

Membership of the Academic Senate 2026

POSITION	NAME	TERM
President Academic Senate	Associate Professor Marcus Rodrigs	31/12/2027
a. Ex-Officio Members		
i. Vice-Chancellor	Professor Alex Zelinsky AO	Ex-officio
ii. Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Engagement & Equity)	Mr Nathan Towney	Ex-officio
iii. Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)	Professor Belinda Tynan	Ex-officio
iv. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation)	Professor Juanita Todd (<i>Acting</i>)	Ex-officio
v. College Pro Vice-Chancellors	Professor Robert Greenberg	CHSF
	Professor Craig Simmons	CESE
	Professor Lisa Wood	CHMW
vi. Interim Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience)	Professor Susan Ledger	Ex-officio
vii. Academic Registrar Representative	Mr John Radvan (<i>Representative</i>)	Ex-officio
viii. Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education Innovation)	Professor Steven Warburton	Ex-officio
ix. Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)	Professor Juanita Todd	Ex-officio
x. Pro Vice-Chancellor (Industry and Engagement)	Mr Warwick Dawson	Ex-officio
xi. Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic Excellence)	DISESTABLISHED POSITION	Ex-officio
xii. Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Strategy and Leadership)	Ms Loren Collyer (<i>Acting</i>)	Ex-officio
xiii. Director Pathways and Academic Learning Support	A/Professor Anna Bennett	Ex-officio
xiv. Dean of Graduate Research	Professor Kylie Shaw	Ex-officio
xv. Interim Pro Vice-Chancellor and CEO NAIHE (Singapore)	Professor Abhisek Bhati	Ex-officio
b. Elected Staff Members		
i. Three academic staff members (Level A, B or C) elected from each College by the academic staff at that level within that College	Dr Kate Ferguson-Patrick	CHSF 31/12/2026
	Dr Tim Connor NEW	CHSF 31/12/ 2027
	A/Professor Bin Li **	CHSF 31/12/2026
	Dr Kyle Harrison	CESE 31/12/2026
	Dr Joseph Pegler	CESE 31/12/ 2027
	Miss Maria Cano Dominguez NEW	CESE 31/12/ 2027
	VACANT	CHMW 31/12/2026
	Dr Shep Chidarkire NEW	CHMW 31/12/ 2027
	VACANT	CHMW 31/12/2026
ii. Three academic staff members (Level D or E) elected from each College by the academic staff at that level within that College	Professor Marianna Sigala	CHSF 31/12/2026
	Professor Jesper Gulddal	CHSF 31/12/2026
	A/Professor Nancy Cushing	CHSF 31/12/ 2027
	A/Professor Terrence Summers	CESE 31/12/2026
	A/Professor Geoffry Deluliis NEW	CESE 31/12/ 2027
	A/Professor Michelle Kelly	CESE 31/12/2026
	A/Professor Vanessa Murphy	CHMW 31/12/2026
	A/Professor Adam Collison NEW	CHMW 31/12/ 2027

	Professor Alison Cummins	CHMW	31/12/2027
iii. Two academic staff members from the elected members of each College Board elected by the College Board;	Dr Justin Ellis NEW	CHSF	31/12/2026
	Dr Angela Page	CHSF	31/12/2026
	Dr Boyang Li	CESE	31/12/2026
	Dr Mark Wallis NEW	CESE	31/12/2027
	Dr Michelle Stubbs NEW	CHMW	31/12/2026
	Dr Catherine Johnston NEW	CHMW	31/12/2026
iv. 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
	Dr Annika Westrenius		31/12/2026
v. 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
vi. 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
Elected Student Members			
c. Three enrolled undergraduate students, one of whom must be from a University location other than Newcastle Campuses, elected by the University's undergraduate student body	Imogen Reid		31/12/2026
	Omotola Abimbola NEW		31/12/2026
	Marie Ferguson (non-Newcastle campus) NEW		31/12/2026
d. One Postgraduate Coursework Student	Cheryl Johanna Meeran NEW		31/12/2026
d. ii. One Postgraduate HDR Student	Thomas Tildsley NEW		31/12/2026
e. One International Student	Ashutosh Chugh NEW		31/12/2026
f. One Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Student	VACANT [PVCISL recommendation sought]		31/12/2026
g. 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	VACANT		
	VACANT		
	VACANT		
	VACANT		

h. 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 of Academic Senate	Interim University Secretary	Mr Daniel Bell	
	Director, Strategy Planning and Performance	Mr Joel Palmer	

Quorum

	Membership Number	Less Vacancies	Total
Ex-Officio Members	17	1	16
Elected Members	36	3	33
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	53	4	49

** Academic promotion from 1 Jan 2026

The positions of Deputy President of Academic Senate Teaching and Learning and Deputy President of Academic Senate Research expired 31/12/2025. DPAS positions are two-year terms and contingent on continued membership. A Call for Nominations for the DPAS positions on 03/10/2025 received nil nominations. PAS to revisit DPAS appointments early 2026.