ACADEMIC SENATE IN-BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 18 July 2017

Overview

The agenda of matters considered at this meeting is available on the Academic Senate website. The resolutions and minutes of the meeting remain subject to change and will be published on the website following ratification at the next Academic Senate meeting, scheduled for 5 September 2017.

Key agenda items, outcomes and resolutions are highlighted in this brief and are not intended to replace the full minutes.

Matters resolved

Academic Senate passed 21 resolutions at this meeting. Information on outcomes of specific agenda items may be found in this report or within the minutes.

PROGRAMS: NEW AND CHANGES

Program Name Change (Res 17/60)
Academic Senate approved the following program name changes from 1 January 2018:

- Master of Future Journalism to become the Master of Media; and
- Master of Creative Industries with the Master of Future Journalism to become the Master of Creative Industries with the degree of the Master of Media.

Programs to be disestablished (Res 17/61)
The deletion of the Master of Future Journalism and the Master of Creative Industries with the Master of Future Journalism was approved from 31 December 2017.

Academic Senate endorsed the proposed 2019 Academic Program Procedures and Timeline for Handbook Deadlines.

Proposal for a Simplification of General Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees (Res 17/63)
Academic Senate approved all undergraduate general requirements to include the following requirements for all undergraduate awards with effect from 1 January 2018:

- Minimum number of credit points for the degree
- Maximum number of credit points at 100 level
- Minimum number of credit points at 300 level or above
- Minimum number of credit points at xxx level or above designated xxxx (if applicable)
- Completion of a qualifying major for the Bachelor of xxxx (if applicable)
- Completion of a designated People unit
- Completion of a designated Planet unit
- Completion of a designated PACE unit
- Completion of other specific minimum requirements as set out below."

Planet Requirements for Macquarie OUA Undergraduate degrees (Res 17/64)
Academic Senate approved that current and new students enrolled in Macquarie OUA programs be exempt from completing Planet unit requirements for a period until 31 December 2018.

Exemption from Assessment Policy: Publication of Examination Papers (Res 17/65)
An exemption from the requirement of Schedule 4 of the Assessment Policy to publish final examination papers on the University Library website was approved for the following units:

- SPH308, The Science of Speech Production; and
- SPH399, The Acoustics of Speech.

Bachelor of Philosophy/Master of Research: AQF Compliance (Res 17/67)
Academic Senate approved that the Master of Research meets the threshold standards for an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) level 9 qualification, and that the Bachelor of Philosophy issued as an exit qualification meets the threshold standards for an AQF level 8 qualification.
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Renaming of Vice-Chancellor Commendations (Res 17/72)
Academic Senate approved:

- the disestablishment of the Vice Chancellors Commendation for Academic Excellence effective 14 December 2017;
- the establishment of a new Commendation for Academic Excellence (subject to submission of a new award title by the working group), effective 14 December 2017; and
- the recommended eligibility criteria for the new Commendation for Academic Excellence.

Academic Integrity Steering Group (Res 17/74)
Academic Senate approved the review of the Academic Honesty Policy.

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY

Academic Senate Projects (Res 17/74, Res 17/75, Res 17/76 and Res 17/77)
Progress reports were received for:

- Developing a Model for Shared Responsibility of Academic Governance (report circulated but not discussed);
- Partnership with and Recognition of Student Members;
- Establishing Principles of Program Review;
- Purpose and Composition of Academic Senate (report circulated but not discussed); and
- Academic Senate Projects in general.

Academic Senate Committees and Subcommittees Terms of Reference and Membership (Res 17/66, Res 17/68, Res 17/69 and Res 17/70)
Academic Senate approved amendments to the Terms of Reference and membership of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, the Thesis Examination Subcommittee and the Macquarie University College (MUIC) Subcommittee, and the disestablishment of the Learning Technologies and Spaces Subcommittee, with immediate effect.

Biostatistics Collaboration of Australia (Res 17/71)
The University’s continued participation in the Biostatistics Collaboration of Australia was endorsed by Academic Senate.

Emeritus Professor nomination (Res 17/73)
Academic Senate endorsed the nomination of Professor John Simons for the title of Emeritus Professor and will recommend the University Council approve the nomination.

OTHER MATTERS

- Academic Senate noted the Vice-Chancellor’s oral update, including advice on the impending release of survey data from the Respect. Now. Always campaign, recent senior staff appointments, changes to the 457 Visa, a project on exploring the nature and size of the University, and recent research grant successes;
- A presentation was received from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) on the International Engagement Strategy (Res 17/78).

Committees of Academic Senate and Faculty Boards

Committees of Academic Senate
Academic Senate noted the reports of the meetings held by the Academic Standards and Quality Committee, the Research and Research Training Committee and the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee throughout June 2017.

Faculty Boards
Academic Senate noted the reports of the meetings held by the Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Board and the Faculty of Human Sciences Faculty Board in April and May 2017.

University Hearing Committee
Academic Senate noted the summary report of the University Hearing Committee meeting held in June 2017.