ACADEMIC SENATE IN-BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 19 October 2021.

Overview

The agenda of matters considered at this meeting is available from this folder in Truth. The resolutions and minutes of the meeting remain subject to change and will also be published in Truth following ratification at the next Academic Senate meeting, scheduled for 30 November 2021.

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

COURSES: NEW AND CHANGES

New Course Proposal: Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science (ASQC) (Res AS21/91)
Academic Senate approved the establishment of the Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science by the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences commencing 2023. The degree will replace the existing major in Human Movement in the Bachelor of Health Sciences.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Course of Study Reaccreditation Policy: Amendment (Res AS21/90)
Academic Senate approved minor amendments to the Course of Study Reaccreditation Policy to clarify the responsibilities of the Executive Group and Academic Senate.

Curriculum Lifecycle Policy Suite: Thematic Review Policy (ASQC) (Res AS21/89)
Academic Senate noted the development of a further policy in the Curriculum Lifecycle Policy suite, the Thematic Review Policy. Further amendments to some clauses were requested and the policy will be finalised via circular resolution.

Review and Development of Admissions, Transfers, Exit Qualifications and Academic Timelines Policies (Res AS21/98)
Academic Senate noted the planned review and development of Admissions, Transfers, Exit Qualification and Academic Timelines Policies.

Review of Academic Integrity Policy (Res AS21/99)
Members received an update on the review of the Academic Integrity Policy.

Student Discipline Procedure Review: Progress Report (Res AS21/104)
Members received a report on the review of the Student Discipline Procedure.

Policies Under Review/Development (Res AS21/94)
Academic Senate noted a list of policies under review/development as of 12 October 2021.

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY

Revision to the Thesis Examination Subcommittee Terms of Reference (Res AS21/92)
Academic Senate approved amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Thesis Examination Subcommittee to rename it as the Research Degree Subcommittee and expand the scope of the subcommittee to include quality assurance and cohort monitoring.

2022 Academic Senate Annual Agenda Plan and Projects: Planning (Res AS21/95)
Members noted a report on planning for the 2022 Annual agenda plan and projects.

2021 Academic Senate Project: Update (Res AS21/96)
Members noted an update report on the projects being undertaken by Academic Senate in 2021.
OTHER MATTERS

- The Vice-Chancellor spoke to members on matters including the return of staff and students to campus, the return of international students to NSW, the development of the Institute of Advanced Technology in collaboration with Meadowbank TAFE and some proposed Commonwealth policy changes;
- The Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) provided a report on matters in her portfolio, including a discussion on the publication of W grades on external student transcripts;
- Members noted an update from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching) regarding arrangements and support for offshore students taking online examinations (Res AS21/87);
- The Chair provided an update on COVID-19 responses at other Australian universities (Res AS21/88);
- A report on cotutelle arrangements was noted by members, who also approved a Joint PhD proposal with the University of Southern Denmark and ratified five cotutelle agreements entered into since the previous meeting of Academic Senate (Res AS21/93);
- The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Performance) spoke to Academic Senate on Research Quality Assurance at the University (Res AS21/97);
- Members noted that the Academic Senate Rules are about to be reviewed including information on matters to be included in the review (Res AS21/100);
- Academic Senate received a report from the new Chair of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee including an update on the review of the Academic Appeals Policy (Res AS21/103);
- Members ratified executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Senate to approve the award of the Macquarie University Award for Academic Excellence to coursework graduands and the MUIC Award for Academic Excellence to MUIC graduands (Res AS21/101);
- Academic Senate ratified a number of savings cases approved under executive action by the Chair of Academic Senate (Res AS21/102);
- Members noted that the 2022 Calendar of meeting dates had been approved by Council (Res AS21/105); and
- Academic Senate noted the election of Associate Professor Agnes Bosanquet to fill a casual vacancy for the non-faculty academic staff member position on Academic Senate (Res AS21/106).

COMMITTEES OF ACADEMIC SENATE AND FACULTY BOARDS

Committees of Academic Senate

Academic Senate noted the reports and unconfirmed minutes of the meetings of the Academic Senate Standing Committee, Academic Standards and Quality Committee, Research and Research Training Committee and the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee held in September and October 2021.

Faculty Boards

Academic Senate noted the reports and unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Macquarie Business School Faculty Board held in September 2021 and the Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board meeting held in October 2021.