
UBSS Sydney Campus Group (SCG) Membership

The current membership of the SCG is 6 members (as at *January 2023*) –

[Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley](#) – Chair

[Associate Professor Jotsana Roopram](#) - Secretary

[Associate Professor Wayne Smithson](#)

[Associate Professor Richard Xi](#)

[Assistant Professor Natasha Jacques](#)

[Karishma Sharma](#)

A profile on each member is provided -

CHAIR



EMERITUS PROFESSOR GREG WHATELEY

DipT., B.Ed., B.Ed(Mus)., GradDipEdAdmin.,M.Ed(Mus).,Prof.D.,CertIVTAE. FAIM

Emeritus Professor Whateley completed a *Diploma of Teaching* (with majors in Music and Psychology), a *Bachelor of Education* (Curriculum Design and Development), a *Bachelor of Music Education* (with a music education focus), a *Graduate Diploma in Educational Administration* (with a focus on Organisational Behaviour), a *Master of Education* (Assessment and Evaluation) and a *Doctorate* in Virtual Pedagogy. Throughout his teaching career he has maintained a keen interest in how and why people learn.

Dr Whateley began his teaching career (1975 – 1988) in the area of music and arts education at both primary and secondary level. He has taught at every level of formal education (K – PhD) and has either, taught and/or researched, in four States and five Countries.

He commenced his work in the tertiary sector at the *University of Tasmania* in Hobart (1989-90) as a Lecturer in Music Education. He moved to *Griffith University* on the Gold Coast (1991-1999) as a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Music Education. He served as Head of School - Arts and during that time managed the Film and Television Music postgraduate awards at the University and the *Queensland Conservatorium of Music* where he also served as Deputy Dean (External Relations). He became Associate Professor and Director of the *Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music* (2000-2003) where he co-founded (with Ian Bofinger) Australia's first 'Virtual Conservatorium'. He also held the position of Head of School - Arts and Manager, Business Initiatives in the Faculty of Education and Creative Arts.

He took the position of General Manager and Professorial Head of School at the *Australian Institute of Music* (2004 – mid 2005). He also held the position of Senior Visiting Fellow at the College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales (2006 - 2008) and Director of Education and Quality at the National Centre for Language Training (an International Centre of Excellence at the University of New South Wales) from mid 2005 to end 2008. Greg held the position of Senior Visiting Fellow at Wesley Institute (2005- 2011) where he chaired the Academic Board and managed the Master of Music program (Arts Management strand). In 2008 Greg was appointed Principal of the *Australian International Conservatorium of Music*. He was also Consulting Chair of Arts Management at the Sydney Opera House in association with the Australian Institute of Music. In 2011, Greg accepted the post of Deputy Dean at *UWS College, University of Western Sydney* and later became the Dean of *The College* (Western Sydney University). For seven+ years Greg was the Chair of the Academic Board at the *Australian Institute of Music (AIM)*. Greg's teaching areas include Teaching Pedagogy, Human Behaviour, Organisational Leadership, Organisational Behaviour, Critical Management, Qualitative Research Methodology and Music History & Form.

Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley is currently **Consulting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Group Colleges Australia** researching and writing in the areas of Quality Management and eQuality. Greg retired from Teaching Research, Management and Leadership in October 2019. He is author of more than 320 external publications and advises in the areas of accreditation, quality assurance, government reporting, eLearning, mLearning, bLearning and Hybrid teaching and learning.

He is currently a Member of the Editorial Board for the *International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change*; a Reviewer for the *British Educational Research Journal*; a Reviewer for *IGI Global*; Co-Editor of the *GCA Publication Series*; Chair of the Board of Directors, *Australian Academy of Music and Performing Arts*, Chair of the Academic Board of *Stanfort Academy (Singapore)*; Chair of the Academic Senate of *UBSS*, Chair of the Academic Board of *the Australian Guild of Music Education*, Chair of the Advisory Board, *PAX Institute*, Member of *Elite Education Council*, Director *Group Colleges Australia*, and Chair and President, *Musicum20*. Greg is also a Fellow of the *Australian Institute of Management* and a Fellow of the *Australian College of Research*.

SECRETARY



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JOTSANA ROOPRAM

Dip(Hospitality), DipEd., GradCertBusAdmin., GradCertHEd., M.Ed.

Jotsana has lectured for a number of years in the field of Hospitality Management at higher education institutions in South Africa. During this time, she worked closely with industry associates, developing and preparing students for junior management roles in the hospitality sector and mentoring junior staff for progression into senior roles. In the latter part of her career in South Africa she worked in academic administration and management as Head of Department, managing a faculty of lecturers from diverse fields such as business, hospitality, tourism, sport and journalism. She has a national diploma in hospitality management, certificates in assessment design and development and a moderators' license from the sector training authority of South Africa.

She has a Postgraduate Diploma and a Master of Education, specialising in *Higher Education*. Prior to joining UBSS in 2016, she was the College Operations Manager at Navitas in Sydney.

Jotsana is the **Deputy Dean – Student Experience** at the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor at UBSS. She is a professional member of the Institute of Managers and Leaders. In 2019, she completed a Graduation Certificate in Higher Education Academic Practice at the Higher Education Leadership Institute (HELI) and a Graduate Certificate in Business Administration at UBSS. Jotsana has lectured the subject Team Leadership and Change Management in the Bachelor of Business program at UBSS.

Jotsana's expertise is in developing academic systems, policy implementation in administrative processes and procedures, online examination management and college operations. She chairs the Threshold Standards Audit committee and is Secretary of the GCA Audit and Risk committee.

