

**AGENDA ITEM 5  
Report of the Chair**

**5.2 Honours and Distinctions**

I am pleased to report the following honours and distinctions and recommend the Academic Board extend its congratulations to the recipients:

**Professor Roger Truscott, Faculty of Medicine**

Awarded the Cataract Research Award from the National Foundation for Eye Research in the United States.

**Professor Kim Rasmussen, Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies**

Awarded the 2007 Moisseiff Award by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

**Emeritus Professor Ian Hume, Faculty of Science**

Elected to the Australian Academy of Science.

**Professor Peter Lay, Faculty of Science**

Elected to the Australian Academy of Science.

**Professor Stephen Simpson, Faculty of Science**

Elected to the Australian Academy of Science.

**Faculty of Law Student Team**

Winners of the Jessup International Law Moot competition.

***Recommendation***

*That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on the honours and distinctions and congratulate the recipients, as set out in the report presented.*

**5.3 General Report**

**5.3.1 University College Sydney Academic Planning Committee**

B3

The Chair will present a report on the establishment of the University College Sydney Academic Planning Committee. The terms of reference for the Committee are attached.

***Recommendation***

*That the Academic Board note the Chair's report on the University College Sydney Academic Planning Committee, as set out in the report presented.*

**5.3.2 Role of the Academic Board within the University's Structure**

This issue will form a focus topic for discussion at the Academic Board's May meeting. The Chair will provide a background report as preparation for this focus topic.

***Recommendation***

*That the Academic Board note the Chair's report on the Academic Board's role within the University's structure, as set out in the report presented.*

**5.3.3 Update on Academic Board Reviews**

*supplementary agenda*

The Chair will present the draft guidelines for the self-evaluation report for the Phase 3 Academic Board reviews.

**Recommendation**

*That the Academic Board note the Chair's report on the Phase 3 Academic Board Reviews, as set out in the report presented.*

**5.3.4 2006 Annual Report of Academic Board Activities**

**B4-13**

The Academic Board is asked to note the attached annual report of its activities for 2006.

**Recommendation**

*That the Academic Board note the 2006 Annual Report of Academic Board activities, as set out in the report presented.*

## The College Academic Planning Committee

### Purpose:

The College Academic Planning Committee is a joint working party of the College Planning Committee and the Academic Board, constituted as a result of a Senate resolution of 19 March 2007 describing further preparatory steps in the development of the College. The College Academic Planning Committee will recommend academic programs for the College that give expression to the College's mission and enhance the academic reputation of both the College and the University of Sydney.

### Terms of Reference:

1. The College Academic Planning Committee (Committee) will advise the College CEO and report to and take advice from the Academic Board of the University of Sydney.
2. The Committee will:
  - a. Establish priority-setting principles used to identify, plan and evaluate undergraduate and graduate programs;
  - b. Develop policies and criteria to establish, approve and review programs, activities and community partnerships;
  - c. Identify high quality learning and teaching opportunities on all degree pathways, including
    - i student placements and international outreach activities,
    - ii curricular approaches that promote course access and allow students to engage in long-range career planning,
    - iii alignment of curricular and co-curricular program and services;
  - d. Oversee development of program proposals, having regard to the academic and managerial elements of such proposals;
  - e. Until self-accreditation is achieved, submit proposals to
    - i Relevant authorities for accreditation and
    - ii The Academic Board for consideration both of academic quality and articulation;
  - f. Liaise with the Admissions Sub-Committee of the Academic Board regarding development of admissions pathways;
  - g. Initiate regular reviews of academic quality of College programs;
  - h. Advise on academic aspects of staffing; and
  - i. Report to the CEO and the Academic Board on any matter referred to it by the CEO, the Academic Board or the Vice-Chancellor.

### Membership:

College CEO or nominee (Chair): Professor Andrew Gonczi

Chair, Academic Board or nominee (Deputy Chair): Professor Bruce Sutton

Professor Stephen Garton

Professor David Day

Professor Gwynnyth Lewellyn

Mr Geoff Pearman

Representative of Graduate Studies Committee: Associate Professor Peter McCallum

Representative of Undergraduate Studies Committee:

Representative of Academic Board, not a Dean:

Ex-officio:

Professor Ann Brewer

Natalie Conyers

## Annual Report of the Academic Board 2006

The *University of Sydney (Academic Governance) Rule 2003* outlines the functions of the Academic Board as follows:

### **General functions**

- *To maintain the highest standards in teaching, scholarship and research and, in that process, to safeguard the academic freedom of the University.*
- *To oversee and monitor the development of all academic activities of the University.*
- *To communicate with the academic community through the Faculties, colleges and boards of studies and similar organisational units.*

In 2006 the Academic Board developed and/or introduced a handbook for members, and an information pamphlet. The Academic Board website was also upgraded to contain information on the history of the Board and its past Chairs.

