

# SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

## MINUTES OF ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

Meeting held on Friday 26 September 2025 between 3.30 pm and 4.15 pm at Hall 3, Level 1, Graduate Centre

### Members Present

1	Prof. Sibrandes Poppema [Chair]	SP
2	Prof. Abhi Veerakumarasivam	AV
3	Prof. Adrian Lee Yuen Beng	LYB
4	Prof. Angela Lee Siew Hoong	LSH
5	Prof. Arkendu Sen	AS
6	Prof. Arshian Sharif	AS
7	Prof. Bradley Carl Freeman	BCF
8	Prof. Chai Lay Ching	CLC
9	Prof. Cheng Mien Wee	CMW
10	Prof. Chua Hui Na	CHN
11	Prof. Datin Dr Chia Yook Chin	CYC
12	Prof. Dato' Dr Fitzerald Henry	FH
13	Prof. Felicia Chung Fei Lei	CFL
14	Prof. Ho Chee Kit	HCK
15	Prof. Ir. Denny Ng Kok Sum	NKS
16	Prof. Ir. Mo Kim Hung	MKH
17	Prof. Ir. Ong Hwai Chyuan	OHC
18	Prof. Ir. Satesh Narayana Namasivayam	SNN
19	Prof. Ir. Suzana Yusup	SY
20	Prof. Kavita Reginald	KR
21	Prof. Ker Pin Jern	KPJ
22	Prof. Khoo Gaik Cheng	KGC
23	Prof. Liew Chee Sun	LCS
24	Prof. Lim Weng Marc	LWM
25	Prof. Lin Mei-Hua	LMH
26	Prof. Long Chiau Ming	LCM
27	Prof. Low Teck Yew	LTY
28	Prof. M A Hannan	MAH
29	Prof. Mahendhiran Sanggaran Nair	MSN
30	Prof. Malissa Maria Mahmud	MMM
31	Prof. Mayco Axel Santaella	MAS
32	Prof. Mayeen Uddin Khandaker	MUK
33	Prof. Motoki Watabe	MW
34	Prof. Nishanth Gopalakrishnan Chemmangattuvalappil	NGC
35	Prof. Patrick Siau Chi Yin	SCY
36	Prof. Pervaiz K Ahmed	PKA
37	Prof. Rebecca Wong Shin Yee	WSY
38	Prof. Santha Vaithilingam	SV
39	Prof. Serge Demidenko	SD
40	Prof. Shakila Parween Yacob	SPY
41	Prof. Shandre Mugan Thangavelu	SMT
42	Prof. Teo Kok Lay	TKL
43	Prof. Ts. Dr. -Ing. Lau Sian Lun	LSL
44	Prof. Ts. Lee Chien Sing	LCS
45	Prof. Yeah Kim Leng	YKL
46	Prof. Yuka Fujimoto	YF

### By Invitation

1	Assoc. Prof. Dr Catherine Lee Cheng Ean	LCE
2	Assoc. Prof. Dr Chew Jactty	CJ
3	Assoc. Prof. Dr Gan Joo Ee	GJE
4	Assoc. Prof. Dr Jane Teh Kimm Lii	TKL
5	Assoc. Prof. Dr Joaquim Dias Soeiro	JDS
6	Assoc. Prof. Dr Katta Ramesh	KT
7	Assoc. Prof. Dr Nicholas Lee Boon Kheng	LBK
8	Assoc. Prof. Dr Selina Low Yeh Ching	LYC
9	Dr Rita Lo	RL
10	Dr Stella Ong Kim Yoke	OKY
11	President of Student Council	PSC
12	Su Postgraduate Student Council	SUPSC

### Absent with Apologies

1	Prof. Adrian Lee Yuen Beng	LYB
2	Prof. Agamutu Pariatamby	AP
3	Prof. Alvin Ng Lai Oon	NLO
4	Prof. Angela Amphawan	AA
5	Prof. Dato' Elizabeth Lee	EL
6	Prof. Dato' Dr. Mazlin Bin Mokhtar	MM
7	Prof. Faridah Mohd Nor	FMN
8	Prof. Goh Bey Hing	GBH
9	Prof. Ir. Rosdiadee Nordin	RN
10	Prof. Ir. Ts. Yap Kian Meng	YKM
11	Prof. Jonathan Peter Ivy	JPI
12	Prof. Keng Shian-Ling	KSL
13	Prof. Kenneth Anthony Cafferkey	KAC
14	Prof. Keshab Man Shrestha	KMS
15	Prof. Khatijah Lim Abdullah	KA
16	Prof. Leong Yuen Yoong	LYY
17	Prof. Mochamad Subhan Zein	SZ
18	Prof. Pradeep Nair	PN
19	Prof. Raja Affendi Raja Ali	RA
20	Prof. Roslina Binti Abdul Manap	RAM
21	Prof. Saidur Rahman	SR
22	Prof. Snezana Panovska	SP
23	Prof. Tan Sri Dr Jemilah Mahmood	JM
24	Prof. Tan Sri Dr Noorul Ainur Mohd Nur	NA
25	Prof. Teo Ee Sing	TES
26	Prof. Veronica Ng Foong Peng	NFP
27	Prof. Vetrivelvan Subramaniyan	VS
28	Prof. Wong Chin Huat	WCH
29	Assoc. Prof. Dr Astri Yulia	AY
30	Assoc. Prof. Dr Calvin Cheong Wing Hoh	CWH
31	Assoc. Prof. Dr Hassan M. M. Abuhassna	HMA

