



The University of Sydney

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## Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

Secretary: Sally Paynter

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### NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **Indigenous Education Advisory Committee** will be held at **2.00pm** on **18 February 2009** in the **Western Tower Room, A14**

Members who are unable to attend are asked to notify Sally Paynter at the above address. Enquiries concerning this meeting may also be directed to Sally.

*Sally Paynter*  
12 February 2009

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### **Members**

Prof Derrick Armstrong, Acting Deputy Provost (Learning and Teaching) and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Chair)  
Professor Bruce Sutton, Chair Academic Board  
Ms Janet Mooney, Director Koori Centre  
Ms Michelle Blanchard, Deputy Director, Koori Centre  
Ms Sally Farrington, Head, Yooroang Garang  
Dr Lilon Bandler, Indigenous Health Education, Faculty of Medicine  
Dr Ann Cheryl Armstrong, Director Professional Learning, Faculty of Education and Social Work  
Dr Margaret Edmond, Director Administration and Student Services  
Dr Stuart Rosewarne, NTEU Indigenous Members Caucus  
Dr Manjula Sharma, Sydney University Physics Education Research Group  
Ms Vicki Bradford, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery  
Mr John Evans, Postgraduate student representative  
Mr David Guest, Undergraduate student representative  
Mr Shane Hearn, Senior Lecturer, School of Public Health  
Mr Colin L. James, Director I.B. Fell Housing Research Centre  
Ms Vladimir Williams, Indigenous Employment Coordinator/Policy Officer, SydneyPeople Staff and Student Equal Opportunity Unit  
Ms Rashimi Kumar, President of SUPRA  
Ms Lynette Riley, Acting Deputy Director, Koori Centre  
Ms Maree Murray, Assistant Director Staff and Student Equal Opportunity Unit  
Mr Clark Webb, Undergraduate Student Representative

### **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  
Professor Don Nutbeam, Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor

## Agenda

### 1. **Apologies and welcome**

Apologies have been received from: Dr Ann Cheryl Armstrong.

The Chair asks that members join him in welcoming Dr Gaynor MacDonald to membership of the Committee.

### 2. **Minutes of previous meeting**

*(pages 4-6)*

#### ***Recommendation***

*That the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 October 2008 as a true record.*

### 3. **Matters arising from Minutes (not dealt with elsewhere in the Agenda)**

### 4. **Report of the Chair**

#### **4.1 Indigenous Education Review update**

I am pleased to report that the Chair of the Indigenous Review Panel, Professor Michael McDaniel, has returned to work and is ready to continue with the second phase of the Review. Final dates are being negotiated but the second phase of the Review will most likely take place in late March 2009. All those participants scheduled to meet with the Panel late last year will again be invited to participate in the second phase of the Review and the Committee will be kept informed of all developments relating to the Review.

#### **4.2 AIME Liaison Group**

As part of the Program Funding Agreement between the University and AIME a Liaison Group will be formed comprising representatives of the University, AIME and University's students to support the Program. The Liaison Group will endeavour to meet every three months and membership of the Liaison Group is currently being negotiated.

#### ***Recommendation***

*That the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee note the report of the Chair.*

### 5. **Report from the Indigenous Scholarship Working Group**

At the Committee's last meeting members will recall that a Working Group was established to review the current raft of scholarships, prizes and cadetships available to Indigenous undergraduate and postgraduate students at the University with the view to making recommendations about future scholarship provision.

The convenor of the Working Group, Sally Farrington will provide an update on the Groups findings at the meeting.

### 6. **Report from the Koori Centre**

Ms Janet Mooney to report.

#### ***Recommendation***

*That the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee note the report.*

### 7. **Report from Yooroang Garang**

Ms Sally Farrington to report.

#### ***Recommendation***

*That the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee note the report.*

**8. Any other business**

**9. Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday 22 April at 2pm in the Western Tower Board Room A14.

## Agenda Item 2

### Draft Minutes of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 22 October 2008

**There were present:** The Chair of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee, Professor Derrick Armstrong, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) presiding, Ms Janet Money, Director, Koori Centre, Ms Sally Farrington, Head, Yooroang Garang, Dr Lilon Bandler, Indigenous Health Education, Faculty of Medicine, Dr Margaret Edmond, Director, Student Administration and Support, Dr Maree Murray, Assistant Director, SydneyPeople, Staff and Student Equal Opportunity Unit, Dr Manju Sharma, Sydney University Physics Education Research Group, Dr Stuart Rosewarne, NTEU Indigenous Members Caucus, Ms Vicki Bradford, Sub Dean, Indigenous Strategy and Undergraduate, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, Mr Shane Hearn, Senior Lecturer, School of Public Health, Mr Nicholas Wilson, Co Vice-President of SUPRA, Mr Colin L James, Director I.B Fell Housing Research Council. Ms Sally Paynter was in attendance.

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Professor Bruce Sutton, Dr Christine Asmar, Dr Ann Cheryl Armstrong, Ms Michelle Blanchard, Ms Vicki Bradford, Mr John Evans, Mr David Guest, Ms Lynette Riley and Mr Vladimir Williams.

#### 2. Minutes of the previous meeting

##### Resolution 18/08

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee adopted the amended minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 August 2008 as a true record.

