

ELECTION OF TWO ACADEMIC STAFF MEMBERS (LEVEL D or E) FROM THE COLLEGE OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL FUTURES TO THE ACADEMIC SENATE FOR TERM 1 JANUARY 2027 TO 31 DECEMBER 2028

(6 NOMINATIONS RECEIVED)

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JANET DZATOR

An experienced academic leader and dedicated educator, I bring a strong record of scholarship, teaching excellence, and collaborative service to my nomination for Academic Senate. As an Associate Professor, I have consistently demonstrated a commitment to evidence-based decision making, inclusive governance, and advancing the university's strategic priorities. My contributions across teaching, research, and service reflect a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing higher education, including student success, staff wellbeing, and innovation in curriculum design. I am an active collaborator who values diverse perspectives and fosters constructive dialogue to achieve balanced and forward-looking outcomes. With a principled approach and a commitment to transparency, accountability, and equity, I am well positioned to contribute meaningfully to Senate deliberations. I seek to represent colleagues thoughtfully while supporting decisions that strengthen academic quality, institutional integrity, and the long-term success of our university community. I thank you for the support and the opportunity.

View University Staff Profile [here](#).



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR HELENA SIT

Associate Professor Helena Sit is a teacher educator and researcher in the School of Education. Her work focuses on internationalisation, transformative learning, and innovative language education. She has an established national and international research profile and received the College Excellence Award for Research Supervision (2022; 2024). Her leadership and governance experience includes serving as College Board Representative (2026–), Student Academic Conduct Officer (2024–), Discipline Lead (Languages) (2024), Academic Faculty Board Member (2017–2018), Vice President of the Applied Linguistics Association of Australia (ALAA) (2026–), former ALAA Media and Communications Officer (2022–2025), and Executive Program Co-Chair of the Hong Kong Association for Education and Technology (2025). Through these roles, she has consistently represented staff perspectives while promoting academic quality, collaboration, and strategic priorities. As an Academic Senate representative, she is committed to fostering transparent governance, effective communication, and meaningful engagement across the School, College, and University.

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ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BIN LI

I am an Associate Professor at the School of Law and Justice, teaching and researching how complaints and disputes can be resolved through collaborative approaches (such as negotiation and mediation) instead of in an adversarial manner. My research also investigates the impact of technology on dispute resolution processes, such as the use of artificial intelligence in justice sector. Therefore, I uphold 'collaboration' and embrace 'innovative' approaches to teaching and research activities. That enables me to provide a valuable perspective on academic matters across the board. In addition, before I moved to Newcastle in 2016, I had worked as an academic and a lawyer in China. My cross cultural communication awareness and skills put me in an excellent position to advocate for CHSF and promote academic standards and quality at the UON as a 'global' leader in education.

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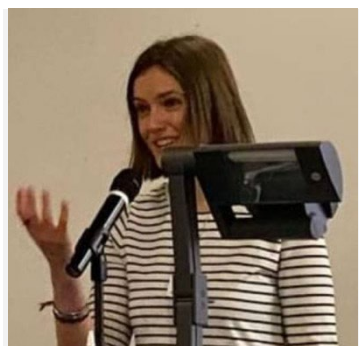
CANDIDATE STATEMENTS



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DAVID SHAO

I am pleased to nominate myself for the Academic Senate at the University of Newcastle. As an Associate Professor with a strong international research profile, I am committed to advancing academic excellence and strengthening the integration of research and teaching across the University. My experience includes high-quality publications, HDR supervision, and leadership roles in international journals and academic communities. I am particularly interested in enhancing research-informed teaching, strengthening HDR training, and supporting early- and mid-career researchers. Through the Academic Senate, I aim to contribute constructively to academic governance and policy development, supporting the continuous improvement of teaching, learning, and research. I am committed to collegiality, integrity, and service, and I would be honoured to represent my colleagues in shaping the University's academic future.

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PROFESSOR ANGELA DALY

I am a socio-legal scholar of the regulation and governance of data and digital technologies. I have collaborated with early-, mid-career and senior colleagues from across humanities, arts and social science disciplines throughout my career, in Australia, Asia and Europe, giving me a deep understanding of CHSF subjects and the interests of staff at different career stages. I was previously an elected member of the University of Dundee Senate (Scotland) where I was a strong advocate for excellent academic standards, high quality research and the good governance of the university, in the interests of staff, students and the wider community. I intend to continue this advocacy at UoN. In my own work, I have been tackling the issue of AI in teaching and research, along with wider higher education policies on data and AI - expertise and insights which I will also bring to Senate.

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ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JILL DUNCAN

I nominate Academic Senate to contribute practical, evidence-informed perspectives. As an Associate Professor in the School of Education, my work spans teaching, research and sector engagement. I focus on maintaining academic quality while ensuring decisions reflect the realities of staff and students. Having served as a conjoint from 2004 to 2016 and in an ongoing role since 2017, I bring deep knowledge of the University's history, which strengthens my contribution to the Senate. I also serve as an advisor to the NSW and Australian Governments on people with disability, and the NSW Government on Gender Equity, strengthening my ability to work across diverse stakeholder groups. I am committed to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion at a systems level and embedding these principles in decision-making. I bring cross-disciplinary experience and am committed to representing the breadth of academic voices. I value clear thinking, constructive debate and accountability in governance.

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