

# University of Wollongong Council

## 2007 Review of University of Wollongong Student Associations

### A submission by the University of Wollongong Undergraduate Students' Association (WUSA) 22 June 2007

Wollongong Undergraduate Students' Association  
Building 11  
University of Wollongong  
Northfields Avenue NSW 2522  
Phone (02) 4221 4201  
Fax (02) 4221 4233  
[www.wusa.uow.edu.au](http://www.wusa.uow.edu.au)

Contact  
Ms Elizabeth Larbaestier, President  
Email [president@wusa.uow.edu.au](mailto:president@wusa.uow.edu.au)  
Mobile 0403 880 754



# Contents

<b>1. Executive Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. WUSA Post-VSU 2007</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.1 Objectives</b>	
<b>3.2 Services and Activities</b>	
3.2.3 Casework/Advocacy Service	
<b>3.3 Representation</b>	
3.3.1 Current WUSA Representative Structure	
3.4.2 WUSA Representation within UOW Structure	
3.4.3 Electoral Turnout	
<b>4. Financial Viability</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>4.1 Reduction in Expenses Since 2005</b>	
4.1.3 Administrative Salary	
4.1.4 Advocacy and Research Officer Salary	
<b>4.2 Meeting Core Services (Minimum Budget)</b>	
See attachment WUSA Minimum Cost Budget	
<b>4.3 Governance/Financial Accountability &amp; Transparency Responsibilities</b>	
4.3.1 Checks and Balances	
4.3.2 Audits	
<b>4.4. Revenue Streams</b>	
4.4.1 Membership Drive	
4.4.2 Supporters' Membership	
4.4.3 Funding Initiatives	
<b>6. Australian Higher Education Sector Responses</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>7. Heading into 2008</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>7.1 Strategies Initiated in 2007 'It's all about You'</b>	
<b>7.2 Implementations for 2008</b>	
<b>7.3 Commitment from the Students' Association</b>	
<b>8. Recommendations</b>	<b>18</b>

## 1. Executive Summary

1.1 The 2007 University Council review of the Student Associations is in response to the Federal Government's amendment, *Higher Education Support (Abolition of Compulsory Up-Front Student Union Fees) Act* (VSU) December 2005, which came into effect on UOW campus this Autumn 2007. The legislative change saw the demise and loss of traditional revenue streams across all service providers at the University of Wollongong and at other universities nation-wide.

1.2 The legislation has restricted the revenue and membership basis of the Student Association significantly, however, WUSA wants to ensure that there is an efficient and effective representative model for students. WUSA has taken steps to address the consequences and impact of the amended legislation.

1.3 It is in the interests of both students and the University that there is a student representative voice. However, WUSA offers more than just a representative voice. WUSA in its entirety also includes services provided in the interests of student welfare; to support students during their university experience.

1.4 The University Council resolved to review the Student Associations in October 2006. It is apparent that the aims of this review have changed under the discretion of the Vice Principal (Administration). The review, as it now stands, has become an examination of WUSA's legitimacy in being the peak student representative body and the best model of student representation.

1.5 WUSA is more than willing to participate in a review, as this is an opportunity for the students to consider how representation can be improved and ensure that student services are sustainable. However WUSA is concerned that there is a lack of transparency regarding any decisions and recommendations that are to be made, as there have been no benchmarks set for the terms of reference and no key performance indicators have been provided.

1.6 The representative voice of students is more than a platform, a token seat at the table and an open door to meetings. Student representation is about independent, autonomous self-determination. Proposed changes that the University makes to the student voice and greater Association should be considerate of the value WUSA adds to UOW, and recognise the recent legislative changes that WUSA has had to adapt to.

1.7 It is also important to note that pending this review will be a consideration of whether WUSA is to receive funding and space allocation from the University, as well as how the distribution of student funds that WUSA currently holds will be administered.

## ***2. Introduction***

2.1 The University of Wollongong Undergraduate Students' Association (WUSA) welcomes the opportunity to participate in the University's review of the student associations. Independent and autonomous student representation has survived for the past 36 years through the Students' Representative Council (SRC) and WUSA and WUPA and it is vital that such services continue to be provided into the future.

2.2 Since the beginning of 2007, the Wollongong Undergraduate Students' Association has been engaged in a series of internal restructures in an endeavour to ensure it can effectively operate following the impact of VSU in Autumn Session 2007.

2.3 Since 2005 WUSA has decreased its operating budget. In 2006 a new Constitution was implemented and further changes were made to the Constitution at the 2007 AGM. At the upcoming Special General Meeting, allowing all students to vote regardless of membership, will be considered.

2.4 It is the Students' Association's belief that the current constitutional and regulatory framework that exists can be improved, such as consideration of faculty representation and increased external campus representation. However, improvements regarding representation can also be made from the University's side. The University needs to consider increased student representation on committees, a suggestion that WUSA has put forward in previous years but which has not yet been taken up.

2.5 The aim of the review is to determine if WUSA is the peak student representative body and if it's the best model of student representation. Adequate details of the characteristics, values and structure of the peak student representative body that UOW would recognize has not been provided by the University Administration.

2.6 WUSA is open to review, to provide evidence of financial viability and good governance procedures, but WUSA is hesitant to have UOW dictate to students how their voice is to be represented. It is important to realize that changes made to the representative model for students must come with the support of the students themselves as it is their voice that is being reviewed and defined.

2.7 This submission to the University Council Review of WUSA will outline the current representative structure, essential student services and activities, financial viability, and proposal of how to improve the sustainability of WUSA in the coming year.

### **3. WUSA Post-VSU 2007**

#### **3.1 WUSA Objectives**

WUSA Constitution:

- 2.1. The purpose of the Association is to play an active role in defending and promoting the interest and welfare of its **members and students** ('students' passed at 2007 AGM, to be endorsed by University Council) by:
- (a) Providing advocacy for all students (limited to the resources provided by the University for this purpose).
  - (b) Campaigning to defend and extend the rights of its Members within the University and the community.
  - (c) Facilitating and nurturing existing and potential Association Collectives.
  - (d) Providing access for **all students of the University**, regardless of their Membership status, to Association Collectives, whilst recognising the right of collectives addressing women's, queer and Indigenous issues to restrict access to women, queer and Indigenous students respectively.
  - (e) Seeking to increase the Association's membership and build the environment and social justice movements through education and campaigning.

#### **3.2 WUSA Services and Activities**

The following services are provided by WUSA and are essential for the well-being of the UOW student during his or her studies.

- advocacy for grievance matters with UOW, tenancy, centrelink and legal advice
- representation of the student voice
- social and cultural events
- 2<sup>nd</sup> hand online bookshop
- \$25 emergency loans
- free BBQs and entertainment
- free safe sex products
- women's space
- queer space
- photocopying
- faxing
- student publications Tertangala (see attachment from WUSA Media Officer)
- Collective interest groups
- car-pooling

#### Value of the Tertangala to UOW

Currently, WUSA is the sole funding body of the only independent, student-produced publication at the University of Wollongong, the Tertangala, which is now in its 45th year.

The Tertangala is usually produced monthly during session and has an average print-run of 2,500 copies. This figure, and the number of editions produced in a year, is only

limited by the available printing budget and increases with special editions like the annual Survival Guide.

It is a resource that is open and available to all students, providing an invaluable platform for emerging writers and artists.

*Building the Campus Community:* This magazine represents one of the Illawarra's only youth-focussed media endeavours, focussing on youth issues and covering topics that affect students. It is also the only outlet for unrestricted student expression on campus. The Tert plays an important role in introducing students to University life; the annual Survival Guide providing information about campus life and events, including Clubs and Societies. This is incredibly important, as extra-curricular activities are part of what defines the quality of on-campus life.

*Development of Journalism and Creative Arts Students:* The Tertangala also provides invaluable experience for students studying in these respective fields, allowing them to put their theoretical skills into practice and increase future employment opportunities. It is the only readily accessible avenue for UOW's emerging journalists and writers. The Journalism faculty this year has approved the Tertangala as a valid internship for credit.

WUSA, through the Tertangala, aids students by providing insight into media creation and production, allowing for first publishing opportunities, building a folio to present to potential employers and learning about the editorial process.

There is no other student organisation or service provider on campus that currently supports the welfare of students in providing these services and activities.

