



The University of Sydney

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

Secretary: Sally Paynter

Room L4.20 Quadrangle, A14
Phone: 9351 5200; Fax: 9351 3572
E-mail: sallyp@.usyd.edu.au

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **Indigenous Education Advisory Committee** will be held at **2.00pm** on **24 June 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
17 June 2009

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 Rashmi Kumar, President of SUPRA
Mr Noah White, President SRC
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:

Mark De Weerd, Director, Indigenous Education, DEEWR
Michele Hall, Director of Aboriginal Education and 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: Professor Derrick Armstrong

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 April 2009 as a true record.

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

4. **Report from the Indigenous Scholarship Working Group** (Separate attachment)
 At the Committee's last meeting it was agreed that the recommendations in the Indigenous Scholarship Working Group would be circulated to members for consideration and comment ready for discussion at this meeting. The report is attached for discussion.

Recommendation
That the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee
 - (i) *endorse the recommendations in the Indigenous Scholarship Working Group report and*
 - (ii) *recommend to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) that he forward the proposal to SEG Education Committee for consultation.*

5. **Indigenous Support Allocation Funding** (pages 7-14)
 In 2008 a proposal was considered by the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee to fund programs that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students. The proposal was circulated to members for comment and these comments are listed below.

Recommendation
That the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee;
 - (i) *endorse the proposal to fund programs that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students and*
 - (ii) *recommend to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) that he forward the proposal to SEG Education Committee for consultation.*

6. **Indigenous Education Statement 2008**
 Ms Mooney to report.

Recommendation
For discussion.

7. **Cadigal program admission criteria**
 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 19 August 2009 at 2pm in the Western Tower Board Room A14.

Agenda Item 2**Draft Minutes of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 22 April 2009**

There were present: The Acting Chair of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee, Ms Janet Money, Director, Koori Centre, Professor Bruce Sutton, Chair, Academic Board, Ms Sally Farrington, Head, Yooroang Garang, Dr Lilon Bandler, Indigenous Health Education, Faculty of Medicine, Dr Gaynor MacDonald, Faculty of Arts, Dr Manju Sharma, Sydney University Physics Education Research Group, Mr Colin L James, Director I.B Fell Housing Research Council, Ms Rashmi Kumar, President of SUPRA, Ms Lynette Riley, Acting Deputy Director, Koori Centre, Mr Stuart Rosewarne, NTEU Indigenous Member Caucus, Mr Noah White, President of SRC. Ms Sally Paynter was in attendance.

1. Apologies and welcome

Apologies have been received from: Professor Derrick Armstrong, Dr Margaret Edmond, Ms Vicki Bradford, Ms Maree Murray and Mr Vladamir Williams.

Members welcomed Dr Gaynor MacDonald from the Faculty of Arts to membership of the Committee.

Members noted that Professor Armstrong had been delayed and had asked Ms Mooney to chair the Committee meeting in his absence.

2. Minutes of previous meeting**Resolution 6/09**

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee adopted the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 February 2009 as a true record.

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

There was no other business.

4. Report of the Chair**4.1 Indigenous Education Review update**

The Acting Chair advised that the second phase of the Indigenous Education Review had now been completed and the final report was being prepared by the Review Panel. The Panel would return to the University next month to present the final report to the Vice-Chancellor.

Ms Mooney praised the efforts of the Review Panel in making the staff and students that they consulted with feel comfortable with the process. Members noted that this review had been widely a transparent and widely consultative process.

The Acting Chair thanked all those members of the Committee who took the time to meet with the Review Panel and acknowledged the warm welcome they received by staff and students at both the Koori Centre and Yooroang Garang.

4.2 AIME Liaison Group

The Committee noted that the inaugural meeting of the AIME Liaison Group had been held on 31 March 2009 and a report on the outcomes of the meeting was being prepared.

Resolution 7/09

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

5. Report from the Indigenous Scholarship Working Group

Ms Sally Farrington spoke to the Indigenous Scholarship Working Group report advising that she had spoken with Dr Lilon Bandler and Kate Conigrave about the shortage of scholarships for Indigenous postgraduate coursework students, noting that these students were ineligible for ITAS funding. Members noted that all Block Mode students were given an allowance once they arrived in Sydney and that each program was funded at a different rate. As newer programs were often funded at a lower rate the Koori Centre compensated by paying the same rate across all programs.

