

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

Meeting held on Friday 20 June 2025 between 2.30 pm and 3.00 pm at Hall 3, Level 1, Graduate Centre

Members Present

1	Prof. Abhi Veerakumarasivam [Chair]	AV
2	Prof. Adarsh Kumar Pandey	AKP
3	Prof. Agamutu Pariatamby	AP
4	Prof. Alvin Ng Lai Oon	NLO
5	Prof. Arshian Sharif	AS
6	Prof. Bradley Carl Freeman	BCF
7	Prof. Chai Lay Ching	CLC
8	Prof. Chua Hui Na	CHN
9	Prof. Dato' Dr Fitzerald Henry	FH
10	Prof. Dr Chia Yook Chin	CYC
11	Prof. Faridah Mohd Nor	FMN
12	Prof. Goh Bey Hing	GBH
13	Prof. Ir. Denny Ng Kok Sum	NKS
14	Prof. Ir. Mo Kim Hung	MKH
15	Prof. Ir. Rosdiadee Nordin	RN
16	Prof. Jarlath Ronayne	JR
17	Prof. Jonathan Peter Ivy	JPI
18	Prof. Kavita Reginald	KR
19	Prof. Kenneth Anthony Cafferkey	KAC
20	Prof. Keshab Man Shrestha	KMS
21	Prof. Leong Yuen Yoong	LYY
22	Prof. Lin Mei-Hua	LMH
23	Prof. Mahendhiran Sanggaran Nair	MSN
24	Prof. Malissa Maria Mahmud	MMM
25	Prof. Mayeen Uddin Khandaker	MUK
26	Prof. Mohamed Kheireddine Aroua	MKA
27	Prof. Motoki Watabe	NW
28	Prof. Nishanth Gopalakrishnan Chemmangattuvala	NGC
29	Prof. Patrick Siau Chi Yin	SCY
30	Prof. Raja Affendi Raja Ali	RA
31	Prof. Rebecca Wong Shin Yee	WSY
32	Prof. Roslina Abdul Manap	RAM
33	Prof. Saidur Rahman	SR
34	Prof. Santha Vaithilingam	SV
35	Prof. Serge Demidenko	SD
36	Prof. Shakila Parween Yacob	SPY
37	Prof. Shandre Mugan Thangavelu	SMT
38	Prof. Snezana Panovska	SPY
39	Prof. Vetriselvan Subramaniam	VS
40	Prof. Yap Kian Meng	YKM

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 Joaquim, Miguel Dias Soeiro	JMDS
5	Assoc. Prof. Dr Katta Ramesh	KR
6	Assoc. Prof. Dr Selina Low Yeh Ching	LYC
7	Dr Cheong Huey Tyng	CHT
8	Dr Rita Lo	RL
9	Dr Stella Ong Kim Yoke	OKY
10	Mr Kevin Tan Tee Liang	TTL
11	President of Student Council	PSC
12	SU Postgraduate Student Council	SUPSC

Absent with Apologies

1	Prof. Angela Amphawan	AA
2	Prof. Adrien Lee Yuen Beng	LYB
3	Prof. Angela Lee Siew Hoong	LSH
4	Prof. Arshian Sharif	AS
5	Prof. Cheng Mien Wee	CMW
6	Prof. Dato' Dr Mazlin Mokhtar	MM
7	Prof. Dato' Elizabeth Lee	EL
8	Prof. Felicia Chung Fei Lei	CFL
9	Prof. Ho Chee Kit	HCK
10	Prof. Ir. Ong Hwai Chyuan	OHC
11	Prof. Ir. Satesh Narayana Namasivayam	SNN
12	Prof. Keng Shian Ling	KSL
13	Prof. Ker Pin Jern	KPJ
14	Prof. Khatijah Abdullah @ Lim Geok Khim	KA
15	Prof. Khoo Gaik Cheng	KGC
16	Prof. Lim Weng Marc	LWM
17	Prof. Long Chiau Ming	LCM
18	Prof. M A Hannan	MAH
19	Prof. Mayco Axel Santaella	MAS
20	Prof. Ong Hwai Chyuan	OHC
21	Prof. Pervaiz K Ahmed	PKA
22	Prof. Pradeep Nair	PN
23	Prof. Sibrandes Poppema	SP
24	Prof. Tan Sri Dr Noorul Ainur Mohd Nur	NAMN
25	Prof. Tan Sri Jemilah Mahmood	JM

