



ACADEMIC SENATE IN BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 21 November 2023.

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 27 February 2024.

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

Curriculum: Accreditations, Reaccreditations, Amendments and Discontinuations

Curriculum Proposals (Res AS23/131 and Res AS23/132)

Academic Senate accredited a new course from the Faculty of Science and Engineering, the Master of Information Technology, including three new postgraduate specialisations, which will start from Semester 2 2024. Academic Senate also approved a range of curriculum proposals for amendments to courses from the Macquarie Business School.

Bachelor of Philosophy/Master of Research: Restructure (Res AS23/43)

Academic Senate noted advice on work underway to restructure the current Bachelor of Philosophy/Master of Research.

Policies and Procedures

Review of the Higher Degree Research Thesis Preparation, Submission and Examination Policy and Procedure (Res AS23/124)

Academic Senate approved amendments with effect from Quarter 2 2024 to the Higher Degree Research Thesis Preparation, Submission and Examination Policy and Procedure, including the renaming of these to the Graduate Research Thesis Preparation, Submission and Examination Policy and Procedure; amendments to the associated Schedule 1: Graduate Research Appointment of Examiners (formerly Schedule 2) and Schedule 2: Graduate Research Thesis Examination Criteria (formerly Schedule 3) of the Graduate Research Thesis Preparation, Submission and Examination Policy and Procedure; and the expiry of the associated Schedule 1: HDR Thesis by Publication, Schedule 4: HDR Thesis Re-Examination and Schedule 5: Creative Theses of the Higher Degree Research Thesis Preparation, Submission and Examination Policy and Procedure.

Review of the Higher Degree Research iThenticate Procedure (Res AS23/125)

Academic Senate approved amendments to the Higher Degree Research iThenticate Procedure (retitled as the Graduate Research iThenticate Procedure) with immediate effect.

Amendment to Recognition of Prior Learning Policy (Res AS23/126)

Academic Senate approved amendments to clauses 14 and 28 of the Recognition of Prior Learning Policy and consequent amendments to the Schedule of Minimum Requirements with immediate effect.

Course of Study Annual Monitoring and Review Policy: Post-Implementation Review (Res AS23/127)

Academic Senate approved amendments to the Course of Study Annual Monitoring and Review Policy, including the renaming of the Policy as the Course of Study Monitoring and Review Policy, with immediate effect.

Course of Study Reaccreditation Policy: Post-Implementation Review (Res AS23/128)

Academic Senate approved amendments to the Course of Study Reaccreditation Policy, with immediate effect.

Exceptions to Assessment Procedure Clause 117 (Publication of Final Examination Paper) (Res AS23/130)

Academic Senate approved a partial exception from publishing a final examination paper in the Library at the end of each final examination period for the Macquarie University College, allowing the College to publish a final examination paper in the Library once a year for each unit offered in that year, and that this exception be granted until the end of 2026.

Review of Intellectual Property Policy (Res AS23/142)

Academic Senate noted and provided feedback on and support for the draft revised Intellectual Property Policy.

Policies Under Review/Development (Res AS23/135)

Academic Senate also noted a list of policies under review/development as of 14 November 2023.

Governance and Strategy

Student Monitoring Performance Report – Graduate Research Students (Res AS23/139) **and Annual Open Universities Australia (OUA) Report** (Res AS23/140)

Academic Senate noted and discussed the Annual Reports on Graduate Research Student Success and Satisfaction and Open Universities Australia (OUA).

Academic Senate Committees' Terms of Reference: Biennial Review (Res AS23/129)

Academic Senate approved amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Academic Senate Standing Committee, the Academic Standards and Quality Committee, the Research and Research Training Committee, the Research Degree Subcommittee and the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee following a review. Academic Senate also approved a minor change to the Terms of Reference of the University Medal Committee noting a full review would be undertaken as part of the review of the University Medal Policy and Procedure in 2024.

Annual Course Reaccreditation Report (Res AS23/141)

Academic Senate noted the Annual Course Reaccreditation Report.

2024 Academic Senate Annual Agenda Plan (Res AS23/137)

Academic Senate approved the Annual Agenda Plan for 2024.

Diversity and Inclusion: Committee Survey Results (Res AS23/138)

Academic Senate noted the results from the Diversity and Inclusion Survey distributed to committees of Academic Senate.

2023 Projects of Academic Senate and its Committees: End-of-year Update (Res AS23/136)

Academic Senate noted an end-of-year update on 2023 projects for Academic Senate and its committees.

Other Matters

- The Vice-Chancellor reported to Academic Senate on the Australian Universities Accord and related Federal Government actions, the development of a new University strategy and operating plan, efforts to work with the NSW Government, and current enrolment trends for 2024;
- The Dean of Students presented a report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) on matters in the portfolio, including the development of the new Education Strategy, and the new support for students policy requirements being introduced by the Federal government;
- Academic Senate approved two cotutelle agreements and a joint PhD agreement executed since the previous meeting of Senate on 10 October 2023 (Res AS23/133), and approved a new joint PhD agreement with the University of Birmingham (Res AS23/134);
- Academic Senate ratified decisions made under executive action by the Chair of Academic Senate related to the award of the Macquarie University Award for Academic Excellence to coursework graduands and the Macquarie University College Award for Academic Excellence to Macquarie University College graduands (Res AS23/144); and
- Academic Senate ratified savings cases approved under executive action by the Chair of Academic Senate (Res AS23/145).

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 Standards and Quality Committee, the Research and Research Training Committee and the Senate Learning and

Teaching Committee held in October and November 2023, particularly noting the summary of activities in 2023 submitted to the three committees and noted a report of a matter dealt with via circulation resolution by the Academic Senate Standing Committee in October 2023.

Faculty and College Boards

Academic Senate noted the report and unconfirmed minutes of the meetings of the Macquarie Business School Faculty Board and the Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board held in September and October 2023.