ACADEMIC SENATE IN-BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 1 September 2020

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 20 October 2020.

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 14 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

2021 Schedule: Course Review: amendments to the Master of Speech and Language Pathology for approval (Res 20/86)

Academic Senate approved proposed amendments to the Master of Speech and Language Pathology, with effect from 2021.

Amendment to Migration Course Level Savings Report (Res 20/87)

Academic Senate endorsed variations by the Faculty of Arts to manage the migration course mapping for the following 2013 Laws degrees by deeming rather than by a savings case approach:

i. Bachelor of Arts - Media with the degree of Bachelor of Laws
ii. Bachelor of Arts - Psychology with the degree of Bachelor of Laws
iii. Bachelor of Arts with the degree of Bachelor of Laws
iv. Bachelor of Business Administration with the degree of Bachelor of Laws
v. Bachelor of Commerce - Professional Accounting with the degree of Bachelor of Laws
vi. Bachelor of Commerce with the degree of Bachelor of Laws
vii. Bachelor of Environment with the degree of Bachelor of Laws Environmental Management
viii. Bachelor of Laws
ix. Bachelor of Science with the degree of Bachelor of Laws.

Proposals approved by Executive Action (Res 20/93)

Members ratified other course proposals, including proposals related to 2020 and 2021 course schedule changes, which were approved under Executive Action.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

General Coursework Rules: Report from Review of the Requirements for Practical, Clinical and Professional Courses; and Governance Services (Res 20/90)

Academic Senate noted an update from the Working Group on General Coursework Rules: Review of the Requirements for Practical, Clinical and Professional Courses. Members noted that the amended Rules will be presented to Senate’s next meeting for endorsement and recommendation to Council.

Assessment Policy: Report from Working Group (Res 20/91)

Academic Senate noted a report on the review of the Assessment Policy by a working group of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee.

Policies Under Review/Development (Res 20/88)

Academic Senate noted a list of policies under review/development as at 7 August 2020.
**GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY**

**Committee Terms of Reference** (Res 20/84 and Res 20/85)
Academic Senate approved updated terms of reference for the Academic Standards and Quality Committee (ASQC), Research and Research Training Committee (RRTC) and Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (SLTC). Senate also approved the alteration of the terms of membership for members on ASQC and SLTC appointed as nominees of Executive Deans to expire on 30 June 2021.

**Planning 2021 Projects for Academic Senate and its Committees** (Res 20/89)
Members endorsed the process for establishing which projects will be undertaken by Academic Senate and its committees in 2021.

**Managing Quality at Macquarie University** (Res 20/92)
Members noted a report from the Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) on the development of a University-wide Quality Enhancement Framework.

**OTHER MATTERS**

- The Vice-Chancellor reported on a number of matters including Council’s approval of the Freedom of Speech policy, the return to campus of students in Session 2 using blended learning, and the development of the Operational Plan 2020-2024;
- Student members of Academic Senate raised questions on notice regarding the Student Success Support Package and support for HDR students;
- The Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) provided a report on matters in her portfolio, including an update on TEQSA re-accreditation activities and a brief report from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Strategy) on the impact of COVID-19 on the University’s indigenous students;
- Members noted advice on upcoming elections for student and academic staff members (Res 20/94);
- The Chairs of the Faculty Boards presented brief reports on their Faculty’s approach to moderation and ratification of Session 1 results;
- Members ratified executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Senate (Res 20/93) to approve:
  - appointments to the membership of the Academic Standards and Quality Committee, the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee and the Professor Emerita/Emeritus Working Group;
  - the award of the Macquarie University Award for Academic Excellence to coursework and MUIC graduands;
  - the approval of the development of two zero credit point units (e.g. Literacy & Numeracy) to be added to the Teacher Education courses offered at Macquarie University where students need to complete Literacy and Numeracy Tests for Initial Teacher Education Students (LANTITE) requirements, for an interim period until a more satisfactory and consistent approach to managing accreditation and registration requirements across the University is established; and
  - late changes to 2020 and 2021 curriculum.

**COMMITTEES OF ACADEMIC SENATE AND FACULTY BOARDS**

**Committees of Academic Senate**
Academic Senate noted the reports of the meetings of the Academic Senate Standing Committee, the Academic Standards and Quality Committee, the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee and the University Medal Committee held in July and August 2020.

**Faculty Boards**
Academic Senate noted the reports of the Faculty of Arts Faculty Board, Macquarie Business School Faculty Board, Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences Faculty Board and Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board meetings held in July 2020.

**University Discipline Committee**
Academic Senate noted the summary report for University Discipline Committee meetings held in July 2020, including explanatory advice from the Acting Chair of the Committee.