

Academic Board Induction 2019

Presented by

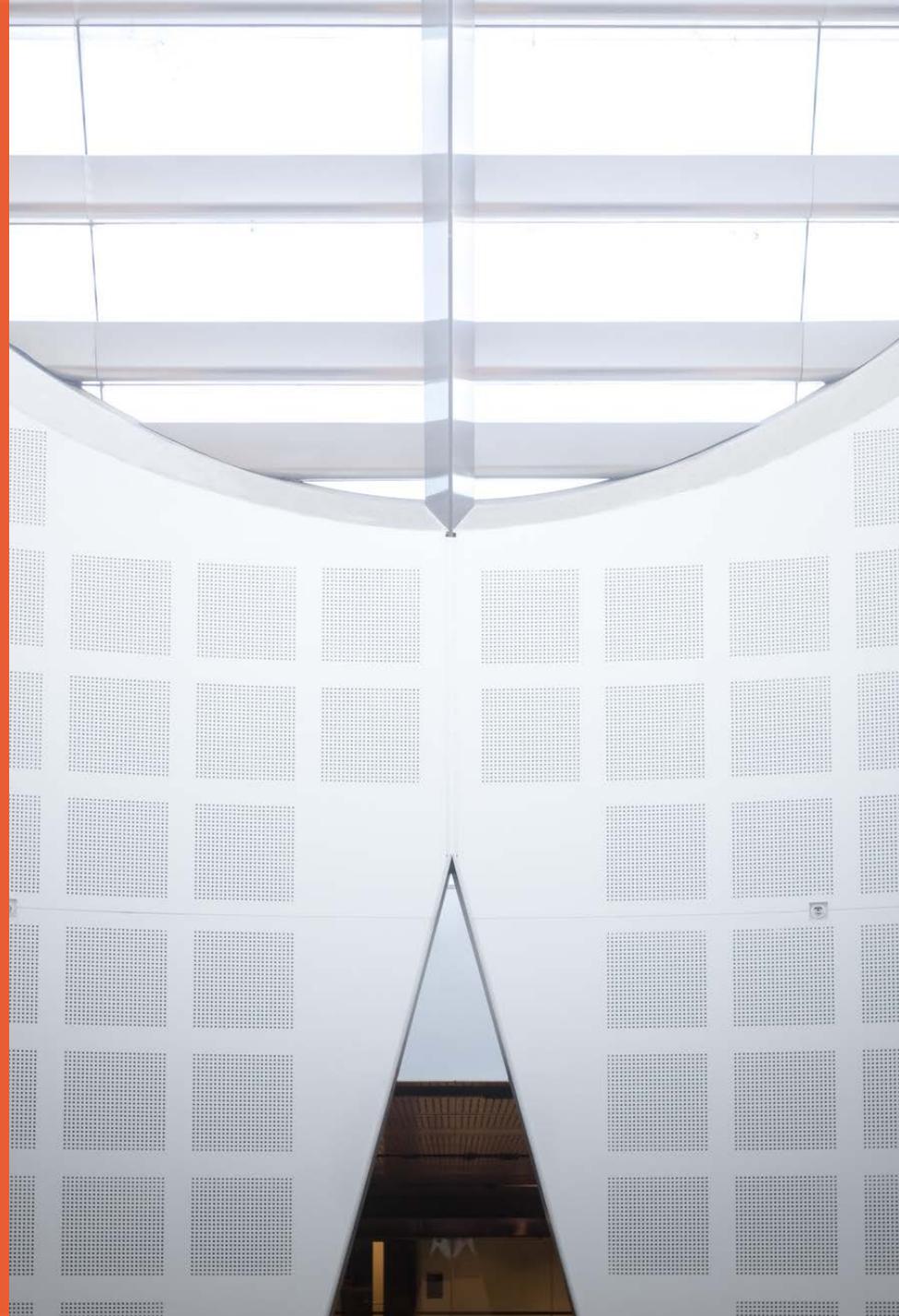
Associate Professor Tony Masters
Chair of Academic Board

