1 OPENING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Welcome
The Chancellor welcomed those present.

1.1.1 Board Performance Questionnaire
The Chancellor drew attention to the Board performance questionnaire provided. He highlighted the importance of completing and returning these questionnaires quickly and, as authors will not be identified in the collated document, Board members were encouraged to be as frank in their comments as possible. The collated response will be returned to the November meeting.
1.1.2 **Presentations by Executive Deans**
On a regular rotating basis, Executive Deans will be invited to attend Board meetings to advise on how their Colleges are progressing and the challenges facing them. The first of these presentations is Professor Robyn McGuiggan, recorded in these minutes at item 3.5.

1.2 **Apologies**
The Board noted the apologies from Ms Mary Foley and Mr Kim Yeadon.

1.3 **Starring of Items**
The following items were starred: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1.2, 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, 4, 5.1, 6.2 and 7.

*It was resolved:*  
that all unstared items be taken as considered and all recommendations in the attachments for them as adopted.

1.4 **Arrangement of Business**
Items 2.1.2, 3.3 and 3.7 were listed for discussion in the Closed Session.

1.5 **Confirmation of Minutes**
Professor Cusick sought clarification on the use of the word “scholarships” in the second paragraph of item 3.5.3 of the August minutes. It was agreed to replace the words “course sponsorships” with the words “support for courses”.

*It was resolved:*  
that the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on 9 August 2006 be confirmed, with the agreed amendment to item 3.5.3.

2 **BUSINESS ARISING**

2.1 **Strategic Planning:**

2.1.1 **The Integrated UWS Strategy**
This item was noted without discussion. Finalised pyramid, priorities, implementation plan and progress reports will be presented to the Board at its November and February meetings.

2.1.2 **Strategic Planning for UWS Campuses**
This matter was discussed in the Closed Session.

2.2 **Post VSU Student Services**
This item was noted without discussion. A further report will be provided to the Board via the Strategy and Resources Committee.

3 **NEW GENERAL BUSINESS & MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**

3.1 **Vice-Chancellor’s Report**
The Vice-Chancellor spoke to her report and advised the Board of:

- The recent successes of UWS students. UWS graduate Erhan Eroksuz was recently awarded the Senior University Bachelor of Engineering
Student Award by the Young Engineers Sydney Division. Students from the School of Management won a mediation competition.

- UWS is gaining a reputation as a University with a clear direction and a promising future and is building on its teaching and research profiles as evidenced by recent appointments of staff.
- The University of Melbourne has invited UWS to join a consortium with Melbourne and Griffith universities to bid for the Centre for Islamic Studies. This is a highly competitive process for a prestigious academic centre.
- Negotiations are occurring with the Chilean Ministry of Education on the potential for a program to deliver early childhood courses in Chile and the Confucious Institute in partnership with Beijing Broadcast University. Details of these international initiatives can be found in agenda item 3.6.
- The University has been successful in receiving an $864,000 DEST grant under the Workplace Productivity Program.
- The Regional Council approved the support of $80,000 from the Regional and Community Grants Fund to scope and commence an initiative for the Sudanese community which will also provide UWS students with excellent learning opportunities and experience. Details of this project can be found in agenda item 5.2.
- The University-sponsored and participated in the celebration of Ramadan Iftar on 29 September. This was a very successful and encouraging event which the University was pleased to support, and is considering sponsoring again in 2007.
- 2,400 applications have been received from people wishing to enrol in Medicine at UWS in 2007. The University was surprised recently to receive advice from the Federal Government that 25% of our Medicine places must be offered under the bonded-places scheme. This is contrary to the University’s intention to provide trained doctors for Western Sydney, however the Federal Government has confirmed that this condition applies to every publicly funded medical school.

3.2 Uses of the University Seal

*It was resolved:*
*That the uses of the University Seal since 27 July 2006 be approved.*

3.3 Cases Under Management

This item was discussed in the closed session.

3.4 UWS College

In response to the Board’s request at its August meeting, Mr Mark Howland, UWS College Project Director, presented to the Board Phase 1 of the UWS College Pty Ltd Business Overview. In its subsequent discussion, the Board sought market research on the relocation of UWS College, its products and the demand for them. The Board also requested that a risk management plan be provided via the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

3.5 College of Business

Executive Dean Robyn McGuiggan, Executive Dean, College of Business, provided a presentation which outlined the challenges to be addressed and the achievements of the College. The Board noted that Associate Dean McGuiggan has been encouraged by the dedication, enthusiasm and participation of the College staff.
3.6 **International Activities Report**  
This item and the attachment "UWS Involvement in Chile 2005-2006" were noted without discussion.

3.7 **UWS-TVS Collaboration**  
This item was discussed in the closed session.

3.8 **Information Technology Strategy Committee**  
In considering this matter, the Board agreed that there would be benefit in adding a staff representative who has high level expertise and knowledge of IT Strategy to the membership of this committee.

*It was resolved:*

That the Board approves:
1. The establishment of the UWS IT Strategy Committee as a standing committee of the University.
2. The appointment of three external members, as nominated in the agenda paper, to the UWS IT Strategy Committee:
   - Rozanne Frost, Chief Information Officer, CSIRO
   - Alan McMeekin, Executive Director of IT, Monash University
   - Cynthia Hansen, CEO, Higher Education Systems.
3. A staff representative with suitable level expertise and knowledge.

4 **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES**

4.1 **Strategy and Resources Committee**  
The Board noted the report of the 28 September 2006 meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee. The key items of that meeting are itemised below.

4.1.1 **Review of the University Funding Model (UFM)**
4.1.2 **Year-to-Date Financial Reports**
4.1.3 **Budget Development**

In the absence of Ms Mary Foley, Chair of the SRC, the Vice-Chancellor spoke briefly to these documents and sought the Board’s comments. The Board discussed the accounting treatment of funds from the sale of land.

In light of recent public comments by a UWS staff member, Ms Kelly sought clarification on the impact of the UFM on the College of Business. Mr Holland advised that the UFM had been finalised after an exhaustive consultation process. The staff member in question had been a member of the UFM steering committee and had expressed opinions which were not supported by other members of the steering committee. Mr Holland will respond to the staff member in due course. Associate Professor McGuiggan spoke of the UFM’s impact on the College of Business, which has a large number of students in lower Commonwealth Grants Scheme clusters. The complete version of the UFM will be provided with the 2007 Budget document at the November Board meeting, however it is available to Board members in the meantime on request.
Ms Kelly sought clarification on the ‘rule’ that there be between 16-24 students for units to be run. The Board noted that Deans will consider units on a case by case basis and it might be sufficient to have, for example, 20 students for units to operate.

In considering the 2007 Budget Development document, Professor Cusick highlighted TVS, UWS College and the Medical School as potentially high risk. The paper sought the Board’s comments on budget assumptions, risks and the University’s overall development strategy. Professor Cusick stated that there is very little left, financially, in the colleges to save and the Board should consider whether it is best to sacrifice some high risks in order to save the University’s ‘juggernauts’ (high volume core courses) such as Business, Health and Teaching.

The Chancellor advised that he found the financial situation disappointing as most of the surplus is due to the prior year carry-forward and the gains achieved at the end of 2005 are no longer available. He suggested that:

a) the 2007 Budget be reviewed and reconsidered (and this should include the potential cost of TVS);

b) the application of the UFM and cost drivers be reviewed;

c) as requested by the SRC, the Board needs to consider whether there should be an operating deficit to sustain the promised level of investment in research and teaching.

These matters will be returned to the Board, via the SRC, for further consideration at its November meeting.

4.2 Audit and Risk Management Committee
The Board noted the report of the 13 September 2006 meeting of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. The Chair, Mr Glen Sanford, highlighted the Committee’s decision that, in future, an appropriate representative will be required to attend each ARMC meeting until the audit recommendation(s) which are more than 12 months old in their area are completed. The Chancellor reiterated the importance of ensuring that Audit recommendations are implemented.

4.3 Campus Development Committee
The Board noted the report of the 30 August 2006 meeting of the Campus Development Committee and, in particular, the status of the student accommodation development with Campus Living Developments.

The expanded role of the Campus Development Committee and its new terms of reference have been considered by the Board Standing Committee and are reported on at Item 4.5 of these minutes.

4.3.1 Sale of Land Parcel at Kingswood Site to Anglican Retirement Villages
The Board noted the proposal to sell a parcel of land at the Kingswood site of the Penrith Campus to Anglican Retirement Villages. The
University would be unable to gain rezoning of this land for residential purposes. The terms of the purchase are favourable to the University as ARV proposes to acquire the land in its current form and obtain necessary rezoning and development approvals for a retirement village. The Board agreed that it would prefer this sale to include the establishment of a covenant to ensure that the land is only used as a retirement village and not residential.

It was resolved:

That the Board of Trustees approves the sale of the 6.2 ha parcel of land at the Kingswood site to Anglican Retirement Villages subject to seeking an appropriate form of covenant from ARV that the land will only be used for the purpose of a retirement village and subject to the final consent of the Minister for Education.

4.4 Report from the Chair of Academic Senate
The Board noted the report of the 25 August 2006 meeting of Academic Senate and Professor Cusick’s advice that she and the University Librarian are working with 2000 students and 11 staff in trialling the Turnitin text matching software package. The cost of leasing the Turnitin system will be $1 per student, or approximately $40,000 in 2007. Increased media scrutiny on plagiarism is expected later in the year. A further report will be provided to the Board in due course.

4.5 Meetings of the Board Standing Committee and the Remuneration and Nominations Committee
The Board noted the report of the 12 September 2006 meeting of the Board Standing Committee and the Remuneration and Nominations Committee and that the Campus Development Committee’s terms of reference need expanding to more clearly state its role in master planning and future of the campuses.

