

# SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

## MINUTES OF ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

Meeting held on Friday 22 November 2024 between 3.30pm and 4.30pm at Hall 3, Level 1, Graduate Centre

### Members Present

1	Prof. Sibrandes Poppema [Chair]	
2	Prof. Abhi Veerakumarasivam	AV
3	Prof. Adarsh Kumar Pandey	AKP
4	Prof. Agamutu Pariatamby	AP
5	Prof. Angela Amphawan	AA
6	Prof. Angela Lee Siew Hoong	LSH
7	Prof. Arshian Sharif	AS
8	Prof. Chai Lay Ching	CLC
9	Prof. Dato' Dr Fitzerald Henry	FH
10	Prof. David Andrew @ Mohammed Daud Bradley	DAB
11	Prof. Faridah Mohd Nor	FMN
12	Prof. Goh Bey Hing	GBH
13	Prof. Ir. Mo Kim Hung	MKH
14	Prof. Ir. Ong Hwai Chyuan	OHC
15	Prof. Ir. Satish Narayana Namasivayam	SN
16	Prof. Ir. Ts. Yap Kian Meng	YKM
17	Prof. Kenneth Anthony Cafferkey	KAC
18	Prof. Keshab Man Shrestha	KMS
19	Prof. Lim Weng Marc	LWM
20	Prof. Mahendhiran Sanggaran Nair	MSN
21	Prof. Mayco Axel Santaella	MAS
22	Prof. Mayeen Uddin Khandaker	MUK
23	Prof. Mohamed Kheireddine Aroua	MKA
24	Prof. Motoki Watabe	MW
25	Prof. Rebecca Wong Shin Yee	WSY
26	Prof. Roslina Abdul Manap	RAM
27	Prof. Saidur Rahman	SR
28	Prof. Serge Demidenko	SD
29	Prof. Shandre Mugan Thangavelu	SMT
30	Prof. Ts. Lee Chien Sing	LCS
31	Prof. Vetriselvan Subramaniyan	VS
32	Prof. Wong Koi Nyen	WKY
33	Prof. Yeah Kim Leng	YKL
34	Prof. Yuka Fujimoto	YF
35	Assoc. Prof. Dr Malissa Maria Mahmud	MMM
36	Assoc. Prof. Dr Sim Tze Ying	STY
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### Ez-Officio

1	Ng Beng Lean	NBL
2	Dr Janaki Sinnasamy	JK

### By Invitation

1	Assoc. Prof. Dr Calvin Cheong Wing Hoh	CWH
2	Assoc. Prof. Dr Catherine Lee Cheng Ean	LCE
3	Assoc. Prof. Dr Chew Jactty	CJ
4	Assoc. Prof. Dr Daniel Chong Ka Leong	CKL
5	Assoc. Prof. Dr Joaquim, Miguel Dias Soeiro	MDS
6	Assoc. Prof. Dr Calvin Cheong Wing Hoh	CWH
7	Assoc. Prof. Dr Jane Teh Kimm Lii	TKL
8	Assoc. Prof. Dr Katta Ramesh	KR

9	Assoc. Prof. Dr Lin Mei-Hua	LMH
10	Assoc. Prof. Dr Padma Priya K.R Pillai	PP
11	Dr Cheong Huey Tyng	CHT
12	Dr Nicholas Lee Boon Kheng	LBK
13	Dr Stella Ong Kim Yoke	OKY
14	Puan Izah Isa	II
15	Rita Lo	RL
16	Prof. Andrew Abbott	AA
17	Sunway University PG Student Council	PGSC