### **Advisory functions**

*Provide advice to the Senate and the Vice-Chancellor on:*

- *academic matters relating to and affecting the University's teaching and research activities and its educational programs, including general advice on the academic priorities and policies of the University;*
- *academic aspects of the formulation and review of the University's strategic plan;*
- *policies concerning the academic aspects of the conditions of appointment and employment of academic staff;*

The Academic Board

- noted the report on the promotion of academic staff from Level D to Level E in 2005;
  - noted the report relating to the Conferring of All Academic Titles by Colleges and Faculties in 2005;
  - appointed members to the Central Promotions Committees for 2006;
  - noted the recruitment of new Academic Board nominees;
  - noted the report on the promotion of academic staff to Level B in 2006;
  - approved the members of the Joint Committee for the selection of the Vice-Chancellor;
  - noted the Chair's nominations to selection committees for senior executive positions;
  - noted that a training session was held on 1 November 2006 for new and existing Academic Board nominees, with over 60 people attending the session;
  - noted the report on the promotion of academic staff to Level C in 2006; and
  - note the report on the promotion of academic staff to Level D in 2006.
- *any academic matters it considers to be of strategic importance, including any Faculty plans; and*
  - *the maintenance of academic standards.*

### **Specific functions**

- *Exercise authority as delegated to the Academic Board to approve new academic courses and changes to existing courses*

| NEW COURSES                                      |   |
|--|---|
| Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources | Graduate Diploma in Agriculture<br>Graduate Certificate in Agriculture  |
| Faculty of Arts                                  | Bachelor of Arts (Advanced) (Honours) / Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery<br>Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) (Honours) |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>Bachelor of Global Studies<br/>         Bachelor of Socio-Legal Studies<br/>         Graduate Diploma in Arts (Studies in Religion)<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Arts (Studies in Religion)<br/>         Master of Digital Communication and Culture<br/>         Graduate Diploma in Digital Communication and Culture<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Digital Communication and Culture<br/>         Master of English Language in Australia<br/>         Graduate Diploma in English Language in Australia<br/>         Graduate Certificate in English Language in Australia<br/>         Master of Film Studies<br/>         Graduate Diploma in Film Studies<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Film Studies<br/>         Master of Publishing<br/>         Graduate Diploma in Publishing<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Publishing</p> |
| Faculty of Dentistry                   | Master of Philosophy   |
| Faculty of Economics & Business        | <p>Graduate Certificate in Innovation &amp; Enterprise<br/>         Master of Professional Accounting</p>  |
| Faculty of Education & Social Work     | <p>Graduate Diploma in Learning Science and Technology<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Learning Science and Technology</p>  |
| Faculty of Health Sciences             | <p>Bachelor of Health Science (Physiotherapy)<br/>         Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Clinical Vision Sciences<br/>         Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Health Information Management<br/>         Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Rehabilitation Counselling<br/>         Master of Diagnostic Radiography<br/>         Master of Diagnostic Radiography (Honours)<br/>         Master of Nuclear Medicine<br/>         Master of Nuclear Medicine (Honours)<br/>         Master of Radiation Therapy<br/>         Master of Radiation Therapy (Honours)</p>   |
| Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies | <p>Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Languages Education<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Languages Education</p>  |
| Faculty of Medicine                    | <p>Master of Bioethics<br/>         Master of Bioethics (Honours)<br/>         Graduate Diploma in Bioethics<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Bioethics<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Bioethics (Biotechnology)<br/>         Master of Medicine (Respiratory Medicine)<br/>         Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Respiratory Medicine)<br/>         Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Respiratory Medicine)<br/>         Master of Medicine (Anaesthesia &amp; Perioperative Medicine)</p>   |

