

Academic Senate Meeting – 16 May 2025 Report to 27 June 2025 University Council Meeting

Academic Senate convened on 16 May 2025. Highlights from the Chair's report and the main items considered at the meeting are included below

Report from the Chair

The Chair advised members that a revised Academic Delegations Ordinance had been approved at the 2 May 2025 meeting of University Council. Members commended the new principles-based framework and heard that a similar approach would be contemplated for the forthcoming review of the Academic Senate Ordinance.

The Chair reminded Members about the critical need to formalise all third-party teaching and partnerships in accordance with the University's governance protocols, including review by Academic Senate. The Chair highlighted the importance of this formalisation in ensuring that a partner's academic standards, student support and governance mechanisms were equivalent to those for courses delivered at a UTAS campus.

Future Model of Academic Senate

Members were comprehensively updated on the progress of several workstreams initiated to facilitate implementation of the new model for Academic Senate. This update included hearing about comprehensive analysis of the Higher Education Standards Framework (HESF), which was undertaken to inform future reporting to Academic Senate and its new committees.

The proposed approach was strongly supported, with the shift from reporting for compliance to reporting that drove meaningful insights and forward planning welcomed. Of particular merit was the move towards reporting that enables continuous improvement and meaningful sector benchmarking, whilst remaining sensitive to the diverse experiences of student cohorts.

Members were also updated regarding the development of a simplified approach to Senate's role in curriculum approvals utilising a risk-based model that clearly specifies which elements require decision by Senate or a Senate committee. The new approach was well received as it provides greater clarity and deepens shared understandings of curriculum processes.

The Chair invited members to express their interest in joining a time-limited Working Group to examine options for the future membership of Senate and to support development of the new Senate committees.

Academic Senate endorsed the proposed approaches to future reporting to Academic Senate and its committees and to simplifying Senate's role in curriculum approvals.

Report from Student Representatives

Mr Jack Oates Pryor, President of the Tasmania University Student Association (TUSA) advised Senate about TUSA's perspectives on current issues, highlighting:

- TUSA was interested in continuing 'Students as Partners' initiatives that had been developed in recent years. Members were invited to provide feedback directly to TUSA about how such measures could evolve as the University adopted the new Academic System, and were advised that a student-led strategic session would be held at the next Senate in July 2025 to further examine how Students as Partners could continue within the University's emerging organisational structures.
- TUSA strongly welcomed the imminent commencement of paid placements for certain types of study as an historic milestone resulting from the Australian University Accord.
- A summary of key themes raised by students through TUSA's recent 'Vent Tent' initiative was shared. It was clear that students valued receiving timely feedback on their work. Timetabling and in particular the scheduling and location of classes continued to be a source of concern. Members sought more information about these concerns and recommended a dedicated session at a future Academic Senate on this matter.

Strategic Session: The Education Transition

Ms Leanne McLean (Director, Peter Underwood Centre) and Dr Che O'May (Senior Mission Development Manager) led a workshop activity designed to engage Senate members in exploring key questions and contributing insights to help shape the Education Transition's future direction. Break-out group discussions were held across all networked locations to consider proposed approaches, embedded assumptions and

identify existing programs and practices that were effective in preparing Tasmanians for post-school education. Diverse feedback was received, including a number of questions. Common themes included the importance of partnerships and connection, of embedding programs within communities, and approaching assumptions with caution.

Strategic Session: New Continued Researcher Development Model

Dr Rosie Nash (Researcher Development Coordinator) led a strategic session seeking members' feedback and input into the proposed new model of supporting emerging researchers during their masters and doctoral candidatures and fostering success after graduation. Dr Nash noted that the current proposal had undergone extensive consultation to date with many groups including Higher Degree by Research (HDR) candidates and their supervisors, professional support staff from diverse areas such as the library, ethics, media and compliance teams, the University Research Committee, and research leads across the institution. From the break-out groups formed for further discussion, nuancing to individual needs was highlighted as an important consideration, along with understanding the purpose, availability, need, and time-commitment associated with any forms of training.

Student Academic Integrity Annual Report 2024

Prof Luke Bereznicki (Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education) introduced this important annual report on academic integrity breach data and identified insights, and noted that the latest report emphasised the challenges posed by generative artificial intelligence (genAI). He encouraged wider availability of data to inform holistic continual improvement such as the refinement of triggers for unit reviews.

