OHS Policy Statement

This Policy states the commitment of UNSW to the health, safety and welfare of all people who work or study at this institution. This Policy applies to all staff, students, visitors and contractors of UNSW. It also applies to UNSW staff and students who work at premises other than UNSW campuses.

The University of New South Wales is a leading Australian University with a diverse range of research, teaching programs and centres of excellence covering a multitude of disciplines and research areas. As an internationally recognized organisation the University is represented by a variety of campuses in metropolitan, regional and international locations. UNSW is committed to implementing an effective and integrated OHS management system to achieve its research and teaching objectives.

UNSW will provide a safe and healthy workplace for all staff, students and others through:
- demonstrating strong leadership in setting and achieving its OHS goals;
- identifying and controlling all health and safety hazards and associated risks;
- consulting with its staff and students on decisions that may impact their health and safety;
- integrating OHS risk management principles into all of its operations;
- encouraging a culture of cooperation, initiative and responsibility across the University community to maintain a safe and healthy workplace;
- continually reviewing and improving its Occupational Health and Safety Management System (OHSMS) to eliminate workplace injury and illness.

UNSW will comply with the NSW OHS Act 2000, the OHS Regulation 2001, other legislation and industry standards. UNSW will also meet its license conditions as a self insurer for workers compensation. The University of New South Wales management is responsibility for the planning, provision of resources, consultation, implementation and review of the OHS Management System.

The strategies to implement this policy are:
- No hazardous research, teaching or operational activities will be undertaken unless a risk assessment of the work is completed and the responsible person is satisfied that all foreseeable hazards associated with the work are controlled as far as is reasonably practicable;
- Resources will be provided to control OHS risks commensurate with the level of risk;
- Risks will be eliminated at the design and planning phases (eg. new construction/ refurbishments, design of plant/equipment);
- Risks will be eliminated at the purchasing stages (eg. when introducing new equipment, substances, materials or services) through the process of determining OHS specifications prior to purchase and verification on receipt ;
- Effective consultation will exist at the workplace to ensure that the views of all staff are represented;
- The OHS responsibilities for all levels of staff will be documented and communicated;
- Staff, students and visitors will be provided with information, instruction, training and supervision, relevant to their existing knowledge and skills and identified needs;
- Corrective action will be taken for reported hazards, incidents, inspections, audits etc;
- Senior Management will report on the Key Performance Indicators of their Operational Plans annually to Council;
- OHS audits will be conducted to measure the progress of implementation of the OHSMS across the University.

Approved by  

Vice Chancellor and President on January 1, 2007