

Membership of the Academic Senate 2026

POSITION		NAME		TERM
a. Ex-Officio Positions (17)				
i.	Vice-Chancellor	Professor Alex Zelinsky AO		Ex-officio
ii.	Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Global)	Professor Belinda Tynan		Ex-officio
iii.	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation)	Professor Craig Simmons		Ex-officio
iv.	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Engagement and Equity)	Mr Nathan Towney		Ex-officio
v.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (College Human and Social Futures)	Professor Belinda Bennett (<i>Acting</i>)		Ex-officio
vi.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (College Engineering, Science and Environment)	Professor Juantia Todd		Ex-officio
vii.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (College Health, Medicine and Wellbeing)	Professor Lisa Wood		Ex-officio
viii.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience)	Professor Jennifer McDonell		Ex-officio
ix.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education Innovation)	Professor Karen Blackmore (<i>Acting</i>)		Ex-officio
x.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global)	Dr Alek Voninski		Ex-officio
xi.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education)	Professor Abhishek Bhati		Ex-officio
xii.	Interim Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)	Professor Rohan Walker*		Ex-officio
xiii.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Industry and Engagement)	Dr Bill Lyons		Ex-officio
xiv.	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Strategy and Leadership)	Ms Loren Collyer (<i>Acting</i>)		Ex-officio
xv.	University Registrar	Professor Rachel Buchanan		Ex-officio
xvi.	Dean of Graduate Research	Professor Rohan Walker (<i>Acting</i>)* Dual Role – Don’t Count Quorum		Ex-officio
xvii.	Director Pathways and Academic Learning Support	Associate Professor Anna Bennett		Ex-officio
b. Elected Positions (37)				
i.	President Academic Senate (Chair)	A/Professor Marcus Rodrgis		31/12/2027
ii.	Deputy President Academic Senate	A/Professor Geoffry De luliis*2026		31/12/2027
iii.	Three academic staff members (Level A, B or C) elected from each College by the academic staff at that level within that College	Dr Tim Connor	CHSF	31/12/2027
		Dr Kate Ferguson-Patrick	CHSF	31/12/2026
		A/Professor Bin Li	CHSF	31/12/2026
		Dr Gabriel Rau (<i>til May 27</i>)	CESE	31/12/2027
		Dr Kyle Harrison	CESE	31/12/2026
		Dr Joseph Pegler	CESE	31/12/2027
		VACANT	CHMW	31/12/2026
		Dr Shep Chidarikire	CHMW	31/12/2027
		VACANT	CHMW	31/12/2026
iv.	Three academic staff members (Level D or E) elected from each College by the academic staff at that level within that College	A/Professor Nancy Cushing	CHSF	31/12/2027
		Professor Jesper Gulddal	CHSF	31/12/2026
		Professor Marianna Sigala	CHSF	31/12/2026
		Geoffry De luliis* Dual Role-Don’t Count	CESE	31/12/2027
		A/Professor Michelle Kelly	CESE	31/12/2026
		A/Prof Terrence Summers	CESE	31/12/2026
		A/Professor Adam Collison	CHMW	31/12/2027
		Professor Allison Cummins	CHMW	31/12/2027
		Professor Vanessa Murphy	CHMW	31/12/2026

Membership of the Academic Senate 2026

v. Two academic staff members from the elected members of each College Board elected by the College Board;	Dr Justin Ellis	CHSF	31/12/2026
	A/Professor Angela Page	CHSF	31/12/2026
	Dr Boyang Li	CESE	31/12/2026
	Dr Mark Wallis	CESE	31/12/2027
	Dr Catherine Johnston	CHMW	31/12/2026
	Dr Michelle Stubbs	CHMW	31/12/2026
vi. Two academic staff member from the Pathways and Academic Learning Support Centre elected by the academic staff from that Centre;	Dr Michelle Mansfield		31/12/2027
	VACANT		31/12/2026
vii. One Academic (Level D or E) [Non-Newcastle Campus] and elected by academic staff members based at a campus or premises other than the Newcastle Campuses	Professor Troy Gaston		31/12/2026
viii. One academic (Level A or B or C) [Non-Newcastle Campus] and elected by academic staff members based at a campus or premises other than the Newcastle Campuses	Dr Joyleen Christensen		31/12/2026
i) One undergraduate students from any location One undergraduate students from any location One undergraduate student from a Non-Newcastle Campus	Imogen Reid		31/12/2026
	Omotola Abimbola		31/12/2026
	Marie Ferguson		31/12/2026
x. One Postgraduate Coursework Student One Postgraduate HDR Student	Cheryl Johanna Meeran		31/12/2026
	Thomas Tildsley		31/12/2026
xi. One International Student	Ashutosh Chugh		31/12/2026
xii. One Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Student	Jodan Perry		31/12/2026
c. Up to Four Additional Members			
Up to four additional academic staff or student members selected from within the University to provide for inclusiveness in the membership of the Academic Senate in regard to aspects such as gender, Indigenous representation, location and academic unit of the University		NOT IN USE	

d. Rights of Audience and Debate		
The University Secretary and the Director, Strategy Planning and Performance will have standing Rights of Audience and Debate at all meetings.	Acting University Secretary	Mr Hamish Lithgow
	Director, Strategy Planning and Performance	Mr Joel Palmer
5.5 The PAS may grant rights of audience and debate for a specific meeting or item(s) in a meeting to such a person, persons or categories of person as deemed appropriate.	Senior Manager, Academic Governance and Compliance	Mr John Radvan
19.5 Members of the Council have the right to attend all meetings of the Academic Senate and its committees, including in camera items, with rights of audience and debate and to receive meeting papers.	Council Members	All

Quorum

	Positions	Less Vacancies and Dual Roles	Total
Ex-Officio	17	1	16
Elected	37	4	33
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	54	5	49