41	Prof. Yap Kian Meng	YKM	26	Prof. Teo Ee Sing	TES
42	Professor Ts. Dr.-Ing. Lau Sian Lun	LSL	27	Prof. Teo Kok Lay	TKL
43	Assoc. Prof. Dr Daniel Chong Ka Leong	CKL	28	Prof. Ts. Lee Chien Sing	LCS
44	Assoc. Prof. Dr Sim Tze Ying	STY	29	Prof. Veronica Ng Foong Peng	NFP
45	Assoc. Prof. Dr Woo Pei Jun	WPJ	30	Prof. Wong Chin Huat	WCH

Ex-Officio

1	Ms Ng Beng Lean	NBL	31	Prof. Yeah Kim Leng	YKL
2	Ms Chan Yong Yee	CYY	32	Prof. Yuka Fujimoto	YF
			33	Assoc. Prof. Dr Gan Joo Ee	GJE
			34	Assoc. Prof. Dr Jane Teh Kimm Lii	TKL
			35	Assoc. Prof. Dr Nicholas Lee Boon Kheng	LBK
			36	Assoc. Prof. Dr Padma Priya K. R Pillai	PP
			37	Assoc. Prof. Dr Zaheer Anwer	ZA
			38	Assoc. Prof. Dr Zuhaili Akmal Ismail	ZAI
			39	Dr Ang Siew Ling	ASL
			40	Dr Nicholas Lee Boon Kheng	LBK
			41	Mr Ng Kok Cheng	NKC
			42	Puan Izah Isa	II

In Attendance

- 1 Dr Sukhdev Singh

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

Item		Action
1.0	Introductions and Apologies	
	The Chair conveyed apologies from Prof Poppema, who was unable to attend the meeting. He also extended apologies to Muslim colleagues for the rescheduling of the meeting to an earlier time of 2.30 PM to accommodate the Minister's visit at 3.30 PM, acknowledging their effort in attending the meeting soon after prayers. Apologies were noted as per the attendance list.	Info
2.0	Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
	The minutes of the last meeting held on 25 April 2025 were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.	Info
3.0	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes	
	Nil	
4.0	Consideration of the Agenda:	
	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. There was no request for any item to be moved to Section B for full discussion.	Info
5.0	Comments from the Chair:	
	5.1 The Chair congratulated all staff and faculty for the university's notable achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QS World University Rankings 2026: A remarkable improvement from rank 539 to 410, marking the biggest single year jump worldwide. • Times Higher Education (Impact Rankings) 2025: Sunway University is now ranked Top 100 globally. The Chair also expressed appreciation to Professor Jarlath Ronayne , who will retire at the end of this month. He served as the Vice-Chancellor of Sunway University and continued to play a pivotal role in strengthening collaborations with Oxford and Cambridge. Senate formally congratulated and thanked him for his distinguished contributions, noting his appointment as Professor Emeritus upon retirement.	Info
Section A: Recommendations from Steering Committee for Confirmation		
6.0	Direct Entry from Bachelor to PhD	
	MSN presented the proposal for direct entry from Bachelor's to PhD programmes. The first batch signed up on 5 June 2025 with three students and another four more students. All due diligence and approvals from respective Schools and committees were completed. Senate approved direct entry.	Info

7.0	Exam Cycle – June 2025		
		<p>The Chair explained that a smaller number of students were included in this cycle due to the proximity of the meeting to the graduation ceremony. This measure was taken to enable timely confirmation of graduation eligibility for the July Convocation.</p> <p>Breakdown of graduands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma: 2 students (Department of Culinary & Food Studies; Department of Hospitality & Events). • Undergraduate: 4 students (Department of Computing & Information Systems, Biomedical Science, Hospitality & Events); 2 awarded Second Upper, 2 with Second Lower Class. • ADTF: 16 students completed their prerequisite credits. • Postgraduate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 Master’s in Business Administration ○ 1 Master’s in Life Sciences ○ Graduation classification: 1 Distinction, 1 Merit, 1 Pass • PhD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 in Biology ○ 1 in Hospitality & Tourism <p>Senate approved the awards.</p> <p>The Registry has agreed to extend the final submission date to 27 June 2025 for students who are completing their studies. This includes delays caused by internships or pending URDC approvals. These cases will be considered through Chair’s Action, provided the following process is followed: the School approves the case, sends it to the URDC for approval, then forwards it to the Registry, which will seek the Chair’s Action to finalise it.</p> <p>As part of this student-centric initiative, Schools are encouraged to review cases from the past three to four months, especially students who have completed their viva with only minor corrections. These students may be eligible to graduate in July with minimal intervention.</p> <p>Please make every effort to identify and submit such cases to the URDC by 25 June 2025. This will help determine whether students can graduate in July or will need to wait for the February Convocation.</p>	Info
Section B: Matters for Discussion			
		Nil	
Section C: Reports Received for Noting			
8.0	Approval of Awards by Senate Chair’s Action		
		<p>The Chair reported that a number of awards were approved via Chair’s Action, particularly for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma and undergraduate programmes (mostly delayed due to internships) • Postgraduate: A total of 93 students 	Info
9.0	Appointment of External Examiners		

		CLC reported that on 9 May 2025, the UEC reviewed and approved the appointment of 12 external examiners across 8 schools , following thorough background checks and deliberations on qualifications.	Info
10.0	Accreditation and Application for Approval		
		<p>NBL congratulated all involved in the recent compliance audit, which was a success.</p> <p>Key updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Accreditation: PhD in Hospitality and Tourism • Provisional Accreditation Submissions: 15 programmes; 4 pending MJA outcomes (1 July) • Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia: Submitted reports to MQA – positive progress • Recent MQA Submissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 programmes on 10 June 2025 ○ 2 programmes on 16 June 2025 • Remaining programmes are under panel or MQA review <p>The Chair thanked all schools, especially the Deputy Deans (Education), for their hard work in ensuring that the initial expressions of interest to start new programmes do not remain as mere aspirations that materialise only in four or five years. Instead, you have stayed on target, delivering at least 95% of the programmes as promised at the start of the year.</p> <p>The expansion of the academic portfolio is critically important, as there is a limit to how much we can grow with our existing programmes. Therefore, it is essential to diversify and grow our offerings to ensure sustainable and strategic institutional growth.</p>	Info
11.0	Academic Senate Sub and Standing Committee Reports		
	11.1	Senate noted the following School Board of Studies reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School of American Education – Meeting held on 13 Dec. 2024 - Sunway Business School – Meetings held in Mar. and Apr. 2025 	Info
	11.2	Senate noted the report from the Institutional Review Board held on 4 Mar. 2025.	Info
	11.3	Senate noted the report from the University Employability and Alumni Committee (UEAC) Meeting held on 13 Feb. 2025 and 29 Nov. 2024.	Info
	11.4	Senate noted the report from the University Research Committee (URC) .	Info
	11.5	Senate noted the report from the University Research Degrees Committee (URDC) .	Info
13.0	Any Other Business		

		<p>The Chair thanked and congratulated BL and the GCLU team for their exceptional effort in managing the compliance audit. Their coordinated documentation, auditor engagement, and relationship management with the Ministry were exemplary.</p> <p>Sunway University has now been recognised as a benchmark institution in matters of compliance and institutional regulations.</p>	Info
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The meeting ended at 3.00 pm with a note of thanks from the Chair. The next meeting is scheduled for 26 September 2025.

Minutes confirmed by:

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Chair

Date: