

Professor Joanne Wright

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)
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Dr Helen Gniel
Director, Higher Education Integrity Unit
Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

By email: integrityunit@teqsa.gov.au

Dear Dr Gniel,

The University of Sydney welcomes the discussion paper, Assessment reform for the age of artificial intelligence and is proud to have had strong representation in the development of the principles and propositions outlined in it. Our leading academic experts in artificial intelligence (AI), assessment and academic integrity have been thinking through this far-reaching development and driving the University's proactive response to the opportunities and risks inherent in AI. In doing so they have engaged our students, colleagues within the University - including academic teaching staff, the University Executive, Academic Board and Senate - and colleagues across the sector, for example through hosting an Australia-wide roundtable for educational leaders earlier this year.

The University has already revised its assessment principles in response to generative AI. Our assessment principles have been redrafted to align with the TEQSA discussion paper and the Group of Eight principles on the use of generative artificial intelligence¹. They provide a sustainable and effective framework for the redesign of curriculum and assessment to both assure learning and to provide our graduates with the skills and judgement to use AI tools in their coursework and careers. These changes are also intended to address concerns about student outcomes, particularly for students from equity backgrounds.

The University is currently undertaking a major curriculum project and the assessment design principles, as outlined in the discussion paper and as implemented at the University, are at the forefront of our approach. Our first Academic Board meeting in 2023 focused on the challenges of generative AI for academic integrity. Our final Academic Board meeting in November will concentrate on our progress, our new assessment principles, the risks that AI presents and the support that is needed by our teaching staff and our students.

I note that the feedback TEQSA receives will be shared with the authors of the paper. We look forward to continuing our collegial work with TEQSA as the AI landscape develops.

Yours sincerely,

(signature removed)

Professor Joanne Wright
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)

¹ https://go8.edu.au/group-of-eight-principles-on-the-use-of-generative-artificial-intelligence