ACADEMIC SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Senate Executive Committee (Meeting 09:03) will be conducted via email circulation. Responses are to be returned to Jeff Warnock by Monday 20 April 2009.

For enquiries/apologies: Jeff Warnock telephone (02) 9678 7803 or email j.warnock@uws.edu.au

E-AGENDA

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Attendance and Apologies
Your electronic participation will indicate attendance. A no response will be considered an apology.

1.2 Instructions
Members are requested to consider items for decision, then vote either for or against the recommendation by placing an X in the table, as indicated below. The ‘Comments’ section is available if any amendments are required or to provide additional information for further discussion. Please email your response to j.warnock@uws.edu.au no later than close of business on Monday 20 April 2009.

Example:

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3 TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR APPROVAL OF COURSES AND UNITS

The Chair of Academic Senate, the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching) and the Academic Registrar jointly seek the Committee’s approval of a transitional arrangement for the approval of courses and units that are scheduled for introduction in 2010.

Academic Senate holds the delegation to determine amendments to the Board approved terms of reference and memberships of committees of Senate. Circumstances have arisen under which a temporary suspension of two terms of reference for School/Badanami Academic Standards and Quality Assurance Committees (SASQACs) is proposed.

Academic Governance Arrangements for the Approval of Courses and Units

As indicated in the extract from the relevant policy, below, the terms of reference for the new school academic committees (SASQACs) include consideration of course and unit proposals before they are considered by the relevant College Education, Assessment and Progression Committee (CEAPC). CEAPCs approve unit proposals and make
recommendations regarding course proposals to the Academic Planning and Course Approvals Committee (APCAC) and Senate.

"(81) Consider proposals for new units, and major and minor unit changes, and recommend such any necessary amendments to the relevant College Education, Assessment and Progression Committee.

(82) Consider proposals for new courses."

However, it is not going to be feasible to convene either all of the SASQACs or their Executive Committees in time for them to make recommendations to the next round of CEAPCs.

Timetable Constraints for Approval of 2010 Courses and Units

The latest possible round of meetings of the CEAPCs to recommend new and amended courses, for introduction in 2010, to APCAC and Senate and to approve units for introduction then, is the round of meetings now in progress in April. (The Arts CEAPC is scheduled for 28 April, the Business CEAPC for 29 April and the Health and Science CEAPC for 30 April.)

APCAC next meets on 13 May and Senate on 29 May

It is essential that courses be endorsed by the April CEAPCs because the official deadline for proof copy for the 2010 UAC is 26 May. With respect to units, April endorsements by the CEAPCs is also important because the OAR'S data collection process for 2010 units is scheduled to begin on 18 May.

Recommendations

In these circumstances, it is recommended that, as a matter of urgency, Executive Committee of Academic Senate

(i) determine that, as a one-off transitional measure, any unit or course still (as of 16 April, 2009) requiring approval for introduction in 2010, be referred by the proposers (Head of School endorsement if a unit, Executive Dean endorsement if a course) directly to the relevant CEAPC for approval at its April meeting,

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… and, since adoption of that recommendation entails a transitional departure from the approved terms of reference of the school academic committees, that Executive Committee of Academic Senate

(ii) approve the temporary suspension, in respect of course and unit proposals for introduction in 2010 only, of clauses (81) and (82) of the Standing Committees of Academic Senate Policy.

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Consequential Action
If the recommendations are adopted by Executive Committee, the Courses and Timetabling Unit of the Office of the Academic Registrar will advise relevant heads of school and chairs of SASQACs that the temporary measures are being adopted because of urgency and the presumed impracticability of fully constituting all SASQACs or their Executive Committees in time.

4 NEXT MEETING OF SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the re constituted Senate Executive is scheduled for 24 July 2009 in meeting room 3, Building AD, Werrington North, commencing at 9:30am.