



Indigenous Education Strategic Development Working Group

2.00p.m. – 3.00p.m. Tuesday 14th February 2006
Main Quad Meeting Room

Membership:

Professor Judyth Sachs (Chair), Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching & Learning)
Assoc. Professor Tony Masters, Chair Academic Board
Ms Sally Farrington, for Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Health Sciences
Mr Colin L. James, for Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Sciences and Technology
Dr Nerida Jarkey, for Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Ms Shona Kennedy, Indigenous Employment Policy Officer
Ms Janet Mooney, Director Koori Centre
Dr Michael Paton, Faculty of Economics and Business
Ms Anne Scahill, Director Staff and Student Equal Opportunity Unit

Corresponding Members:

Ms Ros Field, Director Indigenous Education NSW DEST, or Ms Sharon Lyons-Sequeira
Mr Kevin Lowe, Inspector, Aboriginal Education, Office of Board of Studies

Apologies:

Professor John Hearn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
Associate Professor Diana G Day, Koori Centre
Professor Barbara Fawcett, Head of School Social Work and Policy Studies
Mr Shane Hearn, Lecturer, Grad Dip Indigenous Health Promotion
Ms Sue Page, Yooroang Garang School of Indigenous Health Studies
Professor Tony Vinson, Faculty of Education and Social Work

Minutes

1. Minutes of 3rd November 2005 & Business Arising:

Adopted as true & accurate record

- Professor of Indigenous Studies Prof Judyth Sachs
Prof Aileen Moreton-Robinson has withdrawn her application for family reasons. The position will be re-advertised in the second half of the year.
- Update on the success of Koori Centre marketing Ms Janet Mooney
Ms Mooney tabled the Koori Centre Marketing Strategy and informed the Working Group that it will work with Yooroang Garang to develop a University-wide Marketing Strategy. There are also plans to develop annual operational plans which will be tabled at an appropriate meeting of IESDWG.

Ms Mooney tabled the 2006 numbers in the Cadigal Program and the Block Mode program and explained that for the first time the Koori Centre has a staff member responsible for the Cadigal Program and another member of staff responsible for the Block Mode program. It was reported that faculties were already experiencing the benefits of this approach. It was noted that the Faculty of Law again failed to accept any Indigenous students. The success of the 6-week orientation program for indigenous students at the University of NSW was noted. There are not enough potential indigenous students to duplicate this program; however Ms Mooney will investigate opportunities for relationship building with Tranby College and UT,S and report back to the Working Group at an appropriate meeting.

- Update on University link with Exodus Foundation Prof Tony Vinson
 Prof Vinson sent his apologies, but tabled a report, informing the Working Group on positive links being created between the University's Koori Centre, Yooroang Garang and the Settlement. The report also requested access to the University's second-hand computers. Ms Scahill will investigate whether there are equity provisions enabling the University's policy regarding the disposal of assets to be over-ridden.
 - Update on University links with Redfern-Waterloo Authority and Metropolitan Land Council Mr Col James
 The Redfern-Waterloo Authority has made public for comment its Draft Built Environment Plan: <http://www.redfernwaterloo.nsw.gov.au/publications/reports.htm#draftbuilt>
 This includes a proposal for a Business College in the Australian Technology Park. Mr Paton offered to set up a meeting for the Head of the School of Business to meet with representatives of the Aboriginal Housing Company, Tranby College and Mr James to see if there is a joint opportunity to fill this stated objective.
 - Update on meeting of Indigenous Liaison/Employment Officers of the Sydney Basin Universities Ms Anne Scahill
 The University's Ms Chris Mumbuller attended the meeting which focussed on establishing the network and achieving agreement to share written resources, and coordinate outreach and recruitment visits. Ms Scahill will ensure that this initiative is included in the University-wide Marketing Strategy facilitated by the Koori Centre.
2. Indigenous Priorities 2006 Prof Judyth Sachs
 In addition to the 2005 Priorities of:
- Raise the University consciousness of Indigenous issues
 - Recruit Indigenous students
 - Retain Indigenous students
 - Recruit and retain Indigenous staff
 - Communicate best practice
- the following Priorities were added:
- Community engagement
 - Monitor Indigenous research across the University
 - Monitor Indigenous concepts in curriculum
- Ms McLean to create the template for 2006 Indigenous Priorities and to circulate it to members for their input.
3. Indigenous Education Statement 2005-2007 Prof Judyth Sachs
 The Statement requires updating in the context of the Strategic Directions document. Ms Mooney and Farrington will update Section 2 of the Statement.
4. Launch of the Reconciliation Statement Ms Janet Mooney
Mr Col James
 Ms Kennedy offered to work with Ms Mooney and Mr James to implement the launch. Ms Mumbuller will be asked to assist. Ms Lee will provide Ms Kennedy with a list of potential students to be included in the group. Prof Sachs and Ms Mooney will check protocol issues with Mr Coffey.
5. Koori Club Mentoring Program Ms Janet Mooney
 Ms Mooney offered to screen a DVD on the Koori Club Mentoring Scheme at the next meeting of IESDWG. The Mentoring Program is being expanded in 2006 to cover indigenous Year 9 students in 3 schools (Alexandria Park Community School, Balmain Public School and Leichhardt Public School). As mentioned in Prof Vinson's report, the Koori Club is also identifying mentors to work as tutors for Settlement programs.

6. Any other business All
- The Vice-Chancellor has spoken to Mr James about the proposed Meeting Place in USyd Central. Mr James suggested it would be educational to develop a Model of the Sydney Basin prior to Settlement, indicating where camp sites, vantage points, and sacred sites were situated. A watching brief will be kept on the planning of USyd Central.
 - The Chair recommended, and the Working Group endorsed, the issuing of a letter to Prof John Lester, Director Aboriginal Education & Training to become a member of the Working Group.
7. Next meeting: Thursday 13th April 2006 All
Ms McLean to circulate potential meeting dates for the next meeting that do not fall in the week of Easter.