



## **Indigenous Education Strategic Development Working Group**

9.30a.m. – 10.30a.m.  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005  
**Western Tower Room**

### ***Membership:***

Professor Judyth Sachs (Chair), Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching & Learning)  
Professor Don Nutbeam, Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Health Sciences  
Associate Professor Peter McCallum, for Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Professor Beryl Hesketh, Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Sciences and Technology  
Professor John Carter, Chair Academic Board  
Ms Shona Kennedy, Indigenous Employment Policy Officer  
Ms Janet Mooney, Director Koori Centre  
Associate Professor Diana G Day, Koori Centre  
Mr Colin L. James, I.B. Fell Housing Research Centre  
Mr Kevin Lowe, Inspector, Aboriginal Education, Office of Board of Studies

### ***Corresponding Members:***

Ms Ros Field, Director Indigenous Education NSW DEST, or Ms Sharon Lyons-Sequeira  
Ms Lynette Riley-Mundine, Manager, Aboriginal Programs Unit, NSW DET

### ***Apologies:***

Professor Michael Fry, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Employee Relations)  
Professor John Hearn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)  
Ms Sarah Heesom, Senior Solicitor, Director, Staff and Student Equal Opportunity  
Dr Freidoon Khavarpour, Yooroang Garang School of Indigenous Health Studies  
Ms Sue Page, Yooroang Garang School of Indigenous Health Studies  
Dr Michael Paton, Faculty of Economics and Business

## **Minutes**

### **1. Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> December 2004 & Business Arising: **Adopted****

- **Visit to Aboriginal Housing Company, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2004**  
There is potential for the University to collaborate in the proposed Charles Perkins Centre, the Indigenous Business College and Gallery/Arts Centre. It was recommended that Mr James keeps the Working Group Informed. **Adopted**
- **Draft Reconciliation Statement**  
Suggestions were made with regard to language groups and names, formatting and to the usage of a more direct and less legalistic language.

It was recommended that the Statement be revised and returned to the Working Group at its next meeting. **Adopted**

Prof Sachs will consult with the VC regarding the appropriate route for the University to adopt this Statement.

- **Priority Areas for 2005**

The Working Group agreed that there were too many strategies and that all strategies were not of equal importance. The Priority Areas should be framed in the environment of the University's new Strategic Plan and also the 7 priority areas of the NSW Government and National priorities such as Indigenous Health. Key issues are the recruitment and retention of indigenous students and staff.

It was recommended that the document be prioritised, with the addition of timelines and indicators and returned to the Working Group at its next meeting.

**Adopted**

- **Progress on appointment of Indigenous Professor and establishment of Institute for Indigenous Studies**

Position Description and advertisement have been drafted and sent to the VC for his support. The Institute is anticipated to be a virtual institute; the concept will be fully developed after the Indigenous Professor has been appointed.

2. **Indigenous Academic Cadet**

The National Indigenous Cadetship Program is a Federal Government program (funded by the Dept. of Workplace Relations) that will support the University to appoint an academic member of staff to be "trained" in higher education. They will be involved in the teaching program and for 12 weeks per annum be involved in a research centre or lab.

Given the University struggles to employ indigenous academics, this will be in line with a longer term strategy of developing our own staff.

The Working Group endorsed the concept.

**Adopted**

3. **Lin Martin Indicators**

Noted.

4. **Any other business**

4.1 Concern was expressed that beyond the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Academic Board, there is no adopted University quality assurance process around new Units of Study with indigenous curriculum. The Faculty of Arts has a practice where the Koori Centre has sign-off for their programs, but this is not common across the University. This role was previously undertaken by the Board of Aboriginal Studies.

The Director of the Koori Centre will follow this issue up with the Chair of the Academic Board.

4.2 The recruitment process for the two Indigenous Director positions in the College of Health Sciences revealed the necessity for the University to emphasise staff development as a response to its need to recruit and retain indigenous academic staff.

5. **Next meeting:**

14th April clashes with the Planning Day for the Academic Portfolio.  
Reschedule to Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 9.30-10.30a.m.