



The University of Sydney

Senate agenda, 5 February 2007

Secretary to Senate: The Registrar (Dr William Adams)

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NOTICE OF MEETING

An ordinary meeting of the Senate of the University will be held at **5.00pm** on **Monday 5 February 2007** in the Senate Room. The agenda for the meeting is set out overleaf.

The Senate Room is in the Quadrangle on the Camperdown Campus, above the Ante Room.

★ This symbol indicates items which have been starred for discussion at the meeting.

Confidential items, for Fellows of Senate and Senior Officers only, are dealt with as the first items on the agenda. Members of the public are invited to be present for all other non-confidential items.

Dr W G Adams
Registrar

AGENDA

IN OPEN SESSION:

Highlighted Items

☆ 3. **Focus topic: University admissions**

(Presenter: Registrar)

(Estimated time allocation: 30 minutes)

Recommendation

That Senate note the presentation.

Please note that there is no Appendix C.

☆ 4. **Report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal**

Appendix D

4.1 **Update for Senate's information**
(Estimated time allocation: 5 minutes)

D1

Recommendation

That Senate note the update.

For action

4.2 **Delegations of Authority – Administrative Functions**
(Estimated time allocation: 5 minutes)

D1, 3-9

Recommendation

That Senate adopt the proposed amendments to the Delegations of Authority - Administrative Functions as set out in the report presented.

4.3 **St John's College Lands**
(Estimated time allocation: 5 minutes)

D2, 10-46

Recommendation

That Senate approve the entry by the University into the Deed dated 22 December 2006, to the transactions contemplated under the Deed and to the taking of steps incidental to or contemplated by the Deed.

Standard items

5. **Senate business**

Appendix E

For action

5.1 **Apologies for absence**

E1

Recommendation

That Senate accept apologies for absence from this meeting.

- 5.2 Minutes of the previous Senate meeting, 4 December 2006** E1, 3-16
- Recommendation**
That Senate confirm the minutes of the Senate meeting held in open session on 4 December 2006 as a true and correct record.
- 5.3 Business arising out of the minutes not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda**
- 5.4 Membership of the Joint Selection Committee for the next Vice-Chancellor** E1
- Recommendation**
That Senate extend the Hon Mr John Aquilina's membership of the Joint Selection Committee for the next Vice-Chancellor until the outcome of any further appointment under S 9 (2) has been determined.
- 5.5 2007 Schedule for election of Fellows of Senate** E1
- Recommendation**
That Senate approve the following polling days for the 2007 elections:
- **four academic staff Fellows of Senate** 17 April 2007
 - **one non-academic staff Fellow of Senate** 17 April 2007

 - **one undergraduate student Fellow of Senate** 16 October 2007
 - **one postgraduate student Fellow of Senate** 16 October 2007
- For noting**
- 5.6 2007 graduation ceremony** E2
- Recommendation**
That Senate note the report that the graduation ceremonies scheduled for 7 December 2007 are now scheduled to be held on 6 December 2007.
- 5.7 Honorary award acceptance** E2
- Recommendation**
That Senate note the report that Ms Lyn Bronger has accepted Senate's invitation to receive the title of Honorary Fellow of the University in 2007
- 5.8 Orientation Day with Senior Financial Managers** E2
- Recommendation**
That Senate note that the Orientation Day with Senior Financial Managers will be held from 8.30am to 10.30am on 19 February 2007 in the Darlington Centre.
- 5.9 Senate Retreat** E2
- Recommendation**
That Senate note that the Senate retreat will be held on 25 and 26 February in the HC Coombs Centre, Kirribilli.
- 5.10 Next Senate meeting** E2
- Recommendation**
That Senate note that the next Senate meeting will be held at 5.00pm on 19 March 2007 in the Senate Room, Quadrangle.

6. Report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal **Appendix F**

For noting

6.1 Restructuring of the Faculty of Economics and Business **F1-2**

Recommendation

That Senate note the report that the Vice-Chancellor has approved the restructure of the Faculty of Economics and Business by the adoption of a single school structure to replace the two school model.

6.2 Staff Honours **F2**

Recommendation

That Senate note the report that Professor Albert Zomaya and Associate Professor Alan Fekete have been honoured by the American Association for Computing Machinery, and congratulate Professor Zomaya and Associate Professor Fekete on this honour.

6.3 International **F2**

Recommendation

That Senate note the international report.

6.4 University Relations **F2-4**

Recommendation

That Senate note the University Relations report.

7. Report of the Academic Board, 13 December 2006 **Appendix G**

(Chair: Professor Bruce Sutton)

For noting

7.1 Minor course amendments **G1**

7.2 Identifying and Supporting Students at Risk **G1**

7.3 Research Principles **G1**

7.4 Research-enhanced Learning and Teaching **G1**

7.5 Draft Charter of Academic Freedom **G1**

7.6 2007 Semester and Vacation Dates **G2**

Recommendation

That Senate note the report of the Academic Board.