The Committee discussed a recommendation to award the top 10 students entry scholarships as opposed to those with a UAI of 85+. The Chair of the Academic Board advised that the NSW Vice-Chancellor's Committee had agreed to a proposal to change the UAI to Australian Tertiary Ranking ATR which would put NSW students on the same scale as other states. The ATR was originally to be introduced in 2009 but there had been a number of complaints about its implementation negatively affecting year 12 students' preparation for the HSC. It was agreed that altering the selection process for entry scholarships needed further consideration.

Members agreed that the approval of funding for the entry, top up and laptop scholarships for postgraduate and undergraduate students needed to be secured further in advance and that a rolling three year commitment to fund these scholarships needed to be made. Ms Farrington advised that the table of page 5 of the report detailing all the scholarships available for Indigenous students across the University had been uploaded onto the Yooroang Garang's website. It was agreed that this information would be included in a prospectus for Indigenous students looking to study at the University.

The Committee resolved to ask the Committee secretary to re-circulate the Indigenous Scholarship Working Group report to members asking for the submission of comments by 3 June 2009. The Report and any comments would be discussed in detail at the June meeting.

Resolution 8/09

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee resolved to re-circulate the Indigenous Scholarship Working Group report to members for comment.

6. Indigenous Support Allocation Funding

In 2008 a proposal was considered by the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee to fund programs that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students. The Committee resolved to re-circulate the proposal to members for consideration and comment by 3 June 2009. The proposal and any comments would be discussed in detail at the June meeting.

Resolution 9/09

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee resolved to re-circulate the proposal to promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students to members for comment.

7. Report from the Koori Centre

Ms Janet Mooney advised that she would circulate her report to members after the meeting but noted the following key issues during discussion:

- There had been several staff changes at the Koori Centre with Ms Sarina Solar being appointed as Community Liaison Officer and Mr Patrick Snowdon returning from leave in May.
- The Indigenous Support Scholarships had been awarded including 20 Lap top scholarships, 6 entry scholarships and 20 postgraduate scholarships.
- Ms Mooney was working closely with the Poche Centre to develop cultural competency guidelines.

- Indigenous acknowledgment to country signage which had been commissioned by the University had been considered and was deemed to be unsuitable. AN Indigenous artist would be commissioned to create the appropriate signage for the campus. A Sub-Committee had been formed with members from the University and representatives from the land council and environment group.

Resolution 10/09

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee noted the report from the Koori Centre.

8. Report from Yooroang Garang

Ms Sally Farrington provided the following report from Yooroang Garang:

- The Cadigal Orientation Program had been conducted successfully for the new enrolments for 2009.
- Ms Farrington would be meeting with the Director of the Social Inclusion Project, Ms Annette Cairnduff to discuss collaboration on various initiatives run through the program specifically to identify groups within the low SES schools with large Indigenous populations.
- Yooroang Garang was proposing to work with AIME to use their school sites to work with students interested in studying health science in order to place them with Indigenous graduates from the health science area.

Resolution 11/09

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee noted the report from Yooroang Garang.

9. Indigenous Restaurant in Victoria Park

Mr Col James advised that he had been working on an expression of interest proposing to establish a Indigenous Café and Restaurant in the Gardner's lodge in Victoria Park. The space would be used as a restaurant and meeting space with a proposed BBQ area to be built outside the lodge. The plans are subject to some constraints due to the heritage of the building however there have been discussions with permaculture groups to explore the use of environmentally sound recycle toilets.

Members noted that this development would raise the level of activity in the park and increase the Indigenous presence.

Resolution 12/09

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee noted the report.

10. Any other business

10.1 Indigenous student accommodation

The Committee resolved to recommend that an Indigenous Student Accommodation workshop be held to bring together representatives from CIS, the Accommodation Service and the IEAC to discuss the current housing crisis and the develop strategy to address these issues.

