clarke (Vice President Academic of New Student Organisation) as the elected Undergraduate Student Member, and Mr David Lenton (Vice President Postgraduate of New Student Organisation) as the elected Postgraduate Student Member.

The Secretary confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

1.2 STARRING OF ITEMS
Apart from procedural items, the following were items already starred:

- 3.1 Chair’s Report: Revisions to Academic Governance Arrangements
- 3.2 Proposed Higher Degree Research Policies and units
- 3.7 Casual Vacancy in the position of Chair of Academic Senate

Members requested that the following additional items be starred:

- 2.2 Overview of New Academic Governance Arrangements
- 4.1 Senate Executive Committee report
- 4.5 Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee report

It was resolved (AS09:02/ 01)
That the documents for all unstarrred 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
A re-arrangement of the order of business in accordance with the agenda was not required.

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

1.5 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 March 2009 required confirmation.
The unconfirmed minutes of that meeting were initially circulated to members on 31 March 2009. On 6 April 2009 a revised set of minutes was circulated due to an error in resolution AS09/01.05 (page 8) regarding the time ranges for full and part-time candidatures to successfully complete a formal Confirmation of Candidature.

The correct wording of the resolution is as follows:

"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."

Also, the following minor amendments were required:

- The title of Dr Meg Smith was incorrectly expressed as Associate Professor under the Members Present section.
- Mr David Mutton was incorrectly included as being present. He had tendered his apologies prior to the meeting.

It was resolved (AS09:02/02) That Academic Senate confirm the revised minutes of the Senate meeting held on 20 March 2009, circulated on 6 April 2009, as an accurate record.

2 BUSINESS ARISING

2.1 ACADEMIC ADVISING POLICY

Members noted that a guideline related to the Academic Advising Policy was submitted for the information of Senate. The guideline 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. Likewise, the guideline states that there is a technical impediment that precludes trimming emails in vUWS.

Members noted that the document would shortly be included on the Policy DDS Directory as an Associated Document to the Academic Advising Policy.

Action: Secretary

2.2 OVERVIEW OF NEW ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Members noted the details of the names and positions of Senate committee members. Dr Dallow expressed appreciation that the list is available on the web.

3 GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 CHAIR’S REPORT: REVISIONS TO ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

As mentioned earlier in the meeting, Professor Cusick reported that this was her final meeting as Chair of the full Senate. Her farewell speech, which encapsulated the achievements of Academic Senate during her tenure over the previous six year period
and the values that underpinned those achievements, is an attachment to these minutes.

The Chair then referred to the Special meeting of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), convened on 1 May 2009 to consider consequential amendment to the Academic Governance Policy, the Academic Senate Standing Committees Policy and a number of other academic policies, following changes to the academic governance arrangements approved by the Board of Trustees during October 2008 and April 2009 (the SEC report at agenda item 4.1 refers).

Members noted that the Board of Trustees, at its meeting on 8 April 2009, approved the following changes to academic governance arrangements:

- the Head of School will be the Chair of the school committee;
- the school committee will be renamed "School Academic Committee";
- the people who were Chairs of the school committee will remain members of Academic Senate;
- the people who were Chairs of the school committee will remain members of the School Academic Committee to maintain a direct link with Academic Senate; and
- Executive Deans will be members of college academic committees.

The Chair explained the rationale of the Senate Executive Committee decisions taken at the 1 May 2009 in relation to changes to the Academic Governance Policy, Academic Senate Standing Committees Policy (previously entitled Standing Committees of Academic Senate) and other academic policies affected by the Board decision.

The major changes to the Academic Senate Standing Committees Policy approved by the Committee, on behalf of Senate, included changes to school membership of the Senate Executive Committee, Education Committee, Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee, Research Committee, Research Studies Committee, College Education, Assessment and Progression Committee, Executive Committee of the College Education, Assessment and Progression Committee, College Research and Higher Degrees Committee, School Academic Committee and the Executive Committee of the School Academic Committee.

Members noted that the changes include provision for Heads of Schools to appoint a nominee from within the School Academic Committee to chair the Committee.

In response to a query relating to the membership of the College Research and Higher Degrees Committee, the Chair advised that school level representation on the Committee was as follows:

- One representative of the research active academic staff of each school of the College, who has research supervisory experience, nominated by the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research, in consultation with the Executive Dean
- Head of School, or a nominee, chosen by the Head of School from within the membership of the Committee

Members noted a discrepancy to clause numbers contained in the Academic Senate Standing Committees Policy (clause 84 should read 83 and 89 should read 88).
Members considered that it would be helpful for the Chairs of School Academic Committees (SACs) to discuss issues relating to the operation of the Committee and its terms of reference. In this connection, Members agreed that a workshop be convened by the Deputy Chair, Associate Professor Paul Wormell, to discuss those matters and report to Senate. The workshop would be supplemented with information available on-line.

Members noted that training will be conducted for secretariat staff who support the SACs.

Members also noted that the Academic Secretariat had recently circulated a resource package to a number of Secretaries of the SACs that focuses on the functions of the Committee. The package will shortly be available on the Senate website.

Action: Secretary / Wormell

3.2 HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH POLICIES & UNITS

Professor Lesley Wilkes introduced this item and stated that the Academic Senate’s Research Studies Committee had recommended that Senate approve new Research Higher Degree Policies entitled Doctor of Cultural Research Policy and Doctor of Creative Arts Policy, for immediate implementation.

Members noted that the Doctor of Cultural Research Policy outlines the specific course requirements of the Doctor of Cultural Research at the University of Western Sydney (UWS). It should be read in conjunction with the UWS Professional Doctorate Policy and UWS policies relating to Higher Degrees by Research and specific College requirements and guidelines for candidates.

Members also noted that the Doctor of Creative Arts Policy outlines the specific course requirements of the Doctor of Creative Arts at the University of Western Sydney (UWS). It should be read in conjunction with the UWS Professional Doctorate Policy and UWS policies relating to Higher Degrees by Research and specific College requirements and guidelines for candidates.

It was resolved (AS09:02/03)
That Academic Senate approve the following policies:
• Doctor of Cultural Research
• Doctor of Creative Arts
for immediate implementation.

The Senate noted that on 20 May 2009, the Senate Executive Committee approved, on behalf of Senate, (following an urgent request from the Research Studies Committee) the following policy and units:

(a) Doctor of Business Administration Policy
The policy outlines the specific course requirements of the Doctor of Business Administration at the University of Western Sydney (UWS). It should be read in conjunction with the UWS Professional Doctorate Policy and UWS policies relating to Higher Degrees by Research and specific College requirements and guidelines for candidates. A copy of the policy was provided to Senate Members.

(b) Proposed new and revised Research units:
The proposed new units are entitled 800148 Philosophical Foundations of Business Research Unit Outline; 800149 Advanced Research Skills Unit Outline; and 800150
Thesis Preparation and Ethics Unit Outline, and the major variation to an existing unit is entitled 500029 Critical Literature Review Outline.

The Chair thanked Professor Wilkes for her presentation.

**Action:** Wilkes / Krone

### 3.3 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SENATE STANDING ORDERS

The Senate noted that the Senate Executive Committee recommended proposed amendment to the Senate Standing Orders, following a review by the Academic Secretariat.

Apart from reviewing the text/grammar and inclusion of some definitions, the principle changes were as follows:

(a) Clause 7 - Reference to meetings being conducted by face-to-face or video-conferencing (requested by Senate Executive – 17 September 2008).

(b) Clause 10 – Duration of meetings extended to maximum of three hours.

**It was resolved (AS09:02/ 04)**

*That the Senate Executive Committee endorses for the approval of Senate the proposed amendment to the Senate Standing Orders, pursuant to Part O, Clause 62 of the Academic Senate Standing Orders, with immediate effect.*

**Action:** Secretary

### 3.4 PROPOSED AMENDMENT: SPECIAL CONSIDERATION POLICY

The Senate noted that the Education Committee recommended amendment to the Special Consideration Policy. The change relates to the clause in the Policy covering record keeping.

**It was resolved (AS09:02/ 05)**

*That Academic Senate approve amendment to clause 41 of the Special Consideration Policy relating to record keeping, with immediate effect.*

### 3.5 PROPOSED SCHOLARSHIP: PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Senate considered, in accordance with the University’s Scholarships and Prizes for Undergraduates Policy, the scholarship proposal donated by the Penrith City Council entitled Penrith City Council Urban Planning Scholarships.

Members noted that the proposal comprises one scholarship to be offered in 2010 and one additional scholarship every year of the Agreement thereafter. The scholarships relate to the Bachelor of Social Science (Geography & Urban Studies)/Master of Urban Management and Planning courses and each scholarship will be valued at $5,000 per year and will be held by the recipient for two years.

**It was resolved (AS09:02/ 06)**

*That Senate approve the proposed Penrith City Council Urban Planning Scholarships for eligible students in the Bachelor of Social Science (Geography & Urban Studies) / Master of Urban Management and Planning courses.*

**Action:** Secretary
3.6 THE BRADLEY (EXPERT PANEL) REVIEW INTO AUSTRALIAN HIGHER EDUCATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR UWS (IN THE LIGHT OF THE FEDERAL BUDGET)

Professor Geoff Scott delivered a presentation on the likely implications for UWS of the recent review of higher education, particularly in the light of the Federal Budget handed down on Tuesday 12 May 2009. Professor Scott tabled a paper entitled *Bradley Review and the Federal Budget 2009*, and highlighted the following:

- The implications of the target that 40% of Australian 25-34 year olds will have a bachelor level or above qualification by 2025 would need to be considered by the University in the context of growth vs quality.

- Achieving the target of 20% of undergraduate enrolments from low socio economic status (SES [currently at 15% in the sector but for UWS it is 19.6% based on 2006 census data collection]) will depend on the preferred definition of SES. More robust measures are currently being developed.

- From 2012 universities will be funded on the basis of student demand. This means there will be no limits on the number of domestic students each university can enrol and receive Government funding. Achieving the target will depend on balancing the University’s Mission to achieve excellence through scholarship against the demands of the market place.

- The linking of funding to performance and equity targets reflects a shift from quality of inputs to quality of outcomes i.e. ensuring that all students who enrol in UWS graduate, consistent with the University’s retention strategies.

- The Government will establish in 2010 a new national regulatory and quality agency for higher education, The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency, with more rigorous quality expectations. The Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) will continue with the current AUQA Cycle 2 audit. A separate Senate session dealing with the self-assessment process for the AUQA cycle 2 audit of UWS was foreshadowed.

- The significant Budget outcomes as they relate to the Centre for Climate Change and Energy Research, the Clinical School at Blacktown and the Ingham Medical Research Institute were noted, as well as the implications for the sector in relation to Learning & Teaching, Research, the Super Science initiative and the Education Investment Fund.

- Other items canvassed included: Improved indexation arrangements; increases in research funding; increases in HECS for nursing and teaching students and Mission-Based Compacts.

Members commented that some of the Budget allocations were not new expenditures i.e. infrastructure related projects, the HECS contribution had been increased with the exception of “discounts” for nursing and teaching, and the implications for low SES students.

Professor Scott concluded by stating that input from Senate members in relation to the issues raised in the presentation was most welcome.

The Chair thanked Professor Scott for his informative presentation.
3.7 CASUAL VACANCY IN THE POSITION OF CHAIR OF ACADEMIC SENATE

Members noted that Professor Anne Cusick had given notice of her resignation from the position of Chair of Academic Senate.

Members also noted that an election for a new Chair of Academic Senate will be held in June, commencing with a Notice of Election and a Call for Nominations on 3 June 2009. The term of office for the new Chair will commence on 1 August 2009 and conclude on 19 March 2011.

The Deputy Chair of Academic Senate, Associate Professor Paul Wormell, moved a vote of thanks and appreciation for her great commitment, contributions and achievements in this role.

He referred to a range of initiatives conducted by Professor Cusick during her tenure in which she led a number of structural and procedural reforms to clarify the role of Senate, and raise the understanding and appreciation of Senate and its role within the wider UWS community, leading to greater opportunities for academic and professional staff to take part in academic governance through committees, consultation and nomination. Moreover, she led a reshaping our academic policies and procedures to make them clearer and to ensure a student-centred approach in all that we do.

The vote of thanks was supported unanimously by acclamation.

4 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

4.1 SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Senate Executive Committee met on 17 March, 20 April, 1 and 20 May 2009. The report of the 20 May is not yet available.

In response to a request for clarification about the transitional arrangements for approval of courses and units approved by the Senate Executive Committee at its meeting on 16 April 2009, the Chair advised that the arrangement is a one-off measure relating to any unit or course (as of 16 April 2009) requiring approval for introduction in 2010 (Secretariat note: all Heads of School and Associate Deans [Academic] were advised of the transitional arrangements on 24 April 2009).

It was resolved (AS09:02/07)
That Academic Senate note the reports/minutes of the Senate Executive Committee meetings held on 17 March, 20 April and 1 May 2009 and ratify the recommendations contained therein.

4.2 RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Research Committee met on 7 April 2009.

It was resolved (AS09:02/08)
That Academic Senate note the minutes of the Research Committee meeting held on 7 April 2009.

4.3 RESEARCH STUDIES COMMITTEE

The Research Studies Committee met on 3 March, 7 April and 5 May 2009.
It was resolved (AS09:02/ 09)
That Academic Senate note the minutes of the Research Studies Committee meetings held on 3 March, 7 April and 5 May 2009.

4.4 EDUCATION COMMITTEE
The Education Committee met on 20 April and 18 May 2009.

It was resolved (AS09:02/ 10)
That Academic Senate note the report of the Education Committee meetings held on 20 April and 18 May 2009.

4.5 ACADEMIC PLANNING AND COURSES APPROVALS COMMITTEE
The Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee (APCAC) met on 13 May 2009. The recommendations contained therein were submitted for consideration by Academic Senate.

Regarding the organisation of the academic year, the Chair of APCAC, Professor Ingleson, reported that the Committee had considered a preliminary analysis of the options for re-structuring the academic year into three sessions, and identified a number of advantages for the University if this model were to be pursued. He emphasised that there is currently no firm proposal and that more detailed discussion of the existing models in the sector would be undertaken with interested parties within the University, and a further report will be considered at the next meeting of the APCAC. Although the concept is at an embryonic stage, it was suggested that the Executive could initiate a dialogue with academic staff through campus based forums that are planned for the second half of 2009. He concluded by stating that introduction of such an arrangement would require general agreement across the institution.

It was resolved (AS09:02/ 11)
That Academic Senate note the report of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee meeting held on 13 May 2009, and the recommendations contained therein be approved, as follows:

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/4)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major variation to course 2537 Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Laws, consisting of the addition of a new Arts Global Studies key program and Religion, Anthropology and Philosophy and Asian Studies and International Relations majors and addition of one more LLB alternate unit 200741 Indigenous Australians and the Law, to commence in 2010 at the Parramatta campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

(Secretariat note: The Head of School of Humanities and Languages advised on 25 June 2009 that the Asian Studies and International Relations major area has previously been included in 2537 Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws as it has been a major area within the Bachelor of Arts since 2001. The only change in regard to this major area is that it will be on offer at the Parramatta campus where the B Laws program is also on offer.)

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/5)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 3654 Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology / Bachelor of Arts to commence in 2010 at the Parramatta campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.
It was resolved (APCAC09:2/6)  
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 3655 Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology / Bachelor of Business and Commerce to commence in 2010 at the Parramatta and Campbelltown campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/7)  
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 3656 Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology / Bachelor of Business and Commerce (Accounting) to commence in 2010 at the Parramatta and Campbelltown campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/8)  
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 4671 Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery / Bachelor of Arts to commence in 2010 at the Campbelltown campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/9)  
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 3657 Bachelor of Medical Science / Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology to commence in 2010 at the Campbelltown campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/10)  
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 2743 Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Laws to commence in 2010 at the Parramatta and Campbelltown campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/11)  
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 3658 Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Arts to commence in 2010 at the Parramatta campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/12)  
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 3660 Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of International Studies to commence in 2010 at the Parramatta campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/13)  
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 3659 Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Business and Commerce to commence in 2010 at the Parramatta and Campbelltown campus, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.
It was resolved (APCAC09:2/14)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major course variation to 1500 Bachelor of Psychology consisting of changes to the course structure and units within the course to commence in 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/15)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major course variation to 1658 Bachelor of International Studies consisting of change to course structure and introduction of mid-year intake to commence in Spring 2009 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/16)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major course variation to 1658 Bachelor of International Studies consisting of changes to unit selection rules, additional campus of offer and replacement of Major and Sub-major to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/17)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major course variation to 1610 Graduate Diploma in Educational Studies consisting of a change to course structure to commence in 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/18)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new unit sets M1024 and SM1032 Religion, Anthropology and Philosophy Major and Sub-major to commence in Autumn 2010 at the Bankstown and Parramatta campuses and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/19)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the new unit sets M1025 and SM1033 Media and Visual Cultures to commence in Autumn 2010 at the Penrith and Bankstown campuses and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/20)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major unit set variation to M1006 Asian Studies and International Relations consisting of changes to unit set structure to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/21)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major unit set variation to SM1034 Arabic, which replaces SM1024 LOTE in 1658 and SM1008 Arabic in 1604, 1651, 1652 and 1655, consisting of changes to the unit set structure and restrictions to credit point levels to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.
It was resolved (APCAC09:2/22)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major unit set variation to SM1035 Chinese, which replaces SM1024 LOTE in 1658 and SM1006 Chinese in 1604, 1651, 1652 and 1655, consisting of changes to the unit set structure and restrictions to credit point levels to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/23)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major unit set variation to SM1037 - Italian, which replaces SM1024 LOTE in 1658 and SM1010 Italian in 1604, 1651, 1652 and 1655, consisting of changes to the unit set structure and restrictions to credit point levels to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/24)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major unit set variation to SM1037 Japanese, which replaces SM1024 LOTE in 1658 and SM1007 Japanese in 1604, 1651, 1652 and 1655, consisting of changes to the unit set structure and restrictions to credit point levels to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/25)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major and sub-major unit set variation to M1007 and SM1003 Cultural and Social Analysis consisting of an additional unit to commence in Spring 2009 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/26)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major variation to unit set SM2031 Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations Sub-major consisting of allocation of new code, change of name and restructure of core units to commence in Spring 2009, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/29)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major variation to unit set M2020 Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations Major consisting of allocation of new code, change of name and restructure of core units to commence in Spring 2009, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/30)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major variation to unit set KT2019 Bachelor of Business and Commerce Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations Key Program consisting of allocation of new code and restructure of core units to commence in Spring 2009 and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.
It was resolved (APCAC09:2/32)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major variation to the International Business and Global Management key program within 2739 Bachelor of Business and Commerce consisting of changes to the key program structure to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/33)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major variation to course 2740 Bachelor of Business and Commerce/Bachelor of Laws consisting of restructure of core units in the Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations and the Management Key Programs to commence in Spring 2009 and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/40)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major unit set variation to M1023 Education Studies Major consisting of changes to the structure to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/41)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new unit set M3033 Forensic Science Major to commence in Autumn 2010 at the Hawkesbury campus and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/42)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major course variation to 4505 Graduate Diploma in Midwifery consisting of changes to course structure, course philosophy and revision of clinical expectations to commence in Q1 2010, and recommends to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/44)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major course variation to 7004 Diploma in Information and Communications Technology Fast Track consisting of the addition of 700041 Statistical Decision Making as an alternate core unit to commence in Term 2 2009 and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

It was resolved (APCAC09:2/45)
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the major course variation to 7005 Diploma in Information and Communications Technology consisting of the addition of 700041 Statistical Decision Making as an alternate core unit to commence in Term 2 2009 and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

Action: Lee

4.6 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Members noted that the Board of Trustees most recent meeting was held on 8 April 2009.

The next meeting is scheduled for 24 June 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

No items were submitted.

6 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Academic Senate is provisionally scheduled for Friday 14 August 2009 in the Boardroom, Building AD, Werrington North, commencing at 9:30am.

The meeting closed at 10:45 am.
ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES OF ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING HELD ON 29 MAY 2009:
TEXT OF FAREWELL SPEECH OF OUTGOING CHAIR, PROFESSOR ANNE CUSICK

Please indulge me to take ten minutes to say a few words on the occasion of my last meeting as Chair of Academic Senate. When I commenced this role six years ago I gave a “maiden speech”, and now I bookend that time with a farewell address.

This is my sixth year in the role of Chair of Academic Senate. It has been a great privilege to serve as chair during what has been a time of tumultuous sector and organisational change. Senate has been at the leading edge of this change, ensuring quality, supporting change through course consolidations, revisions and introductions, new and revised academic policy, and a focus on clarity in academic delegations.

In that time we have redefined the meaning and reaffirmed the place of academic governance in this institution. It has been a collective effort with collective benefit to our academic community. UWS is recognised to be one of the best performing higher education institutions in the country in relation to academic governance with a commendation from AUQA in our first review, and regular invitations from other Australian universities to assist in their external reviews.

Change is always challenging as an old order makes way for the new, and not withstanding current wrinkles that need to be ironed as we transition into the new academic governance structure, UWS retains that sector prestige. The new UWS academic governance arrangements necessitate greater understanding, involvement and sophistication by more staff and students. This is recognised to be good for quality, good for informed participation, good for succession and leadership development, and good for academic standards.

As I step down, Academic Senate at UWS has good bones, good brains and in the coming months as the new structure comes to life and move, it will continue to make good progress.

These comments about Senate are in the abstract, and while it is true, it does not communicate the sense of satisfaction, gratitude and affection that has accompanied my time in the Chair. It is now to this I turn.

How do I close this time in my career and in your Senate? As a colleague said to me the other day, “I never thought of you as anything other than Chair of Senate – I suppose you must be a Professor of Something!” Yes I am a Professor in allied health, specifically Occupational Therapy and I have had a passion for 30 years in providing opportunities for people who are vulnerable through disability, chronic conditions, injury, illness, chaotic or disadvantaged life situations to participate in daily life and society.

It is this passion that leads me to move from clinical practice where I could work with one person at a time, to teaching and research where I could try and help hundreds of students and clinicians work better with their patients, clients and communities one at a time. That passion then saw me move from teaching and research to policy in Academic Senate where I could work through organisational structures to provide opportunities not only for vulnerable people in our midst, but also to all our students who will be the professional leaders, researchers, carers and advocates of the future. It is they who will carry the torch of opportunity for others.

Working at UWS through Senate academic policy we can support the increasing diversity, access, excellence and opportunity of not only our students but also the people they will serve in years to come. Placing students at the centre of our debates and decisions ensures passion well spent as academic policy approved through Senate is how all of us can provide the
framework to ensure high quality, standards based, consistent and equitable opportunity for everyone that passes through, belongs to or is affected by this great institution.