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
|                                | <p>Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Anaesthesia &amp; Perioperative Medicine)<br/> Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Anaesthesia &amp; Perioperative Medicine)<br/> Master of Medicine (Liver Disease)<br/> Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Liver Disease)<br/> Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Liver Disease)<br/> Master of Medicine (Pathology)<br/> Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Pathology)<br/> Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Pathology)<br/> Master of Medicine (Dermatology)<br/> Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Dermatology)<br/> Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Dermatology)<br/> Master of Philosophy</p> |
| Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery | Doctor of Health Services Management  |
| Faculty of Pharmacy            | Master of Philosophy  |
| Faculty of Science             | <p>Master of Applied Science (Health Psychology)<br/> Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Health Psychology)<br/> Graduate Certificate in Applied Science (Health Psychology)</p>  |
| Sydney College of the Arts     | Master of Documentary Photography   |
| Sydney Conservatorium of Music | <p>Bachelor of Music Studies / Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery<br/> Master of Music Studies (Conducting)</p>   |
| Faculty of Veterinary Science  | <p>Master of Animal Science (Animal Breeding Management)<br/> Master of Animal Science (Honours)<br/> Graduate Diploma in Animal Science (Animal Breeding Management)<br/> Graduate Certificate in Animal Science (Animal Breeding Management)<br/> Master of Veterinary Public Health Management (Honours)<br/> Master of Veterinary Public Health<br/> Master of Veterinary Public Health (Honours)<br/> Graduate Diploma in Veterinary Public Health<br/> Graduate Certificate in Veterinary Public Health<br/> Graduate Diploma in Veterinary Studies<br/> Graduate Certificate in Veterinary Studies</p>           |

**AMENDED COURSES**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources | <p>Bachelor of Animal Science<br/> Bachelor of Horticultural Science<br/> Bachelor of Land and Water Science<br/> Bachelor of Science in Agriculture<br/> Master of Agriculture</p>   |
| Faculty of Architecture, Design & Planning       | <p>Bachelor of Design in Architecture<br/> Bachelor of Design Computing<br/> Master of Design Science<br/> Graduate Diploma of Design Science<br/> Graduate Certificate of Design Science<br/> Master of Urban Design<br/> Graduate Diploma of Urban Design</p> |

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|---|---|
|   | <p>Graduate Certificate of Urban Design<br/>Master of Urban Design (Urban Design and Planning)<br/>Master of Urban and Regional Planning</p>  |
| Faculty of Arts                                   | <p>Bachelor of Arts<br/>Bachelor of Arts (Advanced) (Honours)<br/>Bachelor of Arts (Digital Technology and Culture)<br/>Master of Applied Linguistics<br/>Graduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics<br/>Graduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics<br/>Master of Professional Communication<br/>Graduate Diploma in Professional Communication<br/>Graduate Certificate in Professional Communication;</p>   |
| Faculty of Economics & Business                   | <p>Bachelor of Commerce / Bachelor of Laws<br/>Bachelor of Economic and Social Sciences / Bachelor of Laws<br/>Bachelor of Economics / Bachelor of Laws<br/>Bachelor of International Studies / Bachelor of Laws<br/>Bachelor of Commerce<br/>Bachelor of Commerce / Bachelor of Arts<br/>Bachelor of Commerce / Bachelor of Science<br/>Bachelor of Commerce (Liberal Studies)<br/>Bachelor of Economic and Social Sciences<br/>Bachelor of Economics<br/>Bachelor of International Studies<br/>Master of Commerce (Honours)<br/>Master of Commerce<br/>Master of Commerce/ Master of Facilities Management<br/>Master of Commerce/ Master of Logistics Management<br/>Master of Commerce/ Master of Transport Management<br/>Master of Commerce/ Master of International Business<br/>Graduate Diploma in Commerce<br/>Graduate Certificate in Commerce<br/>Master of Public Policy</p> |
| Faculty of Education & Social Work                | <p>Bachelor of Education<br/>Bachelor of Social Work<br/>Doctor of Education</p>  |
| Faculty of Engineering & Information Technologies | <p>Bachelor of Engineering<br/>Master of Engineering Studies</p>  |
| Faculty of Health Sciences                        | <p>Bachelor of Applied Sciences (Occupational Therapy)<br/>Bachelor of Health Sciences<br/>Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)<br/>Master of Exercise and Sport Science<br/>Master of Health Science (Behavioural Science)<br/>Master of Health Science (Honours)</p>   |