47 Assoc. Prof. Dr Daniel Chong Ka Leong  
48 Assoc. Prof. Dr Woo Pei Jun

**Ex-Officio**

1 Ng Beng Lean  
2 Mr Ng Kok Cheng  
3 Ms Chan Yong Yee

CKL  
WPJ

NBL  
NKC  
CYY

32 Assoc. Prof. Dr Majid Ghasemy MG  
33 Assoc. Prof. Dr Padma Priya K.R Pillai PP  
34 Assoc. Prof. Dr Zaheer Anwer ZA  
35 Assoc. Prof. Dr Zuhaili Akmal Ismail ZAI  
36 Dr Ang Siew Ling ASL  
37 Dr Cheong Huey Tyng CHT  
38 Izah Isa II  
39 Kevin Tan Tee Liang TTL

**In Attendance**

1 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. Ir. Suzana Yusup</li> <li>2. Prof. Arkendu Sen</li> </ol> <p>By invitation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Assoc. Prof. Dr Astri Yulia</li> <li>4. Assoc. Prof. Dr Hassan M. M. Abuhassna</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 June 2025 were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.	Info
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</b>	
	Nil	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Consideration of the Agenda:</b>	
4.1	<p>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>	
5.1	<p><i>Some restricted information.</i></p> <p>The Chair reported that Sunway University is expected to move up two bands, from the 401–500 bracket to the 301–350 bracket, ranking third nationally.</p> <p>The University ranked 111th globally in research quality, a key driver of the improved ranking. However, reputation in both teaching and research remains an area requiring significant improvement. The Chair emphasised the importance of staff and students showcasing excellence at international conferences to enhance visibility and reputation. The University is on track to enter the Top 300 next year and aims to achieve Top 200 status in both THE and QS rankings by 2030.</p>	Info

Section A: Recommendations from Steering Committee for Confirmation		
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Nomination and Conferment of an Honorary Doctorate Degree</b>	
	<p>On behalf of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, AV presented the nomination of <b>Dato' Sri Siti Nurhaliza</b> for the conferment of an Honorary Doctorate. The nomination highlights her excellence in the performing arts, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy. The conferment will be subject to approval by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE).</p> <p>Senate approved the recommendation.</p>	Info
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Direct Entry from Bachelor to PhD</b>	
	<p>MSN presented seven (7) candidates for direct entry to PhD programmes, all of whom have met the stringent requirements, including first-class results and publications.</p> <p>Approved candidates: <i>Some restricted information.</i></p>	Info
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Appointment of External Examiners</b>	
	<p>CLC presented the following for Senate approval:</p> <p><b>Approved External Examiners:</b> <i>Some restricted information.</i></p> <p>Senate approved all five appointments.</p>	Info
Section B: Matters for Discussion		
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Analysis of June 2025 Exam Cycle Results and Approval of Awards Confirmed by Programme Assessment Boards</b>	