### Absent with Apologies

1	Assoc. Prof. Dr Daniel Chong Ka Leong	CKL
2	Assoc. Prof. Dr Gan Joo Ee	GJE
3	Assoc. Prof. Dr Jason Ng Wei Jian	NWJ
4	Assoc. Prof. Dr Low Yeh Ching	LYC
5	Assoc. Prof. Dr Zaheer Anwer	ZA
6	Assoc. Prof. Dr Zuhaili Akmal Ismail	ZAI
7	President of Student Council	PSC
8	Prof. Adrian Lee Yuen Beng	LYB
9	Prof. Alvin Ng Lai Oon	NLO
10	Prof. Bradley Carl Freeman	BCF
11	Prof. Chua Hui Na	CHN
12	Prof. Datin Dr Chia Yook Chin	CYC
13	Prof. Dato' Dr Mazlin Mokhtar	MM
14	Prof. Dato' Elizabeth Lee	EL
15	Prof. Ho Chee Kit	HCK
16	Prof. Ir. Denny Ng Kok Sum	NKS
17	Prof. Ir. Rosdiadee Nordin	RN
18	Prof. Jarlath Ronayne	JR
19	Prof. Keng Shian Ling	KSL
20	Prof. Ker Pin Jern	KPJ
21	Prof. Khatijah Abdullah @ Lim Geok Khim	KA
22	Prof. Khoo Gaik Cheng	KGC
23	Prof. Lau Sian Lun	LSL
24	Prof. Leong Yuen Yoong	LYY
25	Prof. Long Chiau Ming	LCM
26	Prof. M A Hannan	MAH
27	Prof. Patrick Siau Chi Yin	SCY
28	Prof. Pervaiz K Ahmed	PKA
29	Prof. Pradeep Nair	PN
30	Prof. Raja Affendi Raja Ali	RARA
31	Prof. Santha Vaithilingam	SV
32	Prof. Shakila Parween Yacob	SPY
33	Prof. Snezana Panovska	SP
34	Prof. Tan Sri Dr Jemilah Mahmood	JM
35	Prof. Tan Sri Dr Noorul Ainur Mohd Nur	NAMN
36	Prof. Teo Ee Sing	TES
37	Prof. Teo Kok Lay	TKL
38	Prof. Wong Chin Huat	WCH

### In Attendance

Dr Sukhdev Singh

The meeting commenced with a note of welcome from the Chair.

Item		Action
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introductions and Apologies</b>	
	<p>The Chair welcomed the following new members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prof Dato' Dr Fitzerald Henry, Professor of Surgery - SMLS</li> <li>2. Prof Faridah Mohd Nor, Professor of Pathology - SMLS</li> <li>3. Assoc. Prof. Dr Joaquim, Miguel Dias Soeiro, Deputy Dean (Internationalisation) - SHSM</li> </ol> <p>Apologies were noted as in the attendance list.</p>	Info
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b>	
	The minutes of the last meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.	Info
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</b>	
	3.1 There were no matters arising.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Consideration of the Agenda:</b>	
	<p>4.1 The Chair informed Senate that the agenda is divided into 3 sections: Section A for Senate approval, Section B for discussion and Section C for noting. Members may also request any item to be moved to Section B for full discussion.</p> <p>There was no request for any item to be moved to Section B for full discussion.</p>	Info
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Comments from the Chair:</b>	
	<p>5.1 <i>Some restricted information.</i></p>	Info

<b>Section A: Recommendations from Steering Committee for Confirmation</b>			
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Establishment of New University Entities and Changes to Existing University Entities</b>		
		<p>AV presented the establishment of 3 new university entities and 3 changes to existing university entities. The new entities do not involve the engagement of any new staff but will instead involve the repositioning of existing staff. The 3 new entities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Office of Education, Employability and Alumni Strategy. The primary function of this office is to support the roles and responsibilities of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education, Employability and Alumni Strategy) in ensuring a comprehensive integration of the university’s education strategy together with graduate employability and alumni engagement. The staff that have been repositioned are the staff who were previously with the University Services Office.</li> <li>2. Office of Research and Sustainability Strategy. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Sustainability) will lead the mission for both research and sustainability. The office will empower and centralize the focus of research and sustainability strategies that are very important for our ranking. In addition to this the office will also play an important role in being the centre for the Sunway Desa Mentari development projects.</li> <li>3. Centre for Global Engagement and Mobility This new centre is to bring together the website and creative content team and the partnership &amp; mobility team to drive the internationalization of the university since we have many partners now.</li> </ol> <p>The changes to the existing university entities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Research Services to be changed to Centre for Research Management. The Research Services office has been doing a lot of things including providing a suite of services in terms of providing support for grants, coordinating postgraduate research students, regulating ethical research compliance, reporting of research performance, coordinating research resource allocation and conducting workshops. The name change is to position and enhance its profile.</li> <li>b. Planning and Corporate Development to be changed to Centre for Ranking, Impact and Analytics. This is done not so much for corporate development but more importantly for ranking and analytics.</li> <li>c. Department for Professional and Continuing Education to be renamed Centre for Professional and Continuing Education. The change reflects the elevation of the entity’s important function in championing the University’s professional and continuing education mission. Since it serves all the Schools in the University, the Centre will move out from the School of Education to become a University Centre under the purview of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education, Employability, and Alumni). The reason for this is now that the School of</li> </ol>	

		<p>Education is a bonafide school with multiple programmes, it is fair to move the department out of the school since it is a cost center that generates income. It should also not distract the school from its own development. AV commended MMM for leading the department who will still continue to play a role.</p> <p>Senate approved the proposed new entities and the changes to the existing entities.</p>	
<p><b>7.0</b></p>	<p><b>Restructuring of the Department of Computing and Information Systems</b></p>		
		<p>AV presented the restructuring of the Department of Computing and Information Systems (DCIS) on behalf of the school. DCIS has been growing in the last couple of years and the Head of Department has been running a department that is larger than most schools. In addition to the management of the programmes, there is an initiative to position Sunway as a leader in the area. There are 2 proposals in this paper:  Change the Department of Computing and Information Systems to the Department of Smart Computing and Cyber Resilience.  Establish the Department of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence as a new department. The department will be offering a Bachelor in Artificial Intelligence in September 2025 and a Master in Artificial Intelligence. The department will also be collaborating with the School of American Education to offer a Bachelor in Computer Science (Artificial Intelligence) programme.</p> <p>It is hoped that the 2 departments will not only help with the management of the programmes but will also expand the portfolio of the departments.  Senate approved the proposal.</p>	
<p><b>8.0</b></p>	<p><b>Proposal to establish new Academic Entities under School of Medical and Life Sciences - Department of Biomedical Sciences and Department of Clinical Medicine and Surgery.</b></p>		
		<p>AV presented the proposal on behalf of RARA. AV informed Senate that this proposal is not to establish new departments but to change the naming of the departments to comply with the nomenclature for the establishment of the Doctor of Medicine (MD) programme. The idea is to establish a pre-clinical department and a clinical department. The school has proposed that the Department of Biological Sciences be renamed to the Department of Biomedical Sciences and the Department of Medical Sciences to the Department of Clinical Medicine and Surgery. The Department of Biomedical Sciences will ensure the offer and delivery of quality education for the various undergraduate, postgraduate and pre-clinical subjects of the MD programme while the Department of Clinical Medicine and Surgery will ensure the offer and delivery of quality education for the Postgraduate Diploma in Primary Care and the clinical year subjects of the MD programme.</p> <p>Senate approved the proposal.</p>	

<b>9.0</b>	<b>School of Arts: Establishment of New Entity</b>		
		<p>MAS presented the establishment of a new entity in the School of Arts. The Department of Architecture will consolidate the architecture-related programmes and focus on architecture, interior design and interior architecture. It will host the Diploma in Interior Design (DID), the BA (Hons) in Interior Architecture (BIA), and the forthcoming BA (Hons) in Architecture programmes. A master programme will also follow the BA (Hons) in Architecture.</p> <p>Senate approved the proposal.</p>	
<b>10.0</b>	<b>School of Arts: Change of Research Centre Name</b>		
		<p>MSN presented the renaming of the Research Centre for Research-Creation in Digital Media that has been in the School of Arts and has been doing some high-impact projects. The school and the Centre felt that it is time to lift its aura out there in terms of the intersection between digital, culture, arts and heritage. So, branding it as a Sunway Centre for Digital Humanities and Cultural Heritage that will cut in as one of the very few centres in the country that does research in this area. This also aligns with the strategic plans in Malaysia under culture, arts and technology. It is expected to lift the game of interdisciplinary research and education in this area.</p> <p>MAS shared the projects that the centre is currently working on. The first is developing a textile museum that will be placed at the upcoming Merdeka Tower. The other is a grant that the centre has just received from Yayasan Khazanah to work on wayang kulit and developments in bringing the materials back to the community. The two strategies for the centre are:  Digital humanities: to tap into the eastern humanities network of Europe and bring in funding from the region.  Cultural heritage: tap into the possibilities that UNESCO offers. A lot of intangible heritage is being proposed to UNESCO and we already have two staff currently involved in this.</p> <p>Senate approved the proposal.</p>	
<b>11.0</b>	<b>Ethics Committees Terms of Reference</b>		
		<p><i>Some restricted information.</i>  Senate approved the proposal.</p>	

<b>12.0</b>	<b>Appointment of External Examiners</b>		
		<p>CLC presented the 3 external examiners for Senate approval all for the School of Engineering and Technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Some restricted information.</i></li> </ul> <p>Senate approved the appointment of the above external examiners.</p>	
<b>13.0</b>	<b>Proposed Academic Senate Meeting Dates for 2025</b>		
		<p>NBL informed Senate that the Senate meeting dates for 2025 will be posted in the Senate repository in the Vine as always. Members are encouraged to check the dates and mark their calendars.</p> <p>The Chair added that as Professors, it is an honour, privilege and a duty to attend Senate meetings.</p> <p>Senate approved the proposed dates.</p>	
<b>Section B: Matters for Discussion</b>			
<b>14.0</b>	<b>Approval of Awards Confirmed by Programme Assessment Boards and URDC</b>		
		<p><i>Some restricted information.</i></p> <p>Senate approved the awards.</p>	

<b>Section C: Reports Received for Noting</b>			
<b>15.0</b>	<b>Approval of Awards by Senate Chair's Action</b>		
	<i>a. Some restricted information.</i>		
		Senate noted the above awards that were approved by Chair's action.	
<b>16.0</b>	<b>Direct Entry from Bachelor to PhD (6) and Special Admission to Doctor of Philosophy in Medical Science (1)</b>		
		<p>MSN presented the six applications for direct entry to PhD that were approved by Chair's action due to the urgency. The candidates have very strong CGPA and have gone through the internal assessment process at the school level and were recommended by the respective schools.</p> <p>The candidate for special admission has a degree in pharmacy and a Master of Pharmaceutical Science with a CGPA of 3.92. The candidate has past research experience in research project involving neuroscience, which is related to the candidate's current proposal on testing neuroprotective drug on Alzheimer's disease.</p>	
<b>17.0</b>	<b>Appointment of External Examiner</b>		
		<p>CLC presented the external examiner for the School of Hospitality and Service management that was approved by UEC on 4 October 2024 and by Chair's action on 14 Oct. 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Some restricted information.</i></li> </ul>	
<b>18.0</b>	<b>Status of Programme Approval and Accreditation</b>		
		<i>Some restricted information.</i>	
<b>19.0</b>	<b>Academic Senate Sub and Standing Committee Reports</b>		
	13.1	Senate noted the following Reports of Award Classifications Confirmed by Programme Assessment Boards (PAB):	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School of Arts</li> <li>- Sunway Business School</li> <li>- School of Engineering and Technology</li> <li>- School of Hospitality and Service Management</li> <li>- School of Mathematical Sciences</li> <li>- School of Medical and Life Sciences</li> </ul>	
	13.2	<p>Senate noted the following School Board of Studies reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School of Arts – Meeting held on 4 Nov. 2024</li> <li>- Sunway Business School – Meetings held in Sep. and Oct. 2024</li> <li>- School of Engineering and Technology – Meeting held on 26 Sep. 2024</li> <li>- School of Hospitality and Service Management – Meeting held on 28 Jun. 2024</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	
	19.3	Senate noted the report from the University Education Committee (UEC) meeting held on 4 Oct. 2024	
	19.4	Senate noted the report from the University Research Degrees Committee (URDC) meeting held on 6 Nov. 2024	
	19.5	Senate noted the report from the Sunway Library Committee for the meeting held on 15 Aug. 2024	
<b>20.0</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>		
		<p><u>LU Partnership:</u></p> <p>The Chair thanked Prof. Andrew Abbott for his contributions during his tenure at Sunway University. For a long time, he did not realise that AA was a staff of Lancaster University. That shows how much he has been a Sunway man, and we wish him all the best in Lancaster. The Chair invited AA to deliver his report on the collaboration between Lancaster and Sunway.</p> <p>AA thanked all for their support during his five years in Malaysia. Reflecting on when he first arrived at Sunway in November 2019, he recalled there were 4700 students as part of the Sunway-Lancaster partnership in 2019 and today there just over 8000 students. He congratulated all for their hard work in making the Sunway-Lancaster collaboration about 20% of the total of British universities collaboration with Malaysia. He presented a co-strategy for the period 2024-2030 and moving forward with the 18-year collaboration. In formulating the strategy, there were consultations with Sunway colleagues, Lancaster colleagues, British Council and analysis of data. The vision is to have a world class international partnership that grows sustainably and delivers trans-boundary impact for education, research and sustainability practices. He shared that he has worked in internationalisation since 2012 with 2 universities and truly believes that this is a world class partnership.</p> <p>The 2 aims of the strategy are to impact in sustainable growth and to achieve a world class partnership, excellence is central to what we want to achieve, and we are going to do that by teaching,</p>	

		<p>research and engagement. We want to develop globally minded students, so growing bilateral mobility is another objective. We also want to work together and grow the graduate employability for both institutions. We want to have impact in our teaching and research and with this regard we will be working together in the Sunway Mentari project.</p> <p>Then there are the partnership objectives with 4 areas of partnership activity: education, research, sustainable practices and profile. Growing the profile is important for Lancaster as well. In conclusion he thanked all for their support and wished all well.</p>	
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The meeting ended at 4.45pm with a note of thanks from the Chair. The next meeting is scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

Minutes confirmed by:

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Chair

Date: