May 2007

The Academic Senate confirmed the appointment of Professor Kevin Robards as Presiding Officer following the resignation of Professor David Green from the position.

Several new members of the Senate were welcomed – Mr Gary Schipp the Director of Indigenous Studies and Professor Terry Heazlewood and Professor Jo Reid the two members of the professoriate nominated and elected by the Professors’ Forum (a new membership category on Senate).

The approach and expectations of AUQA in relation to audit cycle 2 were considered.

Members were advised on major technical problems in relation to SOMS and of the possibility of the use of CSU Interact (or Sakai) to alleviate the problems. A paper in relation to this issue will be considered at the next Academic Senate meeting.

Members noted that the WPI Stage 1 Report has been released and that the section dealing with Academic Senate will be considered at the next meeting.

Amendments to the Academic Progress Regulations were approved so that students appealing against exclusion for failure of a practicum may re-enrol in the subject whilst the appeal is being heard but may not attempt the placement or professional experience component until the appeal is resolved.

The List of University Medallists was noted.

Some amendments to the Credit Regulations in relation to who has authority to determine credit were proposed by the Faculty of Business and endorsed in principle by Senate. The actual amendments to the Credit Regulations will be drafted by the Manager, Academic Senate and approved by the Standing Committee of Academic Senate.
Members of Academic Senate considered the issue of the affect on the quorum of Faculty Board meetings of the non-attendance of professoriate members of Faculty Board. Members, agreed that the members of the professoriate should remain as members of Faculty Boards and that the Standing Committee of Academic Senate will consider options for varying the quorum at Faculty Board meetings.

The CSU Indigenous Education Working Group was established. Information about the membership and terms of reference of the Group can be obtained from the Director of Indigenous Education.

Senate agreed to remind Schools (through Faculties) of their responsibility towards students undergoing misadventure and that they are required to ensure that these students are not inadvertently excluded as a consequence of the Academic Progress Regulations.