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|  | <p>(Behavioural Science)<br/>Graduate Certificate of Health Sciences (Behavioural Science)<br/>Master of Health Science (Child and Adolescent Health)<br/>Master of Health Science (Honours) (Child and Adolescent Health)<br/>Graduate Certificate of Health Sciences (Child and Adolescent Health)<br/>Master of Health Science (Education)<br/>Master of Health Science (Honours) (Education)<br/>Graduate Diploma of Health Science (Education)<br/>Graduate Certificate of Health Sciences (Education)<br/>Master of Health Science (Gerontology)<br/>Master of Health Science (Honours) (Gerontology)<br/>Master of Health Science (Medical Radiation Sciences)<br/>Graduate Diploma in Health Science (Medical Radiation Sciences)<br/>Graduate Certificate in Health Science (Medical Radiation Sciences)<br/>Master of Health Science (Sexual Health)<br/>Graduate Diploma in Health Science (Sexual Health)<br/>Graduate Certificate in Health Science (Sexual Health)<br/>Master of Occupational Therapy<br/>Master of Orthoptics<br/>Master of Rehabilitation Counselling<br/>Graduate Diploma in Rehabilitation Counselling</p> |
| Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies | Master of Indigenous Languages Education   |
| Faculty of Law                         | <p>Bachelor of Laws<br/>Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Laws<br/>Bachelor of Engineering / Bachelor of Laws<br/>Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Laws</p>  |
| Faculty of Medicine                    | <p>Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery<br/>Diploma in Indigenous Primary Health Care<br/>Advanced Diploma in Indigenous Primary Health Care<br/>Graduate Certificate in Bioethics<br/>Doctor of Public Health<br/>Master of Biostatistics<br/>Graduate Diploma in Biostatistics<br/>Graduate Certificate in Biostatistics<br/>Master of Health Policy<br/>Graduate Diploma in Health Policy<br/>Graduate Certificate in Health Policy<br/>Master of International Public Health<br/>Graduate Diploma of International Public Health</p>   |

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|--------------------------------|---|
|                                | <p>Master of Public Health<br/>Graduate Diploma of Public Health<br/>Master of Medical Education<br/>Graduate Diploma in Medical Education<br/>Graduate Certificate in Medical Education<br/>Master of Surgery<br/>Graduate Diploma of Surgery<br/>Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health Promotion</p>        |
| Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery | <p>Graduate Diploma in Cancer Nursing<br/>Graduate Diploma in Clinical Education<br/>Graduate Diploma in Clinical Nursing<br/>Graduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing<br/>Graduate Diploma in Gerontic Nursing<br/>Graduate Diploma in Intensive Care Nursing<br/>Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing</p> |
| Faculty of Pharmacy            | <p>Bachelor of Pharmacy<br/>Bachelor of Pharmacy (Rural)<br/>Master of Pharmacy<br/>Master of Pharmacy (Clinical)<br/>Graduate Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy<br/>Graduate Certificate in Clinical Pharmacy</p>   |
| Faculty of Science             | Bachelor of Science   |
| Sydney College of the Arts     | <p>Bachelor of Visual Arts<br/>Master of Multimedia Design</p>  |
| Sydney Conservatorium of Music | <p>Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Music Studies<br/>Bachelor of Music (Music Education)</p>   |
| Faculty of Veterinary Science  | <p>Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience<br/>Master of Veterinary Studies</p>  |

| <b>DELETED COURSES</b>     |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Faculty of Arts            | Master of Arts in Early Christian Studies   |
| Faculty of Dentistry       | Master of Science in Dentistry  |
| Faculty of Health Sciences | <p>Bachelor of Applied Science (Health Information Management)<br/>Bachelor of Applied Science (Health Information Management) (Honours)<br/>Bachelor of Applied Science (Leisure and Health)<br/>Bachelor of Applied Science (Leisure and Health) (Honours)<br/>Bachelor of Applied Science (Orthoptics)<br/>Bachelor of Applied Science (Orthoptics) (Honours)<br/>Bachelor of Behavioural Health Sciences<br/>Bachelor of Health Science (Rehabilitation Counselling)<br/>Bachelor of Health Science (Rehabilitation Counselling) (Honours)<br/>Graduate Certificate of Health Sciences (Casemix)<br/>Graduate Diploma of Health Sciences (Vision Impairment)<br/>Graduate Certificate of Health Science (Vision Impairment)</p> |
| Faculty of Medicine        | <p>Master of Philosophy in Public Health<br/>Master of Philosophy in International Public Health<br/>Master of Medicine (by research)</p>   |