It was resolved:

That the terms of reference for the Campus Development Committee be:

1. Provide strategic guidance and oversight to development of the University’s campuses with three interdependent elements:

   1.1 Campus Futures: Strategic, long-term planning and consolidation of the multi-campus network, including alternative uses of some campuses and possible new sites;

   1.2 Campus Planning: Strategic master planning of campuses within the network, providing a robust structure within which teaching and research can develop; capital works and facilities can be constructed and managed; commercial operations undertaken; property development projects undertaken;

   1.3 Campus Property Developments: Management of developments to generate sustainable income streams to the University.
2. Respond, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to any rezoning issues or matters where the University would be seeking special approvals at local government or state government levels.

3. Authorize matters to be brought to the Standing Committee or to the Board of Trustees at appropriate junctures in the process for decision.

4. Undertake those responsibilities within the delegations established by the Board of Trustees, acknowledging that these do not include alienation of land as per Section 24 of the UWS legislation.

The intention of expanding the CDC’s membership is to invite an external person with the skills to advise not only the CDC, but also the Executive on an ongoing basis on financial mechanisms for dealing with the proceeds of the project.

It was resolved:

That the membership for the Campus Development Committee be:

Deputy Chancellor (chair)
Vice-Chancellor
2 members of the Board (Kim Yeadon and Roy Medich)
Two independent externals appointed by the Board (Sean Wareing and one other to be nominated)

In addition the PVC Campus Development and the Chief Financial Officer will be in attendance at meetings.

5 REPORTS FROM COUNCILS OF THE UNIVERSITY

5.1 Indigenous Advisory Council
In addition to the report of the 28 August 2006 meeting of the Indigenous Advisory Council, the Board noted Ms Burney’s advice that:

- the IAC has met twice specifically to prepare for the AUQA Audit;
- there are 12 Aboriginal applicants to study Medicine at UWS;
- the new Dean of Indigenous Education, Professor Michael McDaniel, is an asset to the University and to IAC meetings;
- the University needs to explore whether or not Schools have taken up the challenge to recruit Aboriginal students.

It was resolved:

That the membership of Ms Burney and Aunty Mae Robinson be renewed for a further two year term, from September 2006 to August 2008.

That the membership of Mr Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews be renewed for a further two year term, from September 2006 to August 2008, or until the end of his studies at UWS, whichever is the sooner.
5.2 Regional Council
The Board noted the report of the 17 August 2006 meeting of the Regional Council without discussion.

6 OTHER REPORTS

6.1 Occupational Health and Safety
This report was noted without discussion.

6.2 Staffing Matters
The Board noted that all UWS staff had been offered Australian Workplace Agreements (AWA’s) and that, at this stage, five people (all casual academic staff) had accepted an AWA.

In response to an enquiry by Mr Fomiatti, Ms Hawkins advised that the Heads of Schools recruitment was a very open process involving a standard committee structure which included an elected staff representative. In order to fill the staff representative position, all Schools held elections although for some there were no staff members who nominated for the role.

6.3 Progress Report of Major Capital Projects
This report was noted without discussion.

6.4 Progress Report on Medical School
This report was noted without discussion.

6.5 AUQA Progress Report
This report was noted without discussion.

6.6 Open Day 2006
This report was noted without discussion.

6.7 Research Investment:

6.7.1 Research Investment – Progress Report
This report was noted without discussion.

6.7.2 Research Investment – School of Medicine

It was resolved:

That the Research Investment Package originally planned for Population Health be instead deployed to support the area of Neuroscience Physiology.

7 MATTERS RAISED BY BOARD MEMBERS

7.1 Undergraduate Representative
Mr Fomiatti asked why the decision had been taken to take freeze enrolments into Performing Arts and Fine Arts in 2007 and questioned what the University wants its ‘scouts’ (high quality and high profile specialist courses) to be. The Board agreed that future presentations by Executive Deans should include
advice to the Board on what they perceive their College’s juggernauts and scouts will be.

The Vice-Chancellor advised that the decision had been taken on the Executive Dean’s advice about enrolments, course attractiveness and the significant infrastructure costs. These courses are operating at a $1m loss per annum (not including the UFM space cost) and need to be much more viable. Work will be done during 2007 on this.

Some Board members expressed disappointment at the situation of the Fine Arts and Performing Arts courses. It was noted, however, that the University is not sufficiently funded for these courses while some providers, such as NIDA and the Australian Film Television and Radio School, receive funding under special arrangements.

8 OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Australian Research Council Funding
The Vice-Chancellor advised the Board of the outcome of the Australian Research Council funding for 2007, which was released during the Board meeting, and congratulated all the successful researchers.

8.2 TVS – Comment from Mr Roberson
Mr Roberson advised that he will be responding to Board members on the correspondence from Slice TV Inc.

9 NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE
The next ordinary meeting of the Board will be held at 9.00am on Wednesday 29 November 2006 in the Boardroom, Building AD, Werrington North Campus.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.20pm.

Confirmed by: 

__________________________________________________________
Chair

__________________________________________________________
Date