11. Next meeting

Members noted that the next meeting of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee would be held on Wednesday 24 June 2009 at 2pm in the Western Tower Board Room A14.

Agenda item 5

Proposal to fund programs that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students

The Initiative

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee is asked to consider approving a new process for the allocation of Indigenous Support Allocation funding to support programs already running and/or provide financial support for developing new programs that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students.

The initiative would be open to all staff, students, groups and faculties at the University who would be asked to submit an application for funding which would include the aims of the program, the resources involved and a detailed budget of how the funding would be used.

Funding worthy Indigenous support programs in this way will enable the University to coordinate and strategise initiatives across faculties and the broader University community.

For consideration by the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

If the Committee is supportive of developing such an initiative, members may wish to consider the following suggestions:

- Each application would be allowed to apply for up to a specified amount of money (up to \$50,000?)
- An appropriate way of promoting the initiative would need to be discussed eg. all staff email, bulletins, Associate Deans (Learning and Teaching).
- Appropriate selection criteria would need to be drafted which reflect the University's specific strategies for Indigenous education, which are:
 - To improve access and participation to all academic programs of the University of Sydney for Indigenous Australians.
 - To improve retention rates and successful outcomes for Indigenous Australian students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
 - To provide curricula and modes of course delivery which are informed by current research and the needs of Indigenous Australian communities.
 - To recognise and promote understanding of and respect for Indigenous Australian peoples, their knowledge and cultures.
 - To develop research activities by Indigenous Australian staff and students, especially research which responds to the needs of Indigenous Australian communities.
 - To develop the staffing profile of Indigenous academic and general staff of the University.
 - To ensure that Indigenous issues and knowledge are included in the core University goals of Learning and Teaching, Research and Community Engagement and in all activities

- An application form and any other relevant correspondence would be drafted (see below).
- A Selection Panel would be established to review the applications and make recommendations to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) for approval.
- An appropriate reporting system for successful applicants would need to be agreed upon such as presenting the outcomes/results/findings of their programs to the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.

Below are **DRAFT** selection criterion and an application form for the Committee's consideration



DRAFT

Grants for projects that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students

Overview

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) with the endorsement of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee has established a scheme to fund projects that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students. These grants would assist programs already running and/or provide financial support for developing new programs to address relevant issues effecting Indigenous students.

Applicants are entitled to apply for up to \$50,000 for any one grant. Applications seeking more than \$50,000 will be considered if they are able to match the amount over \$50,000 funding dollar for dollar. This additional funding may be contributed by faculties or other sources.

Applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee appointed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) and the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.

Successful applicants will be required to present on the outcomes of their projects at the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.

Eligibility

All members of the University Community who promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students are eligible to apply for a grant. They include:

- Student and/or staff organisations e.g. SUPRA
- Academic and/or administrative staff units e.g. Student welfare services
- Individual or groups of Academic or General staff e.g. library or IT services
- Individual or groups supporting the undergraduate or postgraduate student experience e.g. First Year Coordinators

At least two years of service is necessary for eligibility as an individual applicant. A group application may include one or more members who do not have the requisite number of years of service.

An application for funding will include the aims of the program, the resources involved and a detailed budget of how the funding would be used.

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be assessed on the basis of evidence that supports their claims against the following criteria.

1. Demonstrated alignment with at least two of the following University strategies for Indigenous Education:

- To improve access and participation to all academic programs of the University of Sydney for Indigenous Australians.
 - To improve retention rates and successful outcomes for Indigenous Australian students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
 - To provide curricula and modes of course delivery which are informed by current research and the needs of Indigenous Australian communities.
 - To recognise and promote understanding of and respect for Indigenous Australian peoples, their knowledge and cultures.
 - To develop research activities by Indigenous Australian staff and students, especially research which responds to the needs of Indigenous Australian communities.
 - To develop the staffing profile of Indigenous academic and general staff of the University.
 - To ensure that Indigenous issues and knowledge are included in the core University goals of Learning and Teaching, Research and Community Engagement and in all activities
2. Demonstrable enhancement of Indigenous student learning, motivation to learn and/or student experience that benefits a significant number of Indigenous students directly.
 3. Statement describing the project as an innovation that complements, enhances and integrates current initiatives.
 4. An explanation of how this project may be replicated and best practice spread across the University.

