ACADEMIC SENATE IN-BRIEF
An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 10 April 2018

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 29 May 2018.
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 22 resolutions at this meeting. Information on outcomes of specific agenda items may be found in this report or within the minutes.

PROGRAMS: NEW AND CHANGES

2019 Schedule: Programs for disestablishment (Res 18/30)
Academic Senate approved the disestablishment of the Graduate Diploma of Children’s Literature and the Master of Children’s Literature, effective 31 December 2018.

Exemption from Assessment Policy: Publication of Examination Papers on Library Website (Res 18/27)
Academic Senate approved exemptions from the requirements of the Assessment Policy to publish the final examination paper on the University Library website for LING390 (Current Issues in Phonology).

2018 Schedule: Late and retrospective changes: IELTS requirements (Res 18/28 and Res 18/29)
Academic Senate approved the change to IELTS to 6.5 overall with a minimum of 6.0 in each band for the Master of Translation and Interpreting Studies, Master of Advanced Translation and Interpreting Studies, Master of Translation and Interpreting Studies with the degree of the Master of Applied Linguistics and TESOL, Master of Translation and Interpreting Studies with the degree of Master of International Relations and Master of Conference Interpreting for the Session 2 2018 intake (excluding the Master of Conference Interpreting which only has a first semester intake). Academic Senate also approved changes to IELTS requirements to 6.5 overall with a minimum 6.0 in each band or equivalent, effective 1 January 2019, for the Master of Disability Studies, Master of Special Education, Master of Early Childhood, Master of Education, Master of Educational Leadership, Graduate Certificate of Education Studies and Graduate Certificate of Higher Education.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Assessment, Unit Guide and Grade Appeal Policy Reviews (Res 18/35)
Academic Senate noted a progress report on the review of the Unit Guide Policy and Grade Appeal Policy and the post-implementation review of the Assessment policy, noting that amendments to these policies will be submitted to its next meeting.

Vertical Double Degrees Guidelines (Res 18/38)
Academic Senate discussed the introduction of vertical double degrees and approved the guidelines for the development of these programs.

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY

2018 Projects of Academic Senate (Res 18/36 and Res 18/37)
Note: information on all projects (including contact details and a feedback form) is available online. Progress reports were received for:

• Post-implementation Review of the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) 2013; and
• Developing a Model for Shared Responsibility of Academic Governance.
Fitness to Practice Procedure: managing the progression of students enrolled in practical, clinical and professional programs (Res 18/34)
The meeting received a presentation on the draft Fitness to Practice Procedure, noting the final version will be submitted to a later meeting.

Review of Academic Quality Assurance and Quality Enhancement: Desk Audit (Res 18/24)
Academic Senate noted a response and action plan from the Chair of Academic Senate and Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Academic) to a desk audit of current Academic Quality Assurance and Quality Enhancement systems at the University, particularly noting that departmental reviews will not be mandated in 2018.

Academic Senate Committees: Amendments to Membership (Res 18/25)
Academic Senate approved the re-appointment of Dr Mitch Parsell as Chair of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, the appointment of Associate Professor Panos Vlachopoulos as Chair of the MUIC Subcommittee and the co-option of Nicole Brig to membership of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee.

Academic Senate: Co-option to Membership (Res 18/26)
Academic Senate approved the co-option of Dr Mitch Parsell to membership of Senate in his role as Chair of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee. Senate also approved the co-option of four students to fill casual vacancies until 31 May 2018 (Aadidev, Yvette Noble, David Thomson and Bhavana Balkatta Murlikrishna). Senate noted that that Gail White (Executive Director, Student Engagement and Registrar), will attend meetings of Academic Senate in her formal capacity as Secretary to Academic Senate.

OTHER MATTERS

- Academic Senate noted a report from the Vice-Chancellor on the University’s new brand campaign, the new Lighthouse portal, student admissions for S1 2018, the University’s approach to curriculum and programs and the University’s finances.
- Academic Senate approved a proposal for a joint PhD program with Technical University Munich in Germany (Res 18/31).
- Academic Senate endorsed retention of two external examiners for the examination of Master of Research (MRes) theses (Res 18/32) and endorsed an amendment to the process for determining the final grade of an MRes thesis which has been resubmitted and re-examined (Res 18/33).
- The Dean, HDR presented a statistical report on MRes thesis examination result from 2014 to 2017 (Res 18/39).
- Academic Senate approved a proposal for the University to seek membership of the Magna Charta Observatory of Fundamental Values and Rights (Res 18/40).
- Executive Actions taken by the Chair regarding academic and placement performance standards for Co-op degrees, the award of the Macquarie University Award for Academic Excellence, RPL articulation arrangements and late changes to programs, majors and specialisations were ratified by Academic Senate (Res 18/41).

Committees of Academic Senate and Faculty Boards

Committees of Academic Senate
Academic Senate noted the reports of the meetings held by the Academic Standards and Quality Committee, the Research and Research Training Committee, the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee and the University Medal Committee in February and March 2018.

Faculty Boards
Academic Senate noted the reports of the meetings held by the Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Board, the Faculty of Medicine and Health Science Faculty Board and the Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board in February and March 2018.

University Hearing Committee
Academic Senate noted the summary reports of the University Hearing Committee meetings held in February and March 2018.