Dr Matthew Charet

Executive Officer to Academic Board



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



Program

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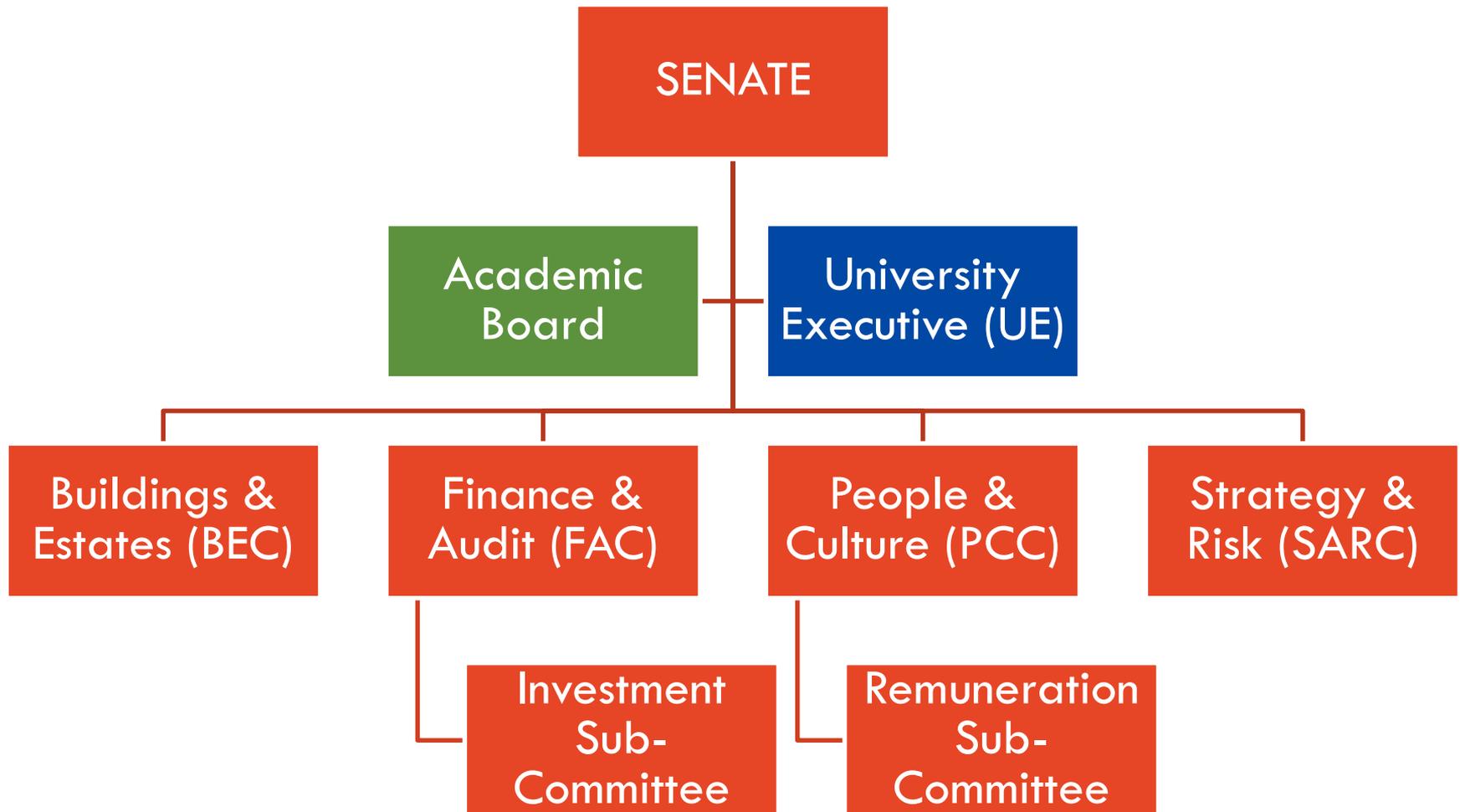
University Governance – An Overview

