ACADEMIC SENATE IN-BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 28 November 2017

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 February 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 19 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: New Awards for Approval (Res 17/127)
Academic Senate approved the academic case for the Bachelor of Arts–Psychology (OUA), the Bachelor of Commerce-Professional Accounting with the degree of Bachelor of Professional Practice (noting that this is a Co-op program), the Diploma of Arts and Social Science (MUIC), the Diploma of Professional Practice (PACE), the Graduate Diploma of Biotechnology, the Graduate Diploma of Forensic accounting, the Master of Applied Economics, the Master of Conference Interpreting (noting this is a change of duration to a current program), the Master of Criminology (OUA), the Master of Cyber Security (OUA) and the Master of Science Innovation (noting this is a change of name) effective 1 January 2019, subject to a business case being approved by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Registrar.

2019 Schedule: Disestablishment of Programs (Res 17/128)
Academic Senate approved the the disestablishment of the Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) (Birth to 12), the Graduate Certificate of Applied Finance Post M-Applfin, the Master of Economics and the Master of Science with effect from 31 December 2018.

People and Planet Units: Exemption for Students in the Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) with the Bachelor of Commerce (Res 17/129)
Academic Senate approved an exemption from the People and Planet requirement in the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) with the Bachelor of Commerce for all future and currently enrolled students, effective immediately.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic Appeals: HDR Candidates (Res 17/130)
Academic Senate approved amendments to the HDR Thesis Preparation, Submission & Examination Policy & Procedure, amendments to the Academic Appeals Policy & Procedure, and the disestablishment of the Higher Degree Research Appeals Committee with immediate effect.

Amendment to the General Coursework Rules (Res 17/131)
Academic Senate endorsed an amendment to the General Coursework Rules to replace a reference to the Disruption to Studies Policy with a reference to the recently approved Special Consideration Policy.

University Medal Policy and Procedure (Res 17/132)
Academic Senate approved the rescission of the the University Medal Policy & Procedure approved on 13 September 2016, and the revised University Medal Policy & Procedure with immediate effect.

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY

Note: information on all projects (including contact details and a feedback form) is available online. Progress reports were received for:

- Academic Integrity (review of the Academic Honesty Policy);
- Purpose and Composition of Academic Senate;
- Review of Academic Quality Assurance;
• Fitness to Practice: Procedure for managing the progression of students enrolled in practical, clinical and professional programs; and
• Partnership with and Recognition of Student Members.

Establishing 2018 Projects (Res 17/138)
Academic Senate considered the list of proposed projects for 2018, noting that some will continue on from 2017 (the Academic Integrity Policy, the Review of Academic Quality Assurance and Enhancement, and the Purpose and Composition of Senate). New projects, or extensions of 2017 projects include a Post-Implementation Review of AQF, Shared Academic Governance Phase 2, the Review of Academic Quality Assurance and Enhancement Phase 2 and an external review of Academic Senate. Senate also received some suggestions from members and others of which two (a review of Withdrawal Without Academic Penalty and Review of HDR scholarship ranking standards and MRes scholarship structure) will be referred to the relevant committees of Senate. These projects will now be referred to the Academic Senate Standing Committee for endorsement and prioritisation.

Developing a Model for Shared Academic Governance (Res 17/135)
Academic Senate provided in principle approval for some functions related to curriculum changes to be devolved to the Faculties, with implementation subject to the development of enabling resources, including mechanisms for cross-Faculty collaboration, and also endorsed that Academic Senate retain authority over certain high-level curriculum and academic approval functions currently delegated to Senate.

Emeritus Professor Nomination (Res 17/133)
Academic Senate endorsed the recommendation of the Emeritus Professor Working Group and recommend the nomination to University Council for its approval.

OTHER MATTERS
• Academic Senate noted a report from the Vice-Chancellor on the recent Our University: A Framing of Futures event to review the past five years of the current strategic plan; the development of a new international strategy; the recently launched Incubator and potential changes to the funding of the Higher Education sector.
• Academic Senate expressed support for a proposal to establish a network of HDR students to encourage their engagement with and participation in academic governance (Res 17/126).
• Academic Senate noted an update on the Research and Research Training Committee’s project on cross-disciplinary research (Res 17/141).

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 and the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee in October and November 2017.

Faculty Boards
Academic Senate noted the reports of the meetings held by the Faculty of Human Sciences Faculty Board in October 2017 and the Faculty of Medicine and Health Science Faculty Board in November 2017.

University Hearing Committee
Academic Senate noted the summary reports of the University Hearing Committee meetings held in October and November 2017.