Academic Senate Meeting Summary
264th meeting of the Academic Senate, Wednesday 26 April 2006

Vice-Chancellor’s Report
The Vice-Chancellor reported on the following items:

- **Staffing**
  - Prof Stuart Kaye has resigned from his position as Dean of Law. The Vice-Chancellor acknowledged Prof Kaye’s contribution to the University.
  - A new Dean of Commerce has been appointed, and communication to the wider University community will follow.
  - A new Professor of English has been appointed to the School of English Literatures, Philosophy and Languages.

- **Medical School**
  The University’s Stage Two Accreditation documentation has been submitted to the Australian Medical Council (AMC). The University will be visited by a team from the AMC during 17 – 21 July.

- **Innovation Campus**
  The University Council has approved the building of the Central Services building at the Innovation Campus. There will be three buildings in total, with the possibility of a fourth, should the Federal Government fund a building for a National Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention.

- **Research Quality Framework**
  The Commonwealth Minister of Education, Ms Julie Bishop, remains committed to the Research Quality Framework. However, following the recent move in the United Kingdom from their current Research Assessment Exercise to a metric-based system, it is likely that Australia will build on its current metric-based practice, and focus on developing stronger quality measures, along with measures to determine impact.

- **AUQA**
  The Vice-Chancellor is pleased with the outcome of the AUQA audit, and commends all involved, in particular the DVC(A) Prof Rob Castle and Ms Heather Sainsbury of the Strategic Planning Unit for their efforts during and following the audit.

Chair’s Business
The Chair reported on the following items:

- Review of HSC subject categorisation by the NSW & ACT Committee of Senate and Academic Board Chairs is now almost complete. An issues paper has been sent to the Board of Studies, recommending the possibility of changing the definition of categories.
- A/Prof Graham Williams is congratulated for his appointment to the Board of Studies Maths HSC Curriculum Committee.

DVC(Operations) Report
The DVC(O) reported on the bid for growth places, which the University will submit to the Federal Government in May.
Student Members’ Business

The following issues were raised or reported by student members:

- Possible purchase of the Microsoft Windows Live email system, which would seem to significantly disadvantage users
- Review of Internet quota for students at UOW, both in terms of the amount permitted per quota, and the frequency at which the quota is reset.
- A visit to UOW by Mr Nick Greiner on 3 May.
- Development of a website to give simple and clear instructions on how to use SOLS for enrolment would aid students.
- Review of the shortage of on-campus parking and cost to students.

Discussion on these issues led to either undertakings to communicate further, or to suggestions of appropriate UOW personnel to approach with submissions, suggestions or questions.

Academic Integrity Project

The Chair provided a brief report on Item C4 of the 21 April meeting of University Council, which was closely related to the Academic Integrity Project and will inform the timing and focus of the project. The Academic Integrity Project Reference Group will meet regularly, and progress of the project will be reported to future Senate meetings.

New Medical School Degree

Prof John Bushnell, Director of Division of Teaching and Deputy Dean within the Graduate School of Medicine, was invited to give a brief background to the new Medical School degree: Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), and the associated amendments to UOW course rules. Prof Bushnell explained the extensive consultation process that has taken place in the development of the curriculum, along with the external scrutiny and granting of stage one accreditation by the Australian Medical Council. Prof Bushnell explained the main differences between the course and existing UOW degrees, and why these differences necessitated changes to course rules. Members asked questions, and Senate subsequently endorsed both the course rule amendments and the MBBS course program.

Cotutelle Scheme at UOW

A member identified a discrepancy between the Cotutelle Policy and the suggested changes to the General Course Rules. It was agreed that this would be corrected before being forwarded to University Council for final approval.

Other Items

The following items were not starred for discussion at the meeting, and were noted or approved:

- AUQA Report of an Audit of the University of Wollongong
- Notice of Election of Chair and Deputy Chair of Academic Senate
- Master of Professional Accounting – Major Amendment
- Courses Approved by the Vice-Chancellor
- Approval of Fast-Track Course Proposals
- 2005 Core Function Reports
- Scholarship Administration at UOW
- Committee Minutes
- Faculty Meeting Extracts

Tori McLaughlin
Executive Officer
Academic Senate