8. Report of the Audit and Risk Management Committee, 5 December 2006 **Appendix H**

(Chair: Mr Alan Cameron)

For noting

8.1 Foundations Project Update **H1**

8.2 CRC's Risk Management Report **H1**

8.3 Risk Assessment: University assessment against ICAC sector review concepts **H1**

8.4 Chief Financial Officer & DVC's Report **H1-2**

8.5 Annual Financial Report – Status Report **H2**

8.6 Internal Audit and Assurance Report **H2-3**

8.7 Risk Management Report **H3**

8.8 AUQA Outcomes Report **H3**

8.9 Institution Assessment Framework Update **H3**

8.10 Report on the Operations of the Office of General Counsel **H3**

8.11 Annual Reports for Student Associations, Foundations, Centres, Institutes **H4**

8.12 Next Meeting **H4**

Recommendation

That Senate note the report of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

9. General business

Appendix I

For action

9.1 Report of the Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering

I1

Recommendation

That Senate approve the reappointment of Directors and an Honorary Governor of the of the Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering, as set out in the report presented.

9.2 Student Appeals Panel: Membership

I1

Recommendation

That Senate appoint additional members of the Student Appeals Body as set out in the report presented.

For noting

9.3 Graduation ceremonies (March 2007)

I1, 2

Recommendation

That Senate note the report.

★ **10. Question time**

(Estimated time allocation: 15 minutes)

10.1 Question on notice from Associate Professor A Masters

At the December 2006 Senate meeting, Associate Professor Masters requested an update on progress on the following naming matters:

- the Stephen Roberts and Edgeworth David buildings, which had been demolished to make way for the new Law School, still appeared on the University's online map and website generally, and
- Senate had resolved at its December 2005 meeting that the Old Geology Building be named the Edgeworth David Geology Building.

10.2 Question on notice from Associate Professor A Masters

At the December 2006 Senate meeting, Associate Professor Masters requested an update on indigenous signage on campus.

10.3 Questions on notice from Dr N Chan

10.3.1 Global Ranking

I am most interested in seeing our University improve its world ranking, especially Newsweek's ranking of the Top 100 Global Universities. This ranking uses the well regarded measures used by the Times of London (Higher Education Survey) and Shanghai Jiatong University: the number of highly-cited researchers, the number of articles published in Nature and Science, the number of articles listed in the ISI Social Sciences and Arts & Humanities indices, etc.

How could our University improve its world ranking faster?

10.3.2 Sport

Maybe our University could raise its profile by competing in sports with universities like Oxford, Cambridge and Harvard. Does our University have a tradition of its rowing team racing against Harvard and Oxford, and its rugby teams playing against Oxford and Cambridge?

If our University has not already been competing with these universities, what would it take to start such a tradition?

10.3.3 Research

I have been informed that some of our young researchers perceive a lack of mentoring.

How should we address this problem?

All of them are bright; and we should bring out the best in every one of them. In turn, more quality articles will be published.

Some of the young researchers, who have been having trouble with their work, have found that the Higher Degree Candidature Annual Progress Report and interview at the end of each year not that helpful.

10.3.4 SUPRA

We live a democratic society. After the introduction of Voluntary Student Unionism, just five percent of postgraduate students choose to financially support SUPRA (latest figure pending).

What would you suggest to help SUPRA receive more financial support directly from the postgraduate students?

For it to be truly representative of postgraduate students, it requires the support/interest of at least fifty percent (i.e. the majority) of postgraduate students.

Currently, our University provides SUPRA with stipends and support, such as premises at no cost, insurance coverage and telecommunication. Would it not be fair to provide the same support to all student organizations/groups that enrich our University, and have similar level of student interest/support?

According to our University Annual Report (2005), thirty-two percent of our University's income is from students, and eighteen percent is from Government Operating Grants. Students are taxpayers. Some also pay rent to stay in residential colleges. I trust that our University senior officers are aware of their "fiduciary responsibilities in the utilization of public funds" (DVC Community) and will be careful in directing additional funds to student organizations/groups: reflecting the preferences of students -- who contribute significantly to our University's income.

For those, who are not postgraduate students, with a passionate interest in SUPRA, is there any restriction on using their own money to support SUPRA?

10.3.5 Bequests and Donations

In the past, there were several large and well know bequests -- such as Challis (1880), Fisher (1884), McCaughey (1919), Bosch (1928) and Seymour (1972) -- leading to our University expansion.

Why do we not hear this level of generosity to our University today, given the economic worlds of our time are much larger (c.f. theirs or Andrew Carnegie's) and the growing number of ultra-high net worth individuals?

11. Any other business