### **3.2.1 Casework/Advocacy Service**

The service offers advocacy and support for students in need as well as assisting in resolving complaints before they are formalised. The casework service has expanded to include postgraduate students in Autumn session 2007, due to the Wollongong Postgraduate Students' Association having yet to fill their advocacy position.

WUSA's advocacy service is an early alarm signal for testing the University's policies and procedures, with recurring incidents and patterns in casework immediately brought to the University's attention for closer examination. Continued support for casework will be imperative in maintaining confidence in the University processes.

The students association's advocacy service also assists the University in monitoring its performance and practices in key areas, which is a vital part of quality assurance. It also improves accountability at the University, as it provides an independent layer of accountability between students and the University. WUSA is thus integral to the system of monitoring and accountability which, according to s16(1B)(f) of the University Act, it is the responsibility of the University to maintain.

Additionally, WUSA's advocacy and support services are useful in helping to identify areas of risk efficiently and effectively. This risk identification is vital to the University's risk management procedures. Areas of risk that have been identified by WUSA, due to the accumulation of a number of related advocacy cases, include discriminatory practices, instances of harassment (both of which have significant legal implications), transport concerns, campus safety problems and OH&S concerns.

In spite of the critical role that the Advocacy and Research officer holds, the officer's ability to provide best practice service is significantly eroded through the current funding provided which restricts the position to 0.5 full-time. Consequently, sufficient funding does not exist to enable the officer to attend sector-wide training opportunities (including amendments to ESOS Act, DI&C regulatory changes).

In practise, the effect of the current funding arrangements limit the officer's ability to engage in sector-wide training and research of changes to government and university policy. The ramifications impact directly on the quality of service provision to students.

### 3.2.1.1 Advocacy caseload – a summary

The casework service has held since the commencement of Autumn session 2007 a total of 54 face-to-face advocacy cases and handled 108 telephone enquiries and referrals at YTD 22/6/07.

In addition to this volume of cases handled, the Advocacy Officer attended a total of 24 meetings with university management personnel and sub-deans for the purposes of negotiating resolution to cases; and for other related policy discussions.

To broadly summarise the areas in which the advocacy service was utilised in face-to-face meetings:

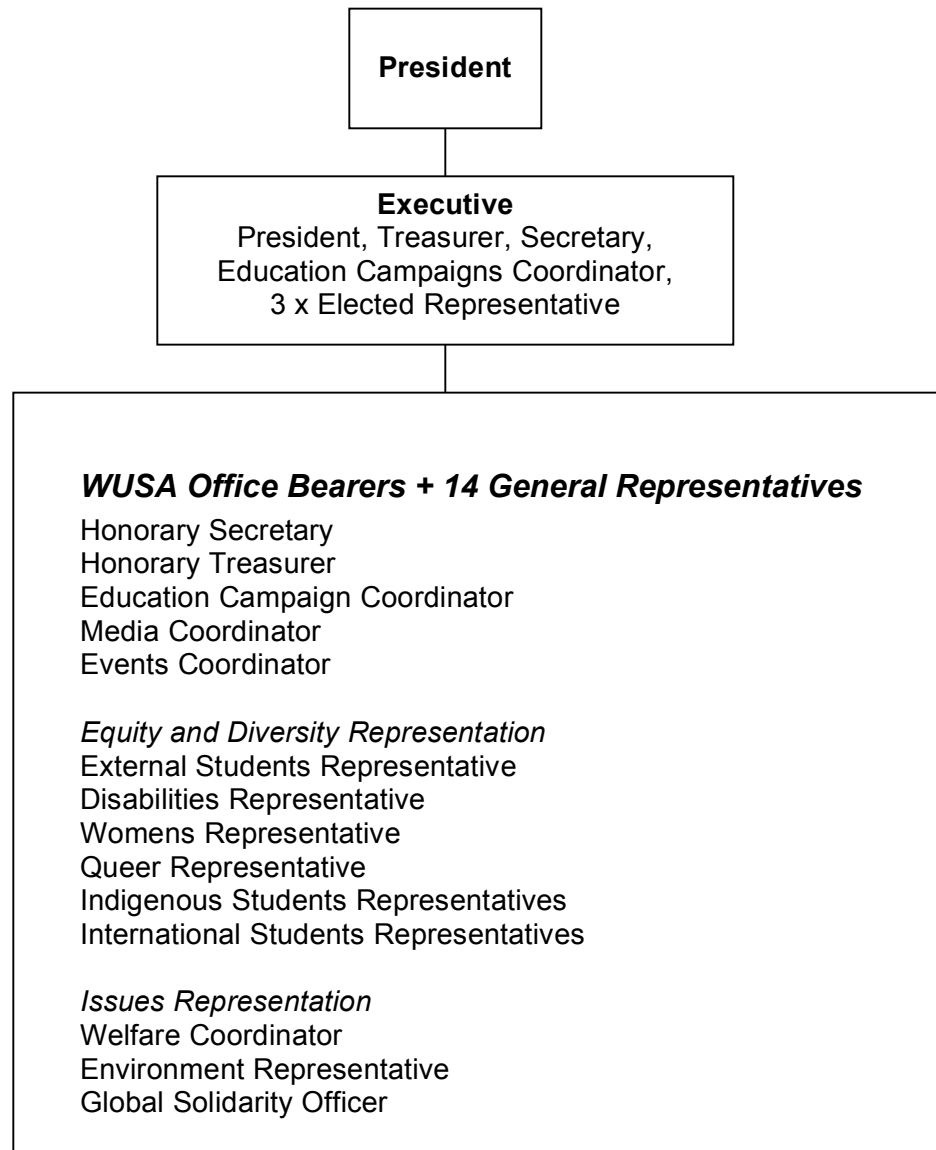
<b>Volume</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Hours</b>
15	Tenancy disputes/advice	42
7	Academic grievances	16
12	UoW EED issues	22
7	Enrolment/Administration	11
4	Legal	12
3	Centrelink & other government agencies	9
6	Immigration	5

