

ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING – 1 AUGUST 2017

Academic Board Membership Update

Associate Professor Alexander Kist has been elected Deputy Chair (Academic Board). Alexander has acted in the role since 18 April 2017.

Academic Board welcomed three new members. Professor Glen Coleman recently joined USQ as the Executive Dean HES. Mr Nicholas Todd has been elected to fill the vacancy in the category of "Male Academic Staff Member" and Professor Jeffery Soar has been elected to fill the vacancy in the category of "Professor".

Academic Board Internal Audit

Chris Smith, Director (Internal Audit and Risk) gave a presentation about Academic Risk, including the internal audit process. As per USQ's normal Internal Audit Schedule, an internal audit of Academic Board is currently underway. USQ Council formed a steering committee to work with Audit and Risk to finalise recommendations. The progress of the audit and the reports in The Australian newspaper were discussed by members, and while some concerns were raised, it was also recognised that the audit process can create great opportunities for renewal and strategic planning.

Qualities of a Graduate Review and Consultation Process

On behalf of the DVC (Academic Services), Dr Sara Hammer presented a proposal for the Qualities of a Graduate Review and Consultation Process to Academic Board. The Board was supportive of the proposed process, only requesting more explicit mention be made regarding seeking input from employers.

Student Issues Updates

Mr Carl Rallings, DVC (S&C) and Mr Glen Roberts, USQ Student Guild, gave the Academic Board an update on student issues. The Australian Human Rights Commission report on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment at Australian Universities and how the findings related to USQ was briefly discussed. Also discussed were a number of initiatives designed to improve the student experience, student complaints handling and the work of the USQ Guild Advocacy Service.

Program Re/Accreditation Approvals

The following programs were endorsed by Academic Board at the 1 August 2017 meeting:

- Graduate Certificate of Spatial Science (GCST) and Graduate Diploma of Spatial Science (GDST)
- Bachelor of Early Childhood (BECH)
- Accelerated Entry Pathway Program (AEPP)

Research Plan 2016 – 2020

Academic Board received the Research Plan 2016-2020 to Academic Board for consideration. The Plan was endorsed and forwarded to USQ Council for noting.

Professional Development for Academic Board members

In the first of four Professional Development presentations, Mr Shane Simmons presented on the topic of Course Approval, Design and Delivery to Academic Board. The presentation was based on the [Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency \(TEQSA\) guidance note](#) on the topic.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Academic Board is scheduled for 12 September 2017.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE and RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Assessment Hurdles Schedule

At its meeting of 10 August, Education Committee discussed the proposed Assessment Hurdles Schedule. Following wide-ranging discussions, feedback was prepared and submitted to the SDVC's office.

Next Meeting

The next meeting for both Education Committee and Research Committee will be held on 31 August 2017.

If you have any questions regarding the activities of Academic Board or its standing committees, please do not hesitate to contact academic.board@usq.edu.au.