New Credit Framework

Members were advised that, following the March meeting of Academic Senate, the Credit Optimisation Project had undertaken further consultation and technical scoping to confirm key aspects of the proposed Framework and plan for implementation. A query was raised regarding the extent of work required to identify courses that might need bespoke credit rules to avoid unintended consequences, particularly for professionally accredited qualifications.

Heads of Academic Units were encouraged to proactively engage in the process for their areas so that any potential issues could be promptly addressed. Senate was assured that exceptions would be considered where appropriate, and that they would be balanced against the imperative of simplification that necessitated minimising the number of exceptions. Senate approved the proposed new Credit Framework for implementation from January 2026.

The next meeting of Academic Senate will be held on 4 July 2025.

Appendix 1: Academic Senate Decisions at the 16 May 2025 meeting of Academic Senate

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Academic Unit	Senate Agenda Item	Title	Resolution or Outcome	Oversight
Secretariat	2.2	Update on Future Model of Academic Senate	Academic Senate endorsed the proposed approach to: • Future reporting to Academic Senate and its committees; and • Simplifying Senate's role in curriculum approvals.	Chair, Academic Senate
SSO	4.1	New Credit Framework	Academic Senate approved the proposed new Credit Framework for implementation from January 2026.	DVC, SSO
Research	4.2.1	Course Discontinuation – X5A Graduate Certificate in Research	Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of course X5A Graduate Certificate in Research.	Endorsed by University Course and Unit Proposals Committee (UCUPC)
College of Arts, Law and Education (CALE)	4.2.2	Component Discontinuation – OMAHSP03 <i>Public Sector Leadership and Management (Victoria Police)</i>	Academic Senate approved : • The discontinuation and teach-out of the OMAHSP03 <i>Public Sector Leadership; and Management (Victoria Police) specialisation</i> • Proposed amendments to R4C Bachelor of Arts with Professional Honours • Post-execution entry into the third-party teaching arrangement with Victoria Police detailed in the 2025 Letter of Agreement	Endorsed by UCUPC
College of Health and Medicine (CoHM)	4.2.3	New Units – 3x Postgraduate Clinical Psychology Units	Academic Senate approved use of the Ungraded Pass grading scheme for the following units: - o <i>Clinical Psychology Placement 1</i> - o <i>Clinical Psychology Placement 2</i> - o <i>Clinical Psychology Placement 3.</i>	Endorsed by UCUPC
CoHM	4.2.4	Course Amendment – M7Y Master of Healthcare in Remote and Extreme Environments	Academic Senate approved proposed amendments to course M7Y Master of Healthcare in Remote and Extreme Environments.	Endorsed by UCUPC

CoHM	4.2.5	Course Amendment – M6Y Graduate Diploma of Healthcare in Remote and Extreme Environments	Academic Senate <u>approved</u> proposed amendments to course M6Y Graduate Diploma of Healthcare in Remote and Extreme Environments.	Endorsed by UCUPC
CoHM	4.2.6	Course Amendment – M5A Graduate Certificate in Healthcare in Remote and Extreme Environments	Academic Senate <u>approved</u> proposed amendments to course M5A Graduate Certificate in Healthcare in Remote and Extreme Environments.	Endorsed by UCUPC
CoHM	4.2.7	Course Amendment – 53X Bachelor of Paramedicine	Academic Senate <u>approved</u> proposed amendments to course 53X Bachelor of Paramedicine.	Endorsed by UCUPC
CoHM	4.2.8	Course Amendment – M4Y Bachelor of Psychological Science with Honours	Academic Senate <u>approved</u> proposed amendments to course M4Y Bachelor of Psychological Science with Honours.	Endorsed by UCUPC
College of Sciences and Engineering (CoSE)	4.2.9	Course Discontinuations – 4x Courses from CoSE	Academic Senate <u>approved</u> discontinuation of the following courses: • P4O Bachelor of Science with Honours • S5E Graduate Certificate in Agribusiness • S6E Graduate Diploma in Agribusiness (Specialisation) • K6B Graduate Diploma of Environmental Management.	Endorsed by UCUPC
University College	4.2.10	Course Discontinuation – Z2A Associate Degree in Agribusiness	Academic Senate <u>approved</u> the discontinuation of course Z2A Associate Degree in Agribusiness.	Endorsed by UCUPC
University College	4.2.11	Course Discontinuation – Z2C Associate Degree in Applied Business	Academic Senate <u>approved</u> the discontinuation of: • Course Z2C Associate Degree in Applied Business. • The following components: - o ZAASTR10 Leisure, Sport and Recreation - o ZAASTR11 Event Design and Management - o ZAASTR12 Tourism Engagement - o ZAASTR13 Procurement and Supply Chains	Endorsed by UCUPC

