ACADEMIC SENATE IN-BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 25 May 2021.

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 July 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 16 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

Amendment to Courses approved under Executive Action by Chair (Res AS21/44)
Academic Senate ratified amendments to the Bachelor of Professional Practice, Master of Accounting, Master of Business Administration and Master of Professional Accounting approved under Executive Action by the Chair.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Changes to Special Consideration and Withdrawal due to COVID-19 Pandemic (Res AS21/36)
Members approved temporary amendments to the Special Consideration Procedure and associated Supporting Evidence Schedule to allow students impacted by COVID-19 up to seven working days for submission of a Special Consideration request during standard teaching sessions (S1 and S2), and to submit a statement of fact as supporting evidence for such a request. Academic Senate also endorsed similar amendments to the Withdrawal Without Penalty (Coursework) Procedure for approval by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

Research Data Management Policy, Procedure and Guideline (Res AS21/42)
Academic Senate received and noted a report on the development of the draft Research Data Management Policy, Procedure and Guideline including the staged implementation of this policy and associated training and support for staff and students.

Enrolment Policy, Leave of Absence and Suspension of Study and Withdrawal Procedures (Res AS21/43)
Members noted that further revisions would be made to these documents in response to feedback.

Policies Under Review/Development (Res AS21/37)
Academic Senate noted a list of policies under review/development as at 19 May 2021.

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY

Revised Terms of Reference for the Academic Standards and Quality Committee (ASQC) and the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (SLTC) (Res AS21/33)
Members approved changes to the Terms of Reference for the ASQC and SLTC to remove the position of Director of PACE from the membership of both committees.

Post-Implementation Review of Shared Academic Governance: Revised Project Overview (Res AS21/38)
Academic Senate endorsed revisions to the project overview for the post-implementation review of Shared Academic Governance to allow the collection of further data.
Post-Implementation Review of Support and Recognition for Students involved in Academic Governance (Res AS21/39)
An update was received on the post-implementation review of Support and Recognition for Students involved in Academic Governance which is being undertaken by two previous student members of Senate.

2021 Academic Senate Project: Update (Res AS21/40)
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 recent Federal budget, discussions on the return of international students, and plans for Institutes of Advanced Technology in NSW (joint TAFE and universities);
• The Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) provided a report on matters in her portfolio, including an update on TEQSA re-accreditation activities and activities under the Coursework Suite and Delivery pillar of the Operating Plan;
• Members noted advice from the Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and the Pro Vice-Chancellor (HDR Training and Partnerships) in response to questions raised at the previous meeting on the impact of staff losses on HDR candidates (Res AS21/32);
• A report on cotutelle arrangements was noted by members, who also ratified five agreements entered into since the beginning of 2021 (Res AS21/34);
• Academic Senate endorsed two nominations for the title of Professor Emeritus/Emerita for recommendation to Council (Res AS21/35);
• The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Programs and Pathways) gave a presentation on the development of the Curriculum Management Framework and Course Reaccreditation Policy (Res AS21/27);
• Members ratified executive action taken by the Chair of Academic Senate (Res AS21/44) to approve the appointment of Dr Humphreys to the Academic Standards and Quality Committee as a co-opted member, the award of Macquarie University Award and the MUIC Award for Academic Excellence, and changes to admission requirements for the Undergraduate Certificate of Engineering; and
• Academic Senate ratified a number of savings cases approved under executive action by the Chair of Academic Senate (Res AS21/45).

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 Research and Research Training Committee and the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee held in April and May 2021.

Faculty Boards
Academic Senate noted the reports of the Faculty of Arts Faculty Board, the Macquarie Business School Faculty Board, the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences Faculty Board and the Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board meetings held in March and April 2021.

Student Discipline Matters
Academic Senate noted a report on Student Discipline Matters considered in February, March and April by the University Discipline Committee and faculty-level Discipline Committees.