ACADEMIC SENATE IN-BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 4 September 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 23 October 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 14 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 Programs (Res 18/81)
Academic Senate approved the academic cases for the Graduate Diploma of Information Technology, Graduate Certificate of Information Technology and Graduate Certificate of Biotechnology from 1 January 2019, and the academic case for the Master of Information Technology (Cyber Security) from Session 2, 2019.

2018 Schedule: Exit awards for approval (Res 18/79)
Academic Senate approved the Graduate Diploma of Clinical Psychological Science (exit award for Master of Clinical Psychology) and Graduate Diploma of Neuropsychological Science (exit award for Master of Clinical Neuropsychology) effective from Session 2, 2018.

Curriculum Architecture: Undergraduate Double Degrees and Bachelor of Combined Studies (Res 18/76)
Academic Senate approved the title of Bachelor of Combined Studies to refer to undergraduate double degrees as envisaged by clause 5.4.3 of the Curriculum Architecture Policy, effective 1 January 2020.

People and Planet units: Exemption for all commencing students in 2019 (Res 18/78)
Academic Senate approved an exemption from the general undergraduate requirements of the completion of a People and a Planet unit for all students commencing from Session 1 2019.

2018 Schedule: Request for exemption from Assessment Policy: Publication of Examination papers for SPHL299 Speech Acoustics (Res 18/80)
Academic Senate approved an exemption from the requirement of Schedule 4 of the Assessment Policy to publish final examination papers on the University Library website for SPHL299 Speech Acoustics, effective immediately.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Proposed Amendment to the Curriculum Architecture Policy (Res 18/77)
Academic Senate approved a requirement for all capstone units to have a breadth/maturity prerequisite of at least 60 credit points at 2000 level or above and that this requirement be included in the Curriculum Architecture Policy.

Update on Review of the Grade Appeal Policy (Res 18/84)
Academic Senate discussed the proposed amendments to the Grade Appeal Policy, noting the final amendments will be submitted to a future meeting for approval.

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY

Purpose and Composition of Academic Senate (Res 18/83)
Academic Senate endorsed a number of proposed changes to the Academic Senate Rules for recommendation to Council, including the addition of a preamble and definition of “academic matters”, amendments to the functions of Senate, and amendments to the composition of Senate which will reduce the number of ex officio and elected members, introduce an elected Indigenous academic staff representative position, introduce a category of appointed membership (which will mainly be used to appoint chairs of committees to membership of Senate) and amend the category of co-opted membership to clarify that co-opted members are co-opted to address expertise, diversity and social inclusion requirements.
Establishing 2019 Projects for Academic Senate and its Committees (Res 18/85)
Academic Senate approved the proposed approach to establishing its projects and priorities for 2019, which will involve identification of policies requiring review, strategic and external requirements to be addressed and a call for suggestions. A prioritised list of projects will be provided to Senate before the end of the year for approval.

OTHER MATTERS

- Academic Senate noted an update on the Curriculum Architecture project.
- Academic Senate endorsed a nomination for the title of Emeritus Professor for recommendation to Council (Res 18/82).
- Academic Senate ratified the award of the Macquarie University Award for Academic Excellence to 49 graduates (Res 18/87).
- Executive Actions taken by the Chair regarding the appointment of members to the Academic Standards and Quality Committee and the English language requirements for the MBA, Global MBA and related courses were ratified by Academic Senate (Res 18/86).

Committees of Academic Senate and Faculty Boards

Committees of Academic Senate
Academic Senate noted the reports of the meetings held by the Academic Senate Standing Committee, the Academic Standards and Quality Committee and the University Medal Committee in July and August 2018.

Faculty Boards
Academic Senate noted the reports of the meetings held by the Faculty of Arts Faculty Board, the Faculty of Business and Economics Faculty Board, the Faculty of Human Sciences Faculty Board, the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Faculty Board and the Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board in May and July 2018.

University Hearing Committee
No summary reports of the University Hearing Committee meetings were considered at this meeting.