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
|                                | Master of Science in Medicine (by research)   |
| Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery | Graduate Diploma in Nursing   |
| Faculty of Pharmacy            | Master of Pharmacy (Research)<br>Master of Pharmaceutical Science<br>Graduate Diploma in Pharmaceutical Science |
| Faculty of Science             | Bachelor of Science (Bioinformatics)<br>Bachelor of Science (Environmental)                                     |
| Sydney Conservatorium of Music | Graduate Diploma in Music (Repetiteur)  |
| Faculty of Veterinary Science  | Graduate Diploma in Veterinary Clinical Studies   |

- *Determine policy concerning the programs of study or examinations in any Faculty, college or Board of Studies and within such policy, determine requirements to be satisfied by candidates for the award of degrees, diplomas or certificates*

Faculty and Senate resolutions relating to the above mentioned courses were approved by the Academic Board. In addition, the Board:

- approved the admission of international full fee paying students with forecast International Baccalaureate scores at 2 points higher than the published admission scores; and
  - approved the International Office, in conjunction with the Centre for English Teaching being responsible for updating the Combined Universities Language Test CULT whenever a faculty requests a change to the minimum standard mark for IELTS and TOEFL.
- *Determine the terms and conditions of awards, scholarships and prizes established within the University and make awards;*  
The Academic Board approved the recommendation that the University of Sydney International Research Scholarships Scheme be continued, with 30 scholarships to be awarded in 2007.

- *Formulate and review policies, guidelines and procedures in relation to academic matters;*

New policies approved in 2006:

- Research-enhanced Learning and Teaching
- Identifying and Supporting Students at Risk
- Research Principles
- Out of Round Promotion Procedures

Existing policies amended in 2006:

- Academic Honesty in Coursework (aligned with the policy on Student Plagiarism)
- Admission to Undergraduate Courses
- Creation, Variation and Deletion of Award Courses and Units of Study
- Postgraduate English Language Requirements
- PhD: Guidelines for Examiners of Doctor of Philosophy Theses
- Academic Board Resolutions: Student Appeals Against Academic Decisions

Various policies were also amended following the disestablishment of the Colleges and the restructuring of the Academic Board's committees.

Reviews and working parties held in 2006:

- Australian Certificate of Education;
- Student Appeals;

- Award of Honours at the University of Sydney;
  - Detection of Plagiarism; and
  - Charter of Academic Freedom
- 
- *Request reports from, or refer matters to Faculties, colleges and boards of studies and similar organisational units for consideration and action as required;*  
The Academic Board received reports on cases of academic dishonesty from the faculties, and noted the annual reports of the Institute for Teaching and Learning, the Learning Centre, the Mathematics Learning Centre and the Sydney Summer and Winter Schools.
- 
- *Consider and take action as required on reports or academic submissions from Faculties, colleges or boards of studies or similar organisational units;*  
The following reports were noted:
    - the report of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) on the Guidelines for the Rationalisation of Units of Study;
    - the report of the University Librarian on Library Patron Types and Loan Conditions;
    - the report of the Dean of Graduate Studies on Student Research Experience Questionnaire results;
    - the report on the 2007 Research Funding Model;
    - the report of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) on the International Portfolio; and
    - the report of the Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Community) on the proposed University College Sydney
- 
- *Play an active role in assuring the quality of teaching, scholarship and research in the University and co-ordinate and maintain an overview of the academic activities of Faculties, colleges and boards of studies and similar organisational units;*  
The Academic Board appointed members to the 2006 Student Proctorial Panel.
- 
- *Initiate and oversee a formal and regular program of review of academic activities of Faculties, colleges and boards of studies, and similar organisational units;*  
The Academic Board noted the schedule of faculty progress reports on the Phase 2 Faculty Review recommendations and received progress reports from:
    - Faculty of Architecture;
    - Faculty of Education & Social Work;
    - Institute for Teaching and Learning;
    - Koori Centre;
    - Sydney Conservatorium of Music;
    - Faculty of Veterinary Science;
    - Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources;
    - Faculty of Engineering;
    - Faculty of Arts;
    - Faculty of Science;
    - Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery;
    - Faculty of Economics and Business;
    - Faculty of Health Sciences;
    - Faculty of Dentistry;
    - Faculty of Law;
    - Faculty of Medicine; and
    - Faculty of Pharmacy.