And UWS is indeed “great”. There are few words that inspire me more than our university mission statement – in the last 15 years I have seen UWS literally transform the social and economic opportunity of this region, from local to international levels. As the greater western Sydney region forges ahead as the third largest economy outside Sydney and Melbourne, and the fastest growing and most diverse population in the country, we are literally transforming the Australia of tomorrow every day we come to work – what a privilege! What a truly moral purpose!

As Chair of Senate, after reflection and learning on the job, I found it important to remind myself that my position was one that served completely a moral purpose. And this position must be managed with care. There is enormous discretion to initiate change, prevent it, determine student matters one way or the other, advise, chastise, cajole. It is a position where the trust and confidence of Senate colleagues, Senior Executive, Pro Vice-Chancellors, staff and students was critical.

To keep that trust and remain true to the moral purpose of the university, I gave myself daily reminders – carrying them around with me in my pocket diary.

For the past six years, when I open my diary the first thing I saw was this short saying: “Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up” (1 Corinthians 8:1). Whether or not one is religious, it is an important reminder of what makes educational institutions and the relationships in them true. In a knowledge organisation like a University, it is all too easy to puff up, trump other people with expertise, and not to take the time to build other people up. I have tried to keep trust and serve the moral purpose of this university by building others up – building the University through structural change and policy revision, building up people through learning and respectful relationships. I’ve made mistakes but the intention was there. Love builds up and I love UWS. That means I love (well most) of the people who make this great place. I am so grateful for the warmth, care, love and challenge received from my UWS colleagues – puffy or not – while in the Chair. Thankyou.

Then as I turn to the next page in my diary, a quote from my old high school appears. Over four hundred years ago the founder said “What is not done in one year can be done in another” (Mary Ward, 1585-1645). This helps me remember that doing great things through great institutions takes a great deal of time. What we do through Senate takes time, and we need to take a systematic, considered and emotionally generous approach to the mass and mess of things to be done, the direction we need to take, and the time we allocate to the task. While I often fail on the tranquillity bit, I have tried to stay as emotionally generous and encouraging as possible in the face and at the head of change. Thankyou for accompanying me.

Then, in my diary, I have phone numbers – and it is these people who have kept me as tranquil as possible over the past six years, ensuring that I get a friendly stab of reality every time it looks like I am puffing up.

Top of the list is Gregory Wheatley and Martin Derby. As secretaries to Senate it has been an honour to work with these two men. Your attention to detail and constant concern for students has been outstanding. Then comes Thea Seabrook (Registrar) and Jeff Warnock (Assistant Registrar) whose wise counsel in matters of policy and politics was superb. In past years Professor Nigel Bond (past PVC Academic and now Acting Associate Dean Academic) and Kate Shane (past secretary to Education Committee), figured highly on the telephone list and I’d like to acknowledge their expertise and support especially during the rocky years of College restructure. And for all of the past six years, the phone numbers of the Vice Chancellor Janice
Reid and Deputy Vice Chancellor Rhonda Hawkins have been there – rarely used but always there – and I acknowledge the enormous practical support and professional development their offices have provided, in addition to the respect they have given the Office of the Chair of Senate, to enable me to work independently, without fear or favour, to take risks, make mistakes, have wins, respectable losses and lead without unnecessary or inappropriate influence or interference in front or behind the scenes.

Finally, in my diary I have the phone numbers of my family, and it is these numbers and the wearing of too many hats at this time that has finally lead me to decide that I have to take one off. As well as being Chair I am a Professor in the School of Biomedical and Health Sciences, a clinical researcher, Provost of Campbelltown Campus and I have responsibilities at home. While my family calls me the ‘nutty professor’ and ensures that I never have an opportunity to puff up, they love me to bits so I can love what I do. And recently it became clear to that the next 12 months are critical ones that will be better served by wearing two UWS hats not three.

And so, my thanks to you, and to the university for the most wonderful time of my working life, and, in the words of Greg Wheatley, my travelling companion for the past couple of years, “Gee, its time for our next adventure!”

Professor Anne Cusick  
Chair  
Academic Senate  
29 May 2009