The application should describe a specific service, initiative or project and how it has targeted and enhanced the identified needs of Indigenous students. It should provide evidence that addresses each of the selection criteria.

In assessing nominations against the selection criteria, the Selection Committee will take into account:

- Demonstrated evidence of the effectiveness of the project in formal and informal evaluation;
- The degree of creativity, imagination or innovation; and
- Evidence of the sustained effectiveness of the program.

Selection Committee

A Selection Committee will be appointed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) and approved by the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.

Application Process

Applications should be made directly to Sally Paynter, Executive Officer (Learning and Teaching).
Applications are due by DUE DATE TO BE CONFIRMED.

An electronic copy of the complete application should also be sent to: sallyp@usyd.edu.au. Applications (of no more than 10 pages in total) must include an original plus six copies of each of the following:

- Completed and signed Application Form (1 original & 6 copies) (Maximum 2 pages)
- How the project meets Selection Criteria (1 original & 6 copies) (Maximum of 5 pages)
- 2 Statements in support of the project (1 original & 6 copies) (Maximum 2 pages)
- Budget for the funding of the project (1 original & 6 copies) (Maximum 1 page)

Checklist for applications

Application form	<input type="checkbox"/>
Response to each of the selection criteria	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two references	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget for the funding of the project	<input type="checkbox"/>
Original application plus seven copies	<input type="checkbox"/>



DRAFT

Grants for projects that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students

2009 Grant Application Form

Project title

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Brief Project Description

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\$ Amount Applied for

Appropriate Account Code for Grant monies:

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If Application is over \$50,000, where is the matching \$ coming from?¹

Faculty Funds	
Other sources please specify	

¹ For amounts over \$50,000, the component over \$50,000 is \$ for \$.

Contact details (for principal applicant)	
Title	
First name	
Last name	
Faculty, and School (if applicable)	
Email address	
Telephone	
Facsimile	

Please list names of other grant applicants (to a maximum of four), if applicable.		
Title	First name	Last name

Principal Applicant's Declaration	
I (print name of principal applicant) agree to supply an acquittal on this grant.	
Signature:	Date:

Checklist	tick box ()
The Grant application should be an absolute maximum of 10 pages; anything over this will not be read by the Panel must include the following:	
Completed and signed Application Form (1 original & 6 copies) (Maximum 2 pages)	
How the project meets Selection Criteria (1 original & 6 copies) (Maximum of 5 pages)	
2 Statements in support of the project (1 original & 6 copies) (Maximum 2 pages)	
Budget for the funding of the project (1 original & 6 copies) (Maximum 1 page)	

Proposal to fund programs that promote Indigenous education and encourage and support Indigenous students

Comments submitted by members of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee:

- A formal review, evaluation and development program should be conducted on the new arrangements over the next three years, by a group who has insight into both sectoral and Indigenous issues. This would allow the University an evidence base to inform further development.
- The University's Indigenous Employment Program has a major involvement with the Cadetships program. It may be appropriate to include/strengthen linkages with in the Indigenous Employment Program in any changed arrangements.
- If the DVC (Education) and the IEAC appoint a selection committee to review applications is it feasible to expect that these appointees may also be members of the IEAC? Or will the selection panel/committee be made up of personnel who are external to IEAC.
- How would we go in addressing issues of 'conflict of interest' if one or more of the selection committee and/or their colleagues etc wished to submit an application? Does this mean that the selection committee members are automatically ineligible to apply?
- Will support be offered to Indigenous applicants, staff and students to complete the required paperwork to ensure equity in the submission and selection?
- Is it reasonable to expect Indigenous students to provide 10 copies of the submission?
- The document does not articulate who will be on the selection panel. It will be endorsed by the advisory committee but does not state the number if any Indigenous people on the selection panel.
- There have been discussions about scholarships from the funding, if this does not replace the scholarships offered that could be explicit within the paper.
- Reporting requirements should be developed and attached to the submission to ensure applicants are aware of requirements.