



Indigenous Education Strategic Development Working Group

2.30p.m. – 3.30p.m. Tuesday 18th April 2006
Western Tower Room

Membership:

Professor Judyth Sachs (Chair), Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching)
Assoc. Professor Tony Masters, Deputy Chair Academic Board
Ms Sally Farrington, Deputy Head, Yooroang Garang
Dr Nerida Jarkey, Director of First Year Teaching and Learning, Faculty of Arts
Ms Shona Kennedy, Indigenous Employment Policy Officer
Ms Jeni Lee, student representative
Dr Michael Paton, Teaching Quality Fellow, Faculty of Economics and Business

Corresponding Members:

Ms Ros Field, Director Indigenous Education, DEST
Prof John Lester, Director of Aboriginal Education & Training, DET
Mr Kevin Lowe, Inspector, Aboriginal Education, Office of Board of Studies
Ms Sharon Lyons-Sequeira, Indigenous Education, DEST
Professor Don Nutbeam, Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Apologies:

Assoc. Professor Diana Day, Principal Research Fellow, Koori Centre
Professor Barbara Fawcett, Head of School, Faculty of Education & Social Work
Mr Shane Hearn, Lecturer, Grad Dip Indigenous Health Promotion
Mr Colin L. James, Director I.B. Fell Housing Research Centre
Ms Janet Mooney, Director Koori Centre
Ms Sue Page, Coordinator for U/G Programs, Yooroang Garang
Ms Anne Scahill, Director Staff and Student Equal Opportunity Unit

Minutes

1. Minutes of 14th February 2006

Adopted

- **Koori Centre Operational Marketing Plan 2006**

Ms Farrington tabled an early draft of an Indigenous Marketing Strategic Plan: Koori Centre and Yooroang Garang 2006-2010. The Chair congratulated both Centres for the way that they are now working collaboratively. This Strategic Plan will become a demonstration of this collaboration.

Ms Farrington said that Yooroang Garang have committed to expend effort to add, amend and update the Plan. Staff and Student Equal Opportunity will also want to contribute to the Plan. The Plan will be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

- **Relationship building with Tranby College and UT,S**

Dr Paton reported that the focus has moved to Eora rather than UT,S.

- **Disposal of Computing Assets to the Settlement**

The Chair reported that her office had disposed of a five-year old computer to the Settlement as a gesture of goodwill. Yooroang Garang and the Faculty of Economics and Business also have plans to contact Prof Vinson with offers.

- **Indigenous Business College – partnership opportunity for School of Business, Tranby College and Aboriginal Housing Company**
Dr Paton reported that one meeting had taken place – nothing yet to report.
- **Update of Section 2 of Indigenous Education Statement 2005-2007**
No progress – to be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.
- **Prof John Lester membership of IESDWG**
The Chair reported that Prof Lester is unable to attend meetings of IESDWG due to work commitments. However, he is interested in becoming a corresponding member.

2. Indigenous Priorities 2006

Additions:

- The Chair suggested the addition of the employment of an Assoc Prof or Prof of Indigenous Studies in the second half of the year (this has been signed off by SEG).
- Given the demise of the Colleges, there is a greater opportunity for pan-University planning and especially to include more of the Health initiatives. The Chair will talk to the Provost about this
- Dr Jarkey suggested the pool of tutors emerging from the First Year Experience Working Group tutor training would be a potential source of ITAS tutors. There needs to be a means of keeping the list of available tutors up-to-date.
- Cross Cultural Awareness Course – Ms Farrington to send the Clapham Report to the Secretary to be placed on the Web
- The University needs accurate data on the number and progress of Indigenous Students, and the ability to distinguish between Block Mode and Cadigal students. The Secretary to ask David Bowen.

Overlaps:

- The Secretary to check for overlap with the Indigenous Marketing Strategic Plan
- Ms Farrington to check for overlap with the Action Plan of Yooroang Garang (as a School in the Faculty of Health Sciences)

3. Launch of the Reconciliation Statement

Ms Kennedy reported that the original date for the launch of the Reconciliation Statement did not allow enough time to program a significant event. The launch has been postponed until Reconciliation Week – 12.00 noon on the 1st June 2006. Chris Coffey is inviting the Governor to attend. Ms Kennedy will get her committee to draw up a budget to be split one third Vice-Chancellor's Office, one third Koori Centre; and one third Staff and Student Equal Opportunity Office.

4. Klub Koori Mentoring Program – screening of DVD

Place on the Agenda for next meeting.

5. Changes to this committee and the Constitution of the Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies now that there are no Colleges

Place on the Agenda for next meeting.

It was recommended that the College representatives on IESDWG remain until the end of 2006.

Adopted

6. **Funds for Indigenous Support Allocation for Indigenous Studies now there are no Colleges**
Place on the Agenda for next meeting.
7. **Allocation of money for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Week, Reconciliation Week, and Sorry Day when there is no longer any compulsory fees (student union)**
Ms Mooney is requested to quantify the cost of VSU to the Koori Centre and supply the Chair with the shortfall experienced by this change in Government policy.
8. **Financial assistance for Indigenous P/G students**
There are no scholarships available from the centre for the assistance of indigenous students. Once students have been accepted faculties may apply for Equity funds for the support of indigenous students.
9. **Any other business**
 - Members were informed that the Koori Centre Web presence was awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Support of the Student Experience. Ms Deborah Kirby-Parson and Mr Curtis Flood were congratulated for their website which has become the model for both Yooroang Garang and the University Future Indigenous Students and the MyUni profile for Current Indigenous Students.
 - The Chair will send a letter to Dr Wendy Brady thanking her for her contribution to indigenous issues during her time at Sydney and to wish her well for her future.
 - Ms Farrington reported that there was no one "official" Welcome to Country for usage across the University at official events. It would be good to have one in place at the launch of the University Reconciliation Statement. Ms Kennedy will look at models and develop one in consultation with the launch of the Reconciliation Statement Working Party. Potential models may be found in the Health Department, UT,S, James Cook and Charles Darwin universities.
10. **Next meeting: Thursday 8th June 2006**