External contacts: As part of the outreach and welfare component of the students' association's advocacy service, there consist a range of contact with governmental agencies and departments to expand the qualitative dimension of service provision.

Specifically, the advocacy officer sought clarification from a number of sector bodies and ministerial departments including DEST, DI&C, Minister for Education federal and state, local State MPs and Federal Members of parliament.

### 3.3 Representation

#### 3.3.1 Current WUSA Representative Structure



The current WUSA structure represents the overall student body through General Representatives, and has additional specific equity and diversity and interest group representation.

Equity and Diversity representation is very important for students within those groups, and also for the University's quality assurance and equity practices. WUSA plays an integral role in developing a campus that supports equal access to education. Our goal is to make UOW a safe, friendly and accessible learning environment for all students.

For example, International students make up 25% of UOW revenue and WUSA's International Representative is an important liaison officer to ensure that International

students are sufficiently represented and satisfied with their educational experience at UOW. This helps the University to maintain their standards and reputation abroad.

#### 3.4.2 WUSA Representation within UOW Structure

Currently WUSA has positions on the following UOW Committees:

- Student Support for Learning Subcommittee
- Student Equity and Diversity Committee
- Oweek Working Group
- Student Charter Working Group
- University Education Committee
- Academic and Non-Academic Misconduct Committee

WUSA believes that there should be a more proportionate representation of students on UOW committees to increase student consultation.

#### 3.4.3 Electoral Turnout

The Association's Representatives are elected from a body of 14 000 undergraduate students.

Participation in campus-wide elections remains consistent across each campus-body. Electoral participation by enrolled students in the sample period 2004-2006 demonstrate consistent voter turnout across the major campus bodies.

The Undergraduate Students' Association expects this trend to continue and highlights that there exists a paucity of evidence to rebut any notion that electoral participation reflects the legitimacy of the organisation or the right of the organisation to exist and provide its range of services.

The electoral turnout at UOW for student representative elections is similar to other Universities across the state due to the voluntary nature of elections. Also, the visibility of the election of WUSA should be noted. The elections of WUSA representatives are very visible to the study body, compared to the other elections that occur on campus.

WUSA in the past has approached the University to include changes such as creating a designated polling area for students, as there are many complaints that there is limited access on campus to carry out the online vote.

### 3.4.3.2 Snapshot of Cross Campus Electoral Participation

Year	Group	Total Votes
<b>2006</b>	Wollongong Undergraduate Students' Association (WUSA)	446
	Wollongong University Postgraduate Association (WUPA)	139
	UniCentre Board of Directors	713
	Academic Senate	na
<b>2005</b>	Wollongong Undergraduate Students' Association (WUSA)	507
	Wollongong University Postgraduate Association (WUPA)	321
	UniCentre Board of Directors	323
	University Council	630
<b>2004</b>	Wollongong Undergraduate Students' Association (WUSA)	710
	Wollongong University Postgraduate Association (WUPA)	167
	UniCentre Board of Directors	641

### 3.4.4 Online Feedback as of June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007

WUSA provides avenues for students to raise concerns with their experience at University, and provides the space and resources required for elected Council members to lobby on behalf of all students in the areas of most concern for students.

This table indicates a sample of concerns students have with UOW. The sample when students joined WUSA online and answered 'what issues concern you about the University?'

Sample of 143 students

- 12.6% Parking
- 7.6% Prices
- 7.6% Class Size/Length/quality
- 7.6% Uni Culture/Community
- 7.6% students concern with library and study space
- 7.0% Uni Fees
- 6.3% Independent Student Voice
- 4.9% Commercialisation of UOW
- 4.9% Collectives interest groups lose support
- 4.9% Transport
- 4.2% Computers and Photocopiers
- 3.5% VSU
- 2.8% Government funding, student rights and textbook prices

## ***4. Financial Viability***

### **4.1 Reduction in Expenses since 2005**

The Association has undergone intense restructuring since 2005, which has left the current Association with a bare minimum structure. We believe this restructure strikes the right balance between providing quality services and organisational requirements.

The Association is still undergoing significant structural and cultural changes to ensure that the interests of all students are continue to be represented. Below is a breakdown of the administrative costs essential to the maintenance of the office and the continued provision of the Association's Core Services.

#### **4.1.2 Administrative Salary**

The Association currently employs an Administration Officer at a fractional 0.75 position. The Administration Officer is the initial contact for the students and provides direction and guidance to general student enquiries.

The Administration Officer provides administrative and general support in the day-to-day operations of the Association including answering the phone, banking, arranging payment of all invoices received by WUSA, data entry and reconciliation for all relevant accounting including BAS, IAS, GST.

Further, the Office Administrator is responsible for ensuring that financial statements, monthly accounts, bank reconciliations, balance sheets and profit and loss sheets are in order.

The Administration Officer also liaises with Uni Finance and Trustee's of the Association to ensure the accountability and transparency of WUSA accounts.

The position is currently funded by WUSA on a permanent basis. The position is funded at 25 hours per week – at an annual salary package of \$46,025 pro rata (level 6/7) of the relevant State award.

Salary	\$32,875
Superannuation	\$2,959
Leave Loading	\$441
<b>Total Salary package</b>	<b>\$36,275</b>

#### **4.1.3 Research and Advocacy Officer Salary**

The Association currently employs 1 Advocacy / Research Officer to manage the caseload of academic and non-academic grievances and support services. The service is available to all enrolled undergraduate students free of charge.

The position is currently funded through a special purpose grant from the office of the Vice Principal (Administration) on a limited 12 month period which will expire in February 2008. The position is funded at a 0.5 part-time basis – equivalent to 17.5 hours per week – at an annual salary package of \$49,000 pro rata (level 6/7) of the relevant State award.

## 4.2 Meeting Core Services (Minimum Budget)

Taking into consideration the core services, fixed and variable costs, WUSA can operate on a budget of \$140 000.

The Association has made a concerted effort to target areas of its budget where reductions can be made. In the Minimum Cost Budget attached it has been noted where costs are fixed or variable and suggestions where the University could takeover services such as use of IT infrastructure, cleaning, and security.

It was designed with the pretence that the 2007 grants for funding will also be approved for 2008.

With minimal income streams the continuation of WUSA under a minimum cost budget without University support would be 3 years. Precise figures can be seen the in the Minimum Cost Budget attachment.

<b>Budget 2007</b>	Surplus/Deficit	\$407 578
<b>Minimum Cost</b>		\$140 000
<b>Continuance</b>	WUSA	2.9 years
	WUSA with UOW Support	6.3 years

## 4.3 Governance/Financial Accountability & Transparency Responsibilities

### 4.3.1 Checks and Balances

All WUSA monies are released with the approval of WUSA, Michael Daly & Co (trustees) and UOW.

The role of Michael Daly & Co is to ensure that funds distributed by WUSA Council are only to carry out the objectives of the WUSA constitution that are in the interests and welfare of UOW students.

Currently there are 5 signatories on the WUSA bank account. They include:

- WUSA President
- WUSA Treasurer
- WUSA Office Administrator
- Trustees
- UOW

There must be signatures from WUSA, trustees and UOW for there to be a release of funds for all expenditures.

This is a very cumbersome process with the cycle for one batch of invoices taking up to 10 days to 2 weeks. WUSA has not direct online abilities, no EFTPOS, and can only issues cheques using the process explained above. There have been discussions with UOW Finance Department to remove UOW as signatures considering that the Trustees fulfil the role of checks and balances.

#### 4.3.2 Audit

WUSA has currently employed the services of KPMG to audit WUSA from 2004 to present. This is expected to be completed by June 29<sup>th</sup> 2007.

### **4.4 Revenue Streams**

#### 4.4.1 Membership Drive

Throughout Autumn session, WUSA has been engaging in a strategic membership campaign, involving the development and implementation of a marketing and recruitment strategy.

A significant structural shift in Association's membership program witnessed the membership fee being removed during Autumn Session 2007 and the implementation of an online subscription system.

Significantly, membership is now open to all currently enrolled undergraduate students for free. The Association has aggressively marketed membership options and services available to all enrolled students.

Additional initiatives included:

- Direct mailout to all enrolled students at the Wollongong campus
- Creation of A4 DL brochures advertising services, mission statement of Association
- Implementation of Content Management System (CMS) website and revamp Unimovies advertising
- SOLS mail to all students promoting advocacy, legal, tenancy and representative services
- Competitions

#### 4.4.2 Supporters Membership

The Association has also developed a *Supporters Membership* package, currently valued at \$25 per annum.

The *Supporters Membership* package has been radically enhanced to add value beyond membership benefits of cheaper photocopying and facsimile services. Initiatives to value-add to this package include:

- Free WUSA t-shirt
- Free WUSA calico bag
- Tertangala set aside
- Recognition on the WUSA website
- 5c photocopying down from 7c
- 50% off faxing

Additional partnerships and services are being investigated to enhance the student experience. A complete package of benefits for students who subscribe to the *Supporters Membership* package will be finalised for promotion in time for Spring Session 2007 enrolments.

#### 4.4.3 Funding Initiatives

The Association is committed to increasing its engagement with community, non-government and government organisations to raise revenues for its programs, as well as seeking innovative ways to strengthen partnerships between the Association and the community.

For many programs on campus the Association will be seeking project grants, which are widely available in the community and government sector, and has begun research on ways in which it can facilitate student applications to these programs.

The Association is also open to the option of funding from UOW with key performance indicators and tied funding. The Association has previously received \$2000 for Oweek and \$25 000 for Advocacy and Research Officer. However, the Association believes there are more areas of value where UOW should consider investing into WUSA.

## ***5. Australian Higher Education Sector Responses***

With the introduction of VSU across campuses around Australia, evidence shows that many universities have sought to ensure the continued existence of their student representative bodies. Unfortunately, some universities have chosen not to recognise the fundamental importance of the students' associations and the crucial services they provide.

### **University of Sydney**

The University of Sydney, with the strident support of the Vice Chancellor Professor Gavin Brown, has committed to a financial services agreement with the student organisations. The level of support is in excess of \$1.5 million dollars over a three-year period.

### **University of New South Wales**

The University of New South Wales in mid-2005 contracted a consultant to determine the needs of the University. The consultant recommended a merger of the student organisations. The University then retained a mediator to mediate the merger process. The students organisations have now reached agreement on a model for the new 'super student organisation' and the model has recently been audited by a consultancy firm to determine its viability.

### **Melbourne University**

Melbourne University has finalised its funding agreements with the student organisations. The University contracted a consultant in a similar manner to UNSW. The funding arrangements for 2007 were finalised in 2006. They are currently in the process of negotiating 2008 budgets.

### **Australian National University**

Under the direct supervision of Vice Chancellor Professor Ian Chubb, ANU has guaranteed funding to the several student organisations and service providers under a VSU transition services agreement. Central to ANU's support of the student organisations was a commitment by Ian Chubb to ensuring universal membership and the concomitant support structures, representation, advocacy and casework. The services agreement and commitment from ANU constitutes 94 per cent of total funding for core permissible activities\*.

### **University of New England**

The student associations were wound up and dissolved at the beginning of 2007 due to no financial commitment from the university. Representation, advocacy, cultural and political activities have also been terminated. The elected student representatives are an advisory committee to Services UNE Ltd.

### **Charles Sturt University**

The University Administration undertook significant consultancy investigations to review the impact of the decline of services provided by the student representative body. As a result the SRC has received funding and support from the CSU to restructure.

*\*Core permissible activities are defined as advocacy, representation, casework, administrative and staffing costs. Funding grants are limited to these activities – and specifically exclude financial membership to national student organisations such as National Union of Students (NUS) or the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations (CAPA).*

## **7. Heading into 2008**

### **7.1 Strategies Initiated in 2007 ‘It’s all about You’**

A significant re-think and internal reorganisation in March 2007 has led to a radical overhaul of the Association’s strategic direction and associated initiatives. WUSA has embarked on a strategic marketing campaign since the middle of Autumn session 2007.

To summarise these initiatives, the students’ association has sought to engage the campus community by developing a range of promotional materials and advertising opportunities through Student Central, Unimovies, SOLS mail, posters and other distributed materials.

Additionally, the association improved its online membership subscription to facilitate easier registration. We anticipate that combined strategies of developing membership mailing lists and expanded promotional and prize give away opportunities will continue to increase membership. As of 20 June 2007, membership is at 842 members.

### **7.2 Implementations for 2008**

The Association wishes to work alongside the University to develop a generic action plan to maintain and increase the visibility of WUSA to new and returning students each year.

Dialogue with the Uni as to how to better integrate WUSA into the UOW Experience is in the interest of both students and the University, such as in:

- involvement in Oweek committee
- Student Central advertising
- speech nights
- WUSA advertising and information in UOW promotional material for course subjects and various other handbooks
- events on campus

### **7.3 Commitment from the Students' Association**

The Students' Association (WUSA) recognises that any commitment made by the University must be reciprocated in some form. The following undertakings by the Association are suggested to ensure that the benefits of a negotiated service level agreement are qualitative and quantifiable.

The Students' Association will commit to:

1. Provide universal access to students for casework and advocacy services.
2. Provide effective universal representation and research for and relating to all students on all University matters.
3. Develop a three-year strategic plan detailing how the Students' Association complements the University's mission statement and policies.
4. Utilise University services wherever possible such as printing and IT support so that a maximum level of funds stay within the University.
5. Continue the present course of internal restructure and review of operations to reduce expenditure and increase alternative revenue streams.

## 8. Recommendations

1. That the University facilitate via SOLS Affiliates link (similar to that offered to both Unicentre and URAC), free universal membership to all students with opt-out option for the commencement of 2008 Autumn session enrolments and that the University agree to provide relevant member information.
2. Funding of Advocacy & Research Officer position increased to enable employment of full-time position at relevant State award.
3. That the University Council agree to develop a three-year memorandum of understanding with the students' association that will *inter alia*:
  - i. Commit the university to financial support
  - ii. Commit to the provision of office space allocation and IT support and connection
  - iii. Provision of cleaning services
  - iv. Provision of relevant insurances
4. University recognises the inherent need and existence of an independent student welfare officer to undertake advocacy services on behalf of students.
5. University Council recognise the legitimacy of the existing students' associations.
6. That the University Council resolve to uphold the right of the students' associations to self-determination. Self-determination underpins the students' associations primary objective to provide independent, autonomous representation and advocacy to all students enrolled at the university.
7. Due to the upcoming AUQA report that the University finalises through open communication in a professional manner with WUSA the future stability of student representation and services provided by the student representative bodies. (2006 AUQA report 1.2.4).