9.1	AV thanked members for their efforts in completing the Programme Assessment Board (PAB) cycle. He noted that all schools had completed the process, except for the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (SHTM), which identified issues in one course. Results for that programme will be finalised by Monday and approved by Chair's Action before circulation to students.	
9.2	<p><b>Diploma Programmes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School of Architecture: 247 candidates; 228 passed all.</li> <li>• School of Film and Performing Arts: 37 candidates; 33 passed all.</li> <li>• School of Hospitality and Tourism Management: 384 candidates; 293 passed all.</li> </ul>	
9.3	<p><b>Degree Programmes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total candidates are 8,954, with 7,637 passed all, 810 failed one subject, 407 failed two or more subjects, and several incomplete results remain, due to reasons such as absence from examinations, pending research work, or internship requirements.</li> </ul>	
9.4	<p><b>Award Classification</b></p> <p>The distribution of awards was consistent with previous cycles, with the majority in the High Merit category. The Faculty of Engineering and Technology (FET) and School of Mathematical Sciences (SMS) reported higher proportions of First-Class awards, while most other schools reported awards in the Second-Class Upper category.</p>	
9.5	<p><b>Graduates</b></p> <p>A total of 1,008 degree students graduated this cycle. It was noted that growth in student numbers is attributed not to extended retention but to students graduating on time, ensuring that enrolment growth reflects active fee-paying students.</p>	
9.6	<p><b>American Degree Transfer Program</b></p> <p>Six (6) students completed the programme in the past year.</p>	
9.7	<p><b>Postgraduate Programmes (Masters and Doctoral)</b></p> <p>A total of 49 candidates across six master's programmes successfully completed their studies, with 37 obtaining Distinction, 9 achieving Merit, and 3 receiving Pass. Additionally, nine (9) doctoral students completed their programmes, with a small number of additional candidates approved separately via Chair's Action.</p> <p>Senate approved all awards in item 9</p>	
<b>Section C: Reports Received for Noting</b>		
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Approval of Awards by Senate Chair's Action</b>	
10.1	<p>AV explained that Chair's Action is exercised to expedite results release for students, typically postgraduate, but also occasionally post-basic, diploma, or degree students, who require official results earlier (e.g., for admission to further studies).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School of Nursing: 17 Post-Basic Nursing (Intensive Care and Peri-Operative) students approved.</li> <li>• Diploma in Nursing: 29 students approved.</li> </ul>	Info

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Psychology: 1 student (Class II Lower) approved.</li> <li>• BSc Accounting and Finance: 1 student (Third Class) approved.</li> <li>• MBA (ODL): 2 students (Merit) approved.</li> </ul> <p>Senate approved these awards.</p>	
	10.2	<p>MSN reported that postgraduate completions were approved by Chair's Action as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 2025: 2 students</li> <li>• 26 July 2025: 6 students</li> <li>• 4 September 2025: 10 students</li> </ul> <p>Special PhD Admission Case for the application of a candidate with a Bachelor's and Master's in Pharmacy for admission to a PhD in Biology, based on strong academic performance and research alignment with the biological sciences.</p> <p>Senate approved the awards.</p>	
<b>11.0</b>	<b>Appointment of External Examiners</b>		
		<p>CLC reported the following external examiners already approved by Chair's Action:</p> <p><i>Some restricted information.</i></p>	Info
<b>12.0</b>	<b>Special Graduation Case</b>		
		<i>Some restricted information.</i>	
<b>13.0</b>	<b>Accreditation and Application for Approval</b>		
	13.1	<p>NBL reported the following updates:</p> <p><i>Some restricted information.</i></p>	

	13.2	AV reported that:  <i>Some restricted information.</i>	Info
	13.3	NBL reported that the Postgraduate Diploma in Primary Care for the Elderly was submitted to MOHE for renewal on 6 August 2025.	
	13.4	<b>Supervisory Note on Postgraduate Awards</b> NBL reminded supervisors to carefully review and verify postgraduate thesis titles and ensure that the correct awards are recorded and recommended to Senate.	
<b>14.0</b>	<b>Academic Senate Sub and Standing Committee Reports</b>		
	14.1	Senate noted the following Reports of Award Classifications Confirmed by Programme Assessment Boards (PAB). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences</li> <li>• Faculty of Engineering and Technology</li> <li>• Faculty of Medical and Life Sciences</li> <li>• School of American Education</li> <li>• Sunway Business School</li> <li>• School of Hospitality and Tourism Management</li> <li>• School of Mathematical Sciences</li> </ul>	
	14.2	Senate noted the following School Board of Studies reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunway Business School – Meetings held between June and August 2025</li> <li>• School of Hospitality and Tourism Management – Meeting held on 28 March 2025</li> <li>• School of American Education – Meeting held on 30 April 2025</li> </ul>	Info
	14.3	Senate noted the report from the Institutional Review Board meeting held on 19 August 2025.	Info
	14.4	Senate noted the report from the University Education Committee (UEC) meeting held on 21 March 2025 and 9 May 2025.	Info
	14.5	Senate noted the report from the University Employability and Alumni Committee (UEAC) meeting held on 9 June 2025.	Info
	14.6	Senate noted the report from the University Research Degrees Committee (URDC) meeting held on 19 September 2025.	
<b>15.0</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>		
		The Chair welcomed the newly elected Student Council President, who attended the Senate meeting by invitation.	Info

The meeting ended at 4.10 pm with a note of thanks from the Chair. The next meeting is scheduled for 21 November 2025.

Minutes confirmed by:

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Chair

Date: