



ACADEMIC SENATE IN BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 29 September 2026.

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 24 November 2026.

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

DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

Academic Senate passed 26 resolutions at this meeting. Information on outcomes of specific agenda items may be found in this report or within the minutes.

Curriculum: Accreditations and Amendments

Curriculum Proposals (Res AS26/85, AS26/86, AS26/87 and AS26/88)

Academic Senate approved proposals to accredit new courses from the Faculty of Arts (Graduate Certificate of Security Management) and Faculty of Science and Engineering (Graduate Diploma of Environment and Conservation and the Graduate Certificate of Environment and Conservation), and approved proposals to discontinue courses from the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, the Faculty of Science and Engineering and the Macquarie University College. Senate noted that many of the course discontinuation proposals had been on hold pending clarification of the University's obligations to report on these proposals to the Commonwealth under its funding agreement. This clarification involved an amendment to the Course of Study Discontinuation Policy which was approved by the Academic Senate Standing Committee in August via circular resolution.

Course Reaccreditation (Res AS26/89)

Academic Senate approved the reaccreditation of the Master of Applied Linguistics and TESOL, the Graduate Diploma of Applied Linguistics and TESOL and the Graduate Certificate of TESOL for seven years without conditions as recommended by the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences.

Policies and Procedures

Draft Racism, Discrimination, Bullying and Other Unacceptable Behaviours Policy (Res AS26/94)

The Vice-Chancellor presented a paper on this draft Policy and led a discussion on some of the issues involved, noting the policy is required under Federal legislation.

Review of the Professor Emerita Emeritus Policy and Procedure (Res AS26/82)

Academic Senate endorsed and recommended to Council amendments to the Professor Emerita Emeritus Policy, Procedure, Criteria and nomination form with effect upon publication.

University Medal Policy: Proposed Amendment (Res AS26/83)

Academic Senate approved the proposed amendment to clause 4 (b) of the University Medal Policy for effect upon publication.

Proposal to exempt the Master of Research and Master of Philosophy from current Coursework Lifecycle policies (Res AS26/84)

Academic Senate approved amendments to the Course of Study Accreditation Policy, the Course of Study Discontinuation Policy, the Course of Study Monitoring and Review Policy, the Course of Study Reaccreditation Policy and the Course of Study Revision Policy for effect upon publication.

Policies Under Review/Development (Res AS26/102)

Academic Senate noted a list of policies under review/development as of 23 September 2026.

Governance and Strategy

Students at Academic Risk Report (Res 26/95)

Academic Senate noted the annual report on students at academic risk.

Quality and Standards Review Report: 2026 HESF Domain 2 Learning Environment (Res 26/96)

Academic Senate noted the Quality and Standards Review Report on Domain 2 (Learning Environment) in the Higher Education Standards Framework (HESF) for referral to Council.

Researcher Development Year in Review (Res 26/97)

Academic Senate noted the 2025 Researcher Development Year in Review.

Future Ready Experiential Education Unit (Res 26/98)

Academic Senate noted the design of the Future Ready unit as a University approved experiential education unit under clause 34 of the Curriculum Architecture Policy.

Third Party Arrangements: 2026 Report from the Macquarie Business School (Res 26/99)

Academic Senate noted the report on the delivery of the Master of Professional Accounting with third-party partners.

Support Materials for Student Members (Res 26/100)

Academic Senate noted the Student Mentoring Guideline and Student Member Guide to Raising Issues at Meetings.

2028 Academic Year Plan (Res 26/101)

Academic Senate noted the 2028 Academic Year Plan.

Other Matters

- The Vice-Chancellor reported to Academic Senate on matters including negotiations with the Australian Tertiary Education Commission (ATEC) on the 2027 Mission-based Compact for the University;
- Academic Senate noted an update on items from previous meetings involving the submission of course discontinuation proposals and advice on Federal Government reporting requirements related to these proposals, with the Chair providing advice on how this matter will be resolved (Res AS26/62);
- Academic Senate approved seven Cotutelle arrangements and one Joint PhD arrangement executed since the meeting of Senate on 4 August 2026 and noted advice from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Graduate Research) on the background to the arrangements (Res AS26/90);
- Academic Senate also approved a joint PhD arrangement between the University and the University of Milan (Res AS26/91)
- Academic Senate endorsed the posthumous award of the Juris Doctor to a student for recommendation to Council (Res AS26/92);
- Academic Senate endorsed two nominations for the title of Professor Emerita/Emeritus for recommendation to Council (Res AS26/93);
- Academic Senate ratified decisions made under executive action by the Chair of Academic Senate to award the Macquarie University Award for Academic Excellence to coursework graduands. Senate also noted decisions made by the Chair under her own authority to approve the appointment of members to Academic Senate committees (Res AS26/103); and
- Academic Senate ratified eight cases to waive course requirements approved under executive action by the Chair of Academic Senate (Res AS26/104).

Committees of Academic Senate and Faculty Boards

Committees of Academic Senate

Academic Senate noted the report and unconfirmed minutes of the meetings of the Academic Senate Education Committee, the Academic Senate Research Committee and the University Medal Committee held in August and September 2026 and noted reports of matters dealt with by circular resolution by the Academic Senate Standing Committee in August and September 2026.

Faculty and College Boards

Academic Senate noted the reports and unconfirmed minutes of the meetings 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 held in August 2026.