- What is governance?
- Governance Instruments:
 - *University of Sydney Act 1989 (NSW)* (the Act)
 - *University of Sydney By-law 1999 (NSW)* (the By-law)
- Senate Rules, including:
 - *University of Sydney (Governance of Faculties and University Schools) Rule 2016 (GOFUS)*
 - *University of Sydney (Delegations of Authority – Administrative Functions) Rule 2016)*
 - *University of Sydney (Delegations of Authority – Academic Functions) Rule 2016)*
 - *University of Sydney (Academic Board) Rule 2017*
- University policies and procedures
- Faculty and course resolutions

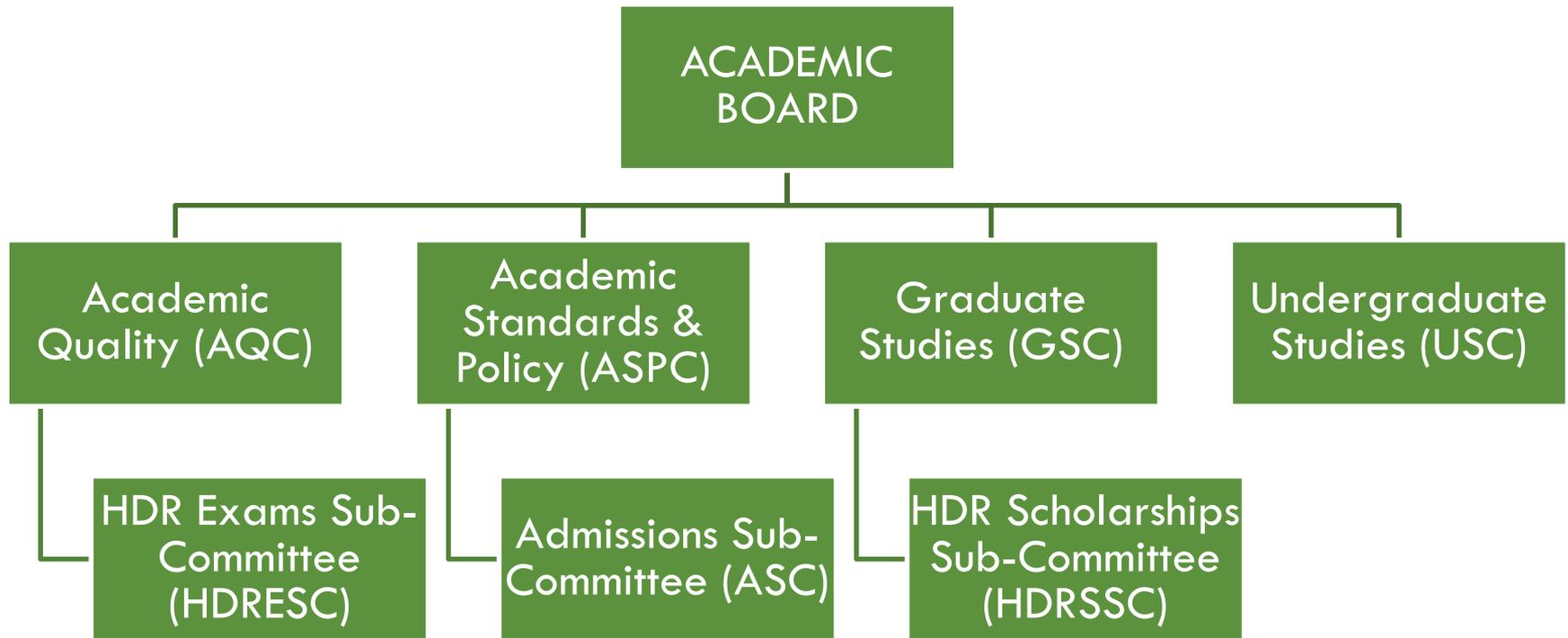
The Structure of the University and committees

- Senate
- Academic Board
- University Executive (UE)
- Faculties & University schools / Schools / Disciplines

Senate and Senate Committees



Academic Board and Academic Board Committees



Who is on the Academic Board?

- The Chair
- The Vice-Chancellor
- All Deputy Vice-Chancellors and Pro-Vice-Chancellors
- All Deans and Heads of School and Deans of University schools
- The Director, University Libraries
- The Director, Student Administrative Services
- Two representatives nominated by the Heads of School Committee
- Two representatives nominated by the Faculty General Managers Committee
- The President of the SRC and two other undergraduate students nominated by the executive of the SRC
- The President of SUPRA and two other postgraduate students nominated by the executive of SUPRA
- Elected academic staff from each faculty and University school
- Elected students from each faculty and University school
- Appointed or co-opted members

Responsibilities of the Academic Board (1)

These are set out in the [Academic Board Rule](#) and include:

- assuring the highest standards in teaching, scholarship and research and, in so doing, safeguarding the academic freedom of the University
- overseeing and monitoring the development of academic activities of the University
- communicating with the academic community
- providing a forum for debate and information flow within the University in relation to academic matters

Responsibilities of the Academic Board (2)

Academic Board will:

- determine standards and policy in relation to:
 - a) admission requirements
 - b) programs of study, including requirements for award of qualifications
 - c) progression requirements
 - d) examinations and assessment
 - e) student recognition awards, including scholarships, subsidies or prizes
 - f) such other matters as Senate may delegate to it.
- approve new academic award courses and amendments to existing courses.
- provide advice to Senate, the Vice-Chancellor and the University Executive about academic matters:
 - a) teaching, research and educational programs
 - b) academic priorities
 - c) academic aspects of current and proposed University strategic plans; academic aspects of policies and procedures, including those relating to the appointment, promotion and conditions of employment of academic staff
 - d) establishing and maintaining academic standards
 - e) any academic matter it considers to be of strategic importance.
- jointly with the University Executive, initiate and oversee a formal program of reviews of the academic activities of the University and its academic organisational units.

Committee structures

In order to discharge these responsibilities, the Academic Board has established committees and sub-committees:

- Academic Standards and Policy – chaired by Jane Hanrahan
 - Admissions Sub-Committee – chaired by Tim Wilkinson
- Undergraduate Studies – chaired by Melissa Hardie
- Graduate Studies – chaired by Michael Kertesz
 - HDR Scholarships Sub-Committee – chaired by Shae McCrystal
- Academic Quality – chaired by Wendy Davis
 - HDR Examinations Sub-Committee – chaired by Kathleen Nelson

Membership of these committees is designed to sustain the principle of representation of different academic communities while expanding the range of academic and professional staff and students who contribute to academic decision-making.

Meeting procedures and attendance

- The Academic Board and committees meet approximately six times per year, with dates available online.
- For committees, a call for agenda items is sent by the University Secretariat approximately three weeks before each meeting.
 - You are welcome to submit items for consideration at the meeting by contacting the Committee Secretary
- The agenda (with collated papers) is distributed two weeks (for Academic Board) or one week (for committees) prior to the meeting via direct email, and is also available [online](#).
- The agenda will contain starred and unstarred items. Unstarred items will be approved without discussion
 - If you wish to star an unstarred item, this must be done in writing prior to the meeting. Items will not be starred at the meeting.
- Meeting protocol
 - Address your comments to the Chair, who manages the meeting
 - Communications should be collegial (although you do not have to agree!)
- Recommendations and resolutions
- Meeting follow-up and communication
 - How are decisions [communicated](#)?
 - What are my responsibilities?

What does membership of the Academic Board entail?

- Attendance at meetings
- Engagement with the agenda papers
- Participation in discussion at the meeting
- Post-meeting communication of discussion and outcomes to colleagues

Further opportunities to participate

- Academic Board committees
 - Places on all committees of the Academic Board are reserved for student members of the Academic Board. Current vacancies include:
 - 2 student positions on the Academic Quality Committee (1xUG/1xPG)
 - 2 student positions on the Academic Standards & Policy Committee (1xUG/1xPG)
 - 2 student positions on the Admissions Sub-Committee (1xUG/1xPG)
 - 2 student positions on the Undergraduate Studies Committee (2xUG)
 - 2 student positions on the Graduate Studies Committee (1xCW/1xHDR)
- Contributions to policy development
 - Participation on working parties and taskforces
- Responding to initiatives/requests from the DVC portfolios, the VC and/or Senate
- etc...

Questions?

