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## ACADEMIC SENATE IN BRIEF

An update on the key decisions made and matters discussed by Academic Senate on 23 July 2024.

### 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 August 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 20 resolutions at this meeting. Information on outcomes of specific agenda items may be found in this report or within the minutes.

#### Curriculum: Amendments and Discontinuations

##### Course Discontinuations (Res AS24/51)

Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of the current Bachelor of Philosophy/Master of Research and Master of Research as offered by the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences and the Faculty of Science and Engineering, noting the new Master of Research will take effect from 2025. Academic Senate noted that proposals from the Macquarie Business School will be received at a future meeting.

##### Curriculum Proposals (Res AS24/52, AS24/53 and AS24/54)

Academic Senate approved amendments to courses offered by the Faculty of Arts, the Macquarie Business School, the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences and the Faculty of Science and Engineering, and approved amendments to programs offered by the Macquarie University College. Academic Senate also noted two curriculum reports: a report from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) regarding a list of courses to be reported to the Department of Education as proposed for discontinuation from 2025, and a final course review report from the Faculty of Arts on the Bachelor of Social Science, noting the degree is not recommended for reaccreditation and will be replaced by the new Bachelor of Social Sciences from 2025.

#### Policies and Procedures

##### Review of Higher Degree Research Supervision Policy and Procedure (Res AS24/46)

Academic Senate approved amendments with effect from 1 October 2024 to the Higher Degree Research Supervision Policy and Procedure including their renaming as the Graduate Research Supervision Policy and Procedure. Academic Senate also approved the expiration of the Higher Degree Research Doctoral Equivalence Policy and consequential amendments to the Higher Degree Research Variations to Candidature Policy, noting it will also be renamed to the Graduate Research Variations to Candidature Policy.

##### Post-Implementation Review of the Graduate Research Continuation Policy and Procedure (Res AS24/47)

Academic Senate approved amendments with effect from 1 September 2024 to the Graduate Research Continuation Policy and Procedure, including the addition of Schedules 1 (Graduate Research Candidature Milestones) and 2 (Confirmation of Candidature). Consequential amendments to the Higher Degree Research Variations to Candidature Policy were also approved.

##### Curriculum Architecture Policy Revision (Res AS24/48)

Academic Senate approved the revised Curriculum Architecture Policy for effect upon publication.

##### Review of Fitness to Practice Procedure (Res AS24/49)

Academic Senate approved the revised Fitness to Practice Procedure for effect upon publication.

## **Diversity and Inclusion Working Group: Recommendation to Amend Academic Senate membership (Res AS24/50)**

Academic Senate received and noted the report of the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group and endorsed a proposed amendment to the Academic Senate Rules for recommendation to Council. The amendment will introduce an Indigenous student member to the membership of Academic Senate.

## **Policies Under Review/Development (Res AS24/60)**

Academic Senate also noted a list of policies under review/development as of 16 July 2024.

## **Governance and Strategy**

### **Researcher Development Year in Review (Res AS24/57)**

Academic Senate received and noted a presentation from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Performance and Development) on activities in 2023 related to researcher development and planned actions for 2024 and the future.

### **2023 Annual Review and Grade Monitoring Report of the Bachelor of Philosophy/Master of Research (Res AS24/58)**

Academic Senate received and noted the annual report on results from the Bachelor of Philosophy/Master of Research for 2023.

### **2023 Annual Report from the joint Academic Standards and Quality Committee (ASQC) / Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (SLTC) Results Working Group (Res AS24/59)**

Academic Senate received and noted the report from the joint ASQC/SLTC Results Working Group on final results from 2023.

### **2024 Projects of Academic Senate and its Committees: Update (Res AS24/61)**

Academic Senate noted an update on 2024 Projects of Academic Senate and its committees.

## **Other Matters**

- The Vice-Chancellor provided a report to Academic Senate on matters including pending legislative changes from the Federal government and the current outlook for enrolments at the University and across the sector;
- The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) reported on matters in his portfolio, including the establishment of a Food Hub to assist students, a new online version of the Manawari Staff Cultural Training workshop, ongoing work to identify and address curriculum complexity including changes to undergraduate double degrees, the University's Sexual Safety and Wellbeing Action Plan and the University's response to TEQSA on Engagement and Management of Risks Associated with Generative Artificial Intelligence;
- Academic Senate approved six cotutelle agreements and one joint PhD agreement executed since the meeting of Senate on 21 May 2024 (Res AS24/55);
- Academic Senate endorsed a recommendation for the award of the title of Professor Emeritus for recommendation to Council (Res AS24/56);
- 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 AS24/62); and
- Academic Senate ratified 13 savings cases approved under executive action by the Chair of Academic Senate (Res AS24/63).

## **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 June and July 2024 and noted a report of a matter dealt with via circulation resolution by the Academic Senate Standing Committee in July 2024.

### **Faculty and College Boards**

Academic Senate noted the report and unconfirmed minutes of the meetings of the Faculty of Arts Faculty Board, the Macquarie Business School Faculty Board, the Faculty of Medicine, Health and

Human Sciences Faculty Board, the Faculty of Science and Engineering Faculty Board and the Macquarie University College Board held in May and July 2024.