Planning commenced for the Phase 3 Academic Board Faculty reviews and in relation to this the Academic Board:

- approved a Data Collection form;
  - noted a report on the trial of the data collection template; and
  - approved the guidelines for the Academic Board Phase 3 Faculty Reviews.
- *Provide a forum to facilitate information flow and debate within the University and between the senior executive officers of the University and the wider academic community;*

Forums were held on:

- “Restructuring: What’s in it for US(yd)?” - presentations were given by Associate Professor Fredoun Ahmadi-Esfahani (on the economic basis of restructuring), Professor Iqbal Ramzan (on the experiences of the Faculty of Pharmacy) and Ms Jenny Leong (on the student perspective).
- PhD examinations (this forum was held in conjunction with the Dean of Graduate Studies) - speakers included Professor Masud Behnia (Dean of Graduate Studies), Professor Sid Burke (University of Newcastle) and Professor Margaret Kiley (Australian National University).

Reports from various members of the University’s senior management were also noted, as outlined previously.

- *Make regular reports on the range of its activities to the Senate after each meeting of the Academic Board and make a formal, annual report on its activities and its assessment of its performance to the Senate;*

The Academic Board has reported to each of the Senate meetings held in 2006.

- *Consider and report on all matters referred to it by the Senate or the Vice-Chancellor*  
The Academic Board noted (and is currently working on) Senate’s request that the Board revise its resolutions on student appeals against academic decisions in accordance with the recommendations of the Topley review.

- *Exercise any powers and perform any other duties delegated to it by the Senate:*

- *Determine English language requirements:*

The Academic Board amended the English language requirements specified in:

- Admission to Undergraduate Courses; and
- Postgraduate English Language Requirements

- *Determine whether or not a Higher Doctorate be awarded.*

The Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee approved the awarding of six higher doctorates.

- *Determine whether or not a PhD be awarded.*

The full annual report of the PhD Award Sub-Committee on this matter can be found at: [http://www.usyd.edu.au/ab/committees/rrtc/agendas/RRT\\_Mar07\\_agenda.pdf](http://www.usyd.edu.au/ab/committees/rrtc/agendas/RRT_Mar07_agenda.pdf)

(Ref: Agenda Item 6, Meeting of the Research and Research Training Committee held on 20 March 2007).

- *Make final decisions on appeals (Postgraduate Research)*

The Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee made a final decision on one appeal, determining that the appeal not be upheld.

- *Determine whether due academic process has been observed where a student does not accept a faculty decision.*

The Chair of the Academic Board considered seventeen student appeals in 2006.

- *Determine periods of instruction and commencement and conclusion dates of the academic year.*  
The Academic Board approved amended semester and vacation dates for 2007, and approved faculty-specific semester and vacation dates for 2007 for the Faculty of Education and Social Work, the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery and the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.
- *Restrict the public availability of a thesis.*  
The Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee approved the restriction of the public availability of three theses.
- *Permit a candidate to submit a thesis prior to the normal earliest date for submission of a PhD thesis*  
The Chair of the Academic Board permitted two students to submit a thesis prior to the normal earliest date for submission of a PhD thesis.

### **Structure of the Academic Board**

In terms of the Board's structure and membership, the follow actions were taken:

- co-opted Professor Kevin Parton, Dr Margaret Edmond and Mr Peter Ball to membership
- appointed Professor J Trehwella
- appointed Professor Chris Murphy as Chair of the Academic Staffing Committee, Associate Professor P McCallum as Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee, Associate Professor Robyn Ewing as Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee, Associate Professor Robyn Overall as Chair of the Research Committee and Associate Professor Scott Kable as Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee
- appointed Associate Professor P McCallum as Deputy Chair of the Academic Board
- approved new Terms of Reference for the Postgraduate Coursework Sub-Committee
- approved amended terms of reference for the Undergraduate Studies Committee
- approved new Terms of Reference for the Graduate Studies Committee
- approved amended terms of reference for the Learning and Teaching Committee
- approved amendments to the Graduate Studies Committee and Research Committee
- approved new terms of reference and membership of the Graduate Studies Committee and the Research and Research Training Committee
- approved the new structure of the Standing Committees of the Academic Board
- amendments to the *University of Sydney (Academic Governance) Rule 2003*