			<i>o ZAASTR14 Business Improvement.</i>	
University College	4.2.12	Course Discontinuation – Z2E Associate Degree in Applied Design	Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of course Z2E Associate Degree in Applied Design.	Endorsed by UCUPC
University College	4.2.13	Course Discontinuation – Z2F Associate Degree in Applied Technology	Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of: • Course Z2F Associate Degree in Applied Technology. • The following components: <i>o ZATSTR05 Cyber Security</i> <i>o ZATSTR06 Industry Automation</i> <i>o ZATSTR07 Equipment Design.</i>	Endorsed by UCUPC
University College	4.2.14	Course Discontinuation – Z2H Associate Degree in Applied Health and Community Support	Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of: • Course Z2H Associate Degree in Applied Health and Community Support • <i>ZACSTR02 Support Systems and Services.</i>	Endorsed by UCUPC
University College	4.2.15	Course Discontinuation – Z2J Associate Degree in Applied Science	Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of: • Course Z2J Associate Degree in Applied Science. • The following components: • <i>ZASSTR03 Sustainable Aquaculture</i> • <i>ZASSTR04 Fermentation and Separation.</i>	Endorsed by UCUPC
University College	4.2.16	Course Discontinuation – X1G Diploma of General Studies	Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of course X1G Diploma of General Studies.	Endorsed by UCUPC
CoSE	4.2.17	Component Discontinuation – MEGMJR03 <i>Marine and Offshore Engineering</i>	Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of MEGMJR03 <i>Marine and Offshore Engineering</i> .	Endorsed by UCUPC
CALE	4.2.18	Component Discontinuations – 2x Specialisations from R4A Bachelor of Arts with Honours	Academic Senate approved: • The discontinuation of the following Honours specialisations: <i>o PEAHSP02 Art and Curatorial Practice</i> <i>o PEAHSP04 Music and Context</i> • The proposed amendments to R4A Bachelor of Arts with Honours.	Endorsed by UCUPC

CoHM	4.2.19	New Postgraduate Course Suite – Advanced Nursing	Academic Senate approved the creation of the following: • New courses: - o H5M Graduate Certificate in Advanced Nursing (Specialisation) - o H6M Graduate Diploma of Advanced Nursing (Specialisation) - o H7M Master of Advanced Nursing (Specialisation) • New components: - o <i>Clinical Teaching</i> - o <i>Mental Health Nursing</i> - o <i>Neonatal Care</i> - o <i>Palliative Care</i> - o <i>Perianaesthesia Nursing</i>.	Endorsed by UCUPC
CoHM	4.2.20	Course Amendment – H5C Graduate Certificate in Midwifery (Specialisation)	Academic Senate approved proposed amendments to course H5C Graduate Certificate in Midwifery (Specialisation).	Endorsed by UCUPC
CoHM	4.2.21	Course Amendment – H5I Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Overseas Registration) (Specialisation)	Academic Senate approved proposed amendments to course H5I Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Overseas Registration) (Specialisation).	Endorsed by UCUPC
CALE	4.2.22	Course Discontinuation – E4C Bachelor of Education (Honours)	Academic Senate approved the discontinuation of course E4C Bachelor of Education (Honours).	Endorsed by UCUPC
CoSE and Partnerships and Learning Abroad	4.3	Recognition of Foundation Programs in Sri Lanka (Lyceum, Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology, Informatics Institute of Technology)	Academic Senate approved the recognition of Foundation Programs delivered by Lyceum, Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT) and Informatics Institute of Technology (IIT) as meeting course entry requirements for the undergraduate courses listed: • Bachelor of Science: IIT, Lyceum and SLIIT • Bachelor of Information Communication Technology: IIT, Lyceum and SLIIT • Bachelor of Engineering: SLIIT.	Associate Director, Partnerships and Learning Abroad