Her research interests include leadership in higher education, student engagement in online learning, governance and quality assurance in higher education. Jotsana has published articles in the areas of online learning, remote proctoring and the student experience. She is the recipient of the best author award for the best academic article in the UBSS Publication Series July 2021.



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR WAYNE SMITHSON

Wayne has held a number of senior finance positions including Finance Director for a number of national companies over a commercial career extending beyond 40 years. Most notable senior positions that include National Finance Director for *Ernst & Young* and Finance Director for the *Bank of New Zealand* in Australia. While his primary industry focus was in the financial services and insurance sectors, Wayne has experience across many industries including manufacturing, services and logistics.

Wayne has also had significant international experience in the Asia- Pacific region - where as Regional Finance Director for the region for a Swiss based professional services organisation - he was involved in a number of key business acquisitions. Most recently, he has owned and operated a successful Tax and Accounting practice.

As well as holding a Master of Business Administration and an undergraduate degree from *Macquarie University* in accounting, Wayne is a qualified CPA and is a graduate member of the *Australian Institute of Company Directors* and a Fellow of the *Australian Institute of Management*.

In addition to 40 years of commercial experience, Wayne has had an extensive career in teaching at Higher Education level. Wayne began to focus on a teaching in 2008 accepting a sessional lecturer position at *Sydney University* in 2008. In 2010 Wayne turned his attention to Higher Education Teaching as his focus profession and has taught at a number of universities and Colleges including *Western Sydney University*, *Charles Sturt University*, *Federation University* and *Charles Darwin University*.

Wayne has taught at both graduate and undergraduate levels across both Business and Accounting Disciplines, successfully combining a dynamic of theoretical and practical application drawing on his extensive years of commercial experience in particular at Board and Director Level.

Wayne is currently the **Program Director for the Undergraduate programs** at the UBSS Sydney campus, an Associate Professor, a member of the Academic Senate and Chair of the Academic Integrity Committee at UBSS.



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR RICHARD XI

Cert Bus (UNSW), Cert Ec and Bus (Fudan). Dip Acc (SIT), Dip Interp (NSIT), B. Htl Mgt (SIT), Grad Cert Tourism Management (SIT), Grad Cert China Stud (USyd), Grad Cert Bus Admin (UBSS), MA Asian Studies (UNSW)

Richard Xi is the **Senior Post Graduate Coordinator** at the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor at UBSS.

Before Richard relocated to Australia, his professional career commenced at the *Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Tourism* where he gained several years of experience in hotel management, project management as well as staff development and training.

In 1998 he returned to China and was appointed a Senior Business Development Adviser by a *Sino-Holland joint venture in Shanghai* to provide advice to the JV's business development strategy.

Before he joined UBSS, Richard worked at *Western Sydney University (WSU)* and in charge of student activities and events at *WSU the College Westmead Campus*. He was the chief presenter in the Colombo Plan seminar 'China's past, present and future' organized by WSU Law School and a chief presenter in WSU the College's 'Cultural and Language Exchange Program (CLEP)'. Prior to WSU, he worked at *UNSW Global (University of New South Wales)* as a business development coordinator, marketing officer, China project manager in coordinating UNSW Global/UNSW's international business plan and project with China.

He was a cultural adviser and editor to Alan Manly's book 'The Unlikely Entrepreneur' (*Chinese version*), and a cultural adviser to the book 'Doing Business in China' (published by UNSW press).

Richard is Secretary of the Grade Review committee and the Course Advisory committee.



ASSISTANT PROFESSOR NATASHA JACQUES

Natasha completed her Bachelor of Arts degree (Major in Communicative English) in India and worked at HSBC Bank India as a Customer Service Representative, subject matter expert and Supervisor, ensuring a high quality customer experience for HSBC customers across the globe. Her experience in this field led her to the role of Training and Development Specialist, where she specialised in analysing training needs and the effectiveness of training. In this role, she also delivered soft skills and developmental and leadership training to employees within the organisation. Having gained nine years of corporate experience, Natasha moved to Australia to enhance her qualifications and skills in order to pursue a career in a dynamic organisation. Her goal is to utilize her knowledge and abilities in a career that will provide her with opportunities for continuous improvement, learning and growth, to enable her to leverage her full potential.

Natasha has worked as a Student Volunteer at the UBSS Graduation Ceremonies, as a Student Assistant at UBSS during the orientation weeks as well as a Peer Assistant Student Support Representative (PASS) for the Bachelor of Accounting program. Natasha was also a student representative of the Academic Senate and Academic Integrity committee at UBSS. She gained valuable experience with academic processes and practices in the business school and corporate higher education sector that enriched her skills set. Natasha also represented UBSS at the TEQSA conference in Melbourne 2019 where she contributed ideas from a student perspective towards student challenges and Partnership in Education.

Natasha completed an MBA (Accounting) in 2019 at UBSS and is employed as an **Administration Coordinator** in the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor at UBSS. Natasha is also currently a lecturer at UBSS in the Undergraduate programs.

Natasha is a member of the International Managers and Leaders association (MIML), CPA Ambassador and a member of the Research Association of Australia.

Natasha is also Secretary of the Academic Senate and the Threshold Standards Audit committee.



KARISHMA SHARMA

Karishma completed a *Bachelor of Business Administration* and *Bachelor of Laws* in India. She worked as a trainee lawyer in the District Court before coming to Australia. In 2019, she came to Australia to commence her postgraduate award at UBSS – A *Master of Business Administration (Accounting Stream)* which she completed in 2022.

She has worked part time as an Assistant Accountant. She is an associate member of CPA Australia and is employed as a **Post Graduate Administration Assistant** in the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor at UBSS.