ACADEMIC SENATE IN-BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 22 March 2022.

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 May 2022.

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

No course proposals were submitted to this meeting.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Unit of Study Monitoring and Grade Ratification Policy: Proposed Amendments (Res AS22/23)
Academic Senate approved amendments to this policy to clarify the process for reviewing results from the coursework components of the Master of Research degree, including the role of the Research Degree Subcommittee.

HDR Supervision Policy and Procedure: Proposed Amendments (Res AS22/24)
Academic Senate approved amendments to this Policy and Procedure to include clear definitions in the Policy, appointment eligibility for Macquarie University Honorary Academics in each supervisory role and minor wording changes to the mandatory training requirements for HDR supervisors.

Review of Academic Appeals Policy and Procedure: Update (Res AS22/31)
Academic Senate noted the update on the review of the Academic Appeals Policy and Procedure. Feedback was provided on the issue of including a definition of procedural fairness.

Policy Update: Academic Progression and Special Consideration Policies and Procedures (Res AS22/32)
Academic Senate noted and discussed the work currently underway to review and update the Academic Progression and Special Consideration Policies and Procedures.

Policies Under Review/Development (Res AS22/28)
Academic Senate noted a list of policies under review/development as of 16 March 2022. The following policies are currently open for comment on the Policy Central Bulletin Board:

- Learning Technologies Policy – open on 21 March 2022

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY

Thematic Review of Inherent Requirements and Fitness to Practice Procedures for Practical, Clinical or Professional Courses (Res AS22/22)
Academic Senate approved a proposal to conduct a thematic review on this issue, noting that the objective of the review is to consider the current approach to the implementation of inherent requirements and fitness to practice procedures within Practical, Clinical or Professional Courses, and to provide recommendations on a consistent strategy for implementation across the institution.
Academic Senate and Senate Committees Procedure (Res AS22/25)
Academic Senate approved the Academic Senate and Senate Committees Procedure to replace the existing Standing Orders of the Academic Senate and the Standing Orders of Committees of the Academic Senate.

Academic Senate Rules: Amendment of Composition of Academic Senate (Res AS22/27)
Academic Senate endorsed proposed amendments to the Academic Senate Rules outlining the composition of Academic Senate. Proposed amendments include the addition of two casual academic staff members as appointed members, the addition of the Chair of the Student Representatives Committee as an ex-officio student member, the addition of the Director of the Macquarie University College as an ex-officio member and the addition of the Dean of Students under the subclause regarding Pro Vice-Chancellors as ex-officio members of Academic Senate.

2022 Projects for Academic Senate and its Committees (Res AS22/29)
Members noted an update on projects to be undertaken by Academic Senate and its committees in 2022.

2021 Academic Senate Annual Agenda Plan: Review of Performance (Res AS22/30)
Members received the final version of the 2021 Academic Senate Annual Agenda Plan including advice on matters completed in 2021 and those rescheduled for 2022.

Student Performance Report (Res AS22/33)
Academic Senate received information on the Student Outcomes Group, the Student Cohort Data Framework for Reporting, a review of benchmarked Quality Indicators of Learning and Teaching (QILT) Student Experience Survey results, a review of benchmarked government-aggregated data relating to attrition, retention and success, and an annual student cohort report on international students for 2021.

OTHER MATTERS

• The Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) provided a report on matters in her portfolio, including MyLearn analytics, the Library Client Satisfaction Survey, 2021 Review of Library Learning and Teaching Support, the Academic Integrity Breach Procedure, complaints resolution, and the review of the Learning Technologies Policy and Micro-credentials Policy;
• Academic Senate ratified two cotutelle agreements entered into since the previous meeting of Academic Senate and approved a proposed Joint PhD Program with Ghent University, Belgium (Res AS22/26);
• Academic Senate ratified savings cases approved under executive action by the Chair of Academic Senate (Res AS22/34); and
• Academic Senate approved the appointment of Shiyani Nanthakumar and Teagan Konig-Hession as postgraduate coursework student members of Academic Senate for a term of membership expiring 30 November 2022 (Res AS22/35).

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, the Academic Standards and Quality Committee, the Research and Research Training Committee and the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee held in March 2022.

Faculty Boards
Academic Senate noted the report and unconfirmed minutes of the meetings of the Faculty of Arts Faculty Board and the Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board held in February 2022.