#### 3. Matters arising from Minutes (not dealt with elsewhere in the Agenda)

#### 4. Report of the Chair

##### 4.1 Indigenous Education Review 2008

The Chair advised that the first phase of the Indigenous Education Review had been completed successfully. During their two day visit the Review Panel met with the Director of the Koori Centre and Head of Yooroang Garang, students, general staff and academic staff from the Koori Centre and Yooroang Garang, the Provost, the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the President of SUPRA.

The Panel felt that the initial two day meeting was not enough time to be able to finalise any recommendations about the support and structure of Indigenous education at the University and an additional two day meeting will be arranged for the coming months. The Panel plan to meet with the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and staff and students. They will also make a trip out to Yooroang Garang and tour the Koori Centre.

The Chair encouraged all members and their respective faculties and departments who hadn't made any submission to the review to do so. It was noted that representatives from the School of Public Health would be meeting the Panel face-to-face on their second visit and that meeting dates and times would be arranged through the Executive Officer (Learning and Teaching).

The Chair advised that the Review Panel had been conscious of other reviews of Indigenous Education that had taken place at the University and had questioned why their the recommendations from these reviews had not been acted upon. It was noted that this was an opportunity to ensure that any recommendations made and approved were implemented. It was noted that once the Review Panel's report had been completed it would be considered by the Committee and the report would then be forwarded to the

Senior Executive Group (SEG) and the Vice-Chancellor for consideration and sign-off. As all the deans were represented on SEG there would be University-wide acknowledgement and take-up of the approved recommendations.

#### **4.2 Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME)**

The Chair reported that negotiations between AIME and the University over the Program Funding Agreement had been successfully finalised and the agreement had been officially signed-off. In addition to the agreement there was a continuing employment contract between AIME and the Faculty of Health Science however both parties were moving towards merging all arrangements between the University and AIME into one agreement. It was noted that there would be one agreement but there may be several support centres set up across the University in different faculties. The Chair also acknowledged the University of Sydney Union's in-kind support of AIME through the provision of accommodation in the Wentworth Building.

#### **4.3 Indigenous Education funding**

Members noted that there had been discussions between the Chair and deans about a proposal to distribute a percentage of the Indigenous Support Allocation funding to individual faculties based on Indigenous Student enrolment to support these individual students and to fund support programs which promoted Indigenous Education. A paper on the proposal would be developed for further consideration.

#### **Resolution 19/08**

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee noted the report of the Chair.

### **5. Report from the Koori Centre**

Ms Janet Mooney tabled a report on the Koori Centre noting that there had been 150 students applying for entry to the University through the Cadigal Program, there had been a minimal take-up of Commonwealth funded Indigenous Scholarships and the Koori Centre was developing a new degree course lead by the Associate Professor Diana Day.

#### **Resolution 20/09**

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee noted the report.

### **6. Report from Yooroang Garang**

Ms Sally Farrington spoke to her tabled report and noted the following:

- The opportunity to speak with the Indigenous Education Review Panel had been appreciated and beneficial and the visit to the Yooroang Garang planned for the second phase of the Review had been well received by staff and students.
- Presentations had been given by applicants for the Professor of Indigenous Health Studies position. The selection process continued.
- The launch of the new Yooroang Garang as a separate support unit had been successful.
- There had been minimal take-up of the Commonwealth funded scholarships and those not awarded were returned to DEEWR who had agreed to roll these over to 2009.

The Committee discussed the issue of students applying for Commonwealth and University scholarships and the common belief amongst them that the application process was too complicated and that this was discouraging to many students. It was noted that some students may not be comfortable claiming the funding based on the fact that they are Indigenous.

Members agreed that there was confusion about what Faculty scholarships were available for Indigenous students and that it would be useful to have one central web site dedicated to listing these scholarships. The issue of application submission dates being synchronised with semester

dates was also raised and it was noted that many students missed out on applying for scholarships because they had missed the closing dates for applications.

It was resolved to establish a Working Group to review the current raft of scholarships, prizes and cadetships available to Indigenous undergraduate and postgraduate students at the University with the view to making recommendations about future scholarship provision.

The proposed membership of the Group may include:

Ms Sally Farrington (Convenor)  
 Ms Janet Mooney (Director of the Koori Centre) or nominee  
 Dr Lilon Bandler (Faculty of Medicine)  
 Ms Vicki Bradford (Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery)  
 Ms Jenny Nicholls (Scholarship Officer, Faculty of Medicine)  
 Ms Felicity Kiernan (Scholarships and Prizes Office)  
 Mr Ben Alfred (Financial Assistance Office)

It was agreed that the Working Group would consider the following issues:

- the full range of internal scholarships, prizes currently available at Sydney University
- scholarships and cadetships available from external sources such as the Commonwealth and State Governments
- the numbers and types of Indigenous scholarships held by current students
- the range of scholarships and opportunities offered by our competitors
- any gaps in scholarship provision
- current methods of dissemination of scholarship information to prospective and current students

It is anticipated that the working party will report to the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee before the end of the year in preparation for the first meeting for 2009.

#### **Resolution 21/09**

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee resolved to establish a Working Group to review the current raft of scholarships, prizes and cadetships available to Indigenous undergraduate and postgraduate students at the University with the view to making recommendations about future scholarship provision.

#### **7. Meeting dates 2009**

Members noted the meeting dates for 2009 as set out in the report presented.

#### **8. Any other business**

It was noted that Vladimir Williams would be asked to present to the Committee on the Indigenous Cadetship Program at an early meeting in 2009.

#### **9. Next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee would be held on 18 February 2009 in the Western Tower Room, Quadrangle Building.