Introduction
Academic Senate is required under clause 4.3 of Ordinance 13 - Academic Senate to report to Council once a year on the exercise of delegations under the Ordinance. This report highlights the significant items considered by Academic Senate throughout 2019, and summarises Academic Senate activity in relation to its role as described in clause 3 of the Ordinance. Formal advice on the exercise of delegations from Council also follows.

Academic Senate held six ordinary meetings and one planning session during 2019. A Members’ Attendance Report is available from the Academic Senate Website. Standing Academic Committee met on five occasions in 2019. Decisions made on behalf of Academic Senate by Standing Academic Committee have been incorporated into the following report.

Significant Items Considered
Academic Senate considered the following significant items during 2019:

- Graduate Outcomes Survey Report 2017 and Student Experience Committee Survey Report 2017 (February)
- The Assessment Policy as a living document in Colleges and Academic Units (April)
- Higher Degree by Research Candidate Survey (April)
- Research Strategy (June)
- People Strategy (June)
- Student Surveys (June)
- Attrition and Business Intelligence Reporting (July)
- External Review of International Recruitment and Admissions Practices (July)
- Student Academic Integrity Ordinance (July)
- Blended Learning at the University College (September)
- Establishment of the University Admissions Committee (September)
- Promotions Policy and Procedures (September)
- Assessment Policy and Procedures (September)
- University College Pathways (November)
- School and Institute Review Procedure (November)
- Academic Probation (November)
- Graduate Outcomes Survey (November)
- Open Universities Australia (November)

In accordance with its obligations under the Higher Education Standards Framework, Academic Senate received the following data reports:

- Graduate Outcomes Survey Report 2017 (February)
- Student Experience Survey Report 2017 (February)
- Higher Degree Research Candidate Survey Report 2018 (April)
- Student Discipline Management Report 2018 (April)
- Student Complaints Management Report 2018 (April)
- Scholarships Cycle Report 2019 (July)
- Graduate Outcomes Survey Report 2018 (November)
- Unit eVALUate Report 2018 (November)

Academic Senate’s role
Clause 3 of Ordinance 13 – Academic Senate sets out Academic Senate’s role. Following is a summary of Academic Senate activities in fulfilling that role.

3.1 (a) advise Council on Academic matters within the University.
- Provided advice in relation to:
  - Student Surveys (at the April, May, June & December Council meetings)
  - Research Strategy (at the June Council meeting)
Attrition and Business Intelligence Reporting (at the August Council meeting)
Student Academic Integrity (at the August Council meeting)
Blended Learning (at the October Council meeting)
Assessment (at the October Council meetings)
University College Pathways (at the December Council meeting)
Academic Probation (at the December Council meeting)

3.1 (b) to provide the primary collegial forum for discussion, debate and recommendations on academic matters
- Student Surveys (February, April, June & November)
- Research Strategy (June)
- Student Academic Integrity Ordinance (July)
- Blended Learning at University College (September)
- Assessment Policy and Procedures (September)
- University College Pathways (November)
- Open Universities Australia (November)

3.1 (c) to maintain an environment that supports intellectual freedom and academic integrity.
- Received progress reports from the Academic Senate Research Integrity Working Party (which is considering implementation of recommendations of the Independent External Review of Mechanisms to Support the Responsible Conduct of Research at the University of Tasmania Report, February-March 2015 (the Lawson Review) (June)
- Considered and approved the revision of Ordinance 9 – Student Academic Integrity (July)

3.2 (d) Providing advice to Council and the Vice-Chancellor on policies (including ordinances and rules) relating to academic matters such as general entry requirements, admissions, enrolments, academic assessment, student progress, discipline, academic standards, prizes and scholarships
- University of Tasmania Strategic Research Plan 2014-2018 - Implementation Progress (April)
- New and Revised Research Policies - Management of Research Funding Policy; Consultancy Policy; and Research Funding Costing Policy (which replaces the Indirect Cost Policy) - to ensure appropriate alignment with current research management practices and procedures (April)
- Responsible Conduct of Research Policy and Supporting Procedures (June)
- Academic Promotions Policy and Procedure (September)
- School and Institute Review Procedure (November)
- Changes to assessment policy landscape (November)

3.2(f) providing advice on processes to assist the university’s academic staff in achieving and maintaining excellence in all areas of academic activity
- The Provost led a major review of academic staff promotions to ensure promotion processes were aligned with:
  - the University’s College model and the consequent devolution of responsibility and accountability
  - the University’s People Strategy and its principles
  - the University’s values
  - new and emerging types of academic work and roles.
  The review sought to remove barriers to promotion, increase the diversity of applicants for promotion and ensure that promotions processes continue to have transparency and rigour (September)
- Assessment Policy and Procedure – review in progress (September)
- School and Institute Review Procedure (November)
3.2 (g) commenting on reports received from the Vice- Chancellor relating to management actions of significance to the academic community

- Noted the following matters of interest and importance:
  - Splitting of Maths and Physics Disciplines (February)
  - Establishment of Engineering as a Separate School in the College of Sciences and Engineering (April)
  - Establishment of new Discipline - Policing and Emergency Management (July)
  - Hong Kong disruptions and impact on students (September)
  - University guidelines for student demonstrations (September)
  - College of Health and Medicine changes to structure - the reorganisation of the current School of Medicine into three Schools (November):
    - The Tasmanian School of Medicine
    - The School of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
    - The School of Psychological Sciences

3.2 (i) monitoring and receiving reports from the Provost, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Pro Vice-Chancellors, Principal of the University College, the Deans of Faculties, Heads of Institutes, Directors of National Centres and Heads of Schools on policy implementation, academic standards and academic performance.

- Considered the Assessment Policy (April)
- Considered and approved the Responsible Conduct of Research Policy and Supporting Procedures (June)
- Considered and provided input to the External Review of International Recruitment and Admissions Practices (July) and ongoing monitoring of recommendation implementation
- Considered attrition and Business Intelligence reporting (July)
- Considered and approved Ordinance 9 – Student Academic Integrity (July)
- Considered the review of the Assessment Policy and Procedure (September)
- Consider changes to the assessment policy landscape (November)
- Considered the University Performance Report (at each meeting)

Delegated Functions

Clause 4 of Ordinance 13 – Academic Senate itemises Council delegations to Academic Senate. Following is the Academic Senate report on the exercise of those delegations.

4.2 (a) Approval of proposals from colleges and faculties, institutes, centres and schools relating to awards, including: course duration, content and structure; entry requirements; methods of delivery and assessment; names and abbreviations of units and courses

- Approved the introduction of the International First Year Diploma Business, International First Year Diploma Engineering, International First Year Diploma Science and Pre-Masters Business Program from October 2019 and delivery of those programs by ACG Education through a Third-Party Arrangement. (April)
- Approved English Requirements for Study Abroad Students from Partner Institutions in Mexico (June)
- Approved the use of ungraded pass results for Corporate Internship Units
- Approved the discontinuation of courses offered through the Third-Party Arrangement with the Centre for Pavement Engineering Education (CPEE) (June)
- Approved 11 articulation arrangements
- Approved 15 new courses
- Approved 125 significant amendments to courses
- Approved the discontinuation of 47 courses
4.2 (c) Power to make rules relating to prizes, scholarships, bursaries
- Approved 23 new Scholarship Rules
- Approved amendments to nine Scholarship Rules
- Approved 3 new Prize Rules

4.2 (d) Power to make rules of awards and rules relating to admission, academic assessment and student progress
- Reviewed and Approved AEMG English for Academic Purposes Direct Entry Program (April)
- Reviewed and approved the discontinuation of the University Initiated Withdrawal Without Academic Penalty Process (April)

4.2 (e) Power to make rules relating to graduate research and supervision.
- Approved the Doctor of Philosophy by Prior Publication - in 2017 the University approved the PhD by Prior Publication Policy to provide a mechanism by which doctoral awards might be awarded to a cohort of University staff members who meet specific conditions as defined in the Policy. To implement the PhD by Prior Publication Policy, a new course was established to allow eligible candidates to enrol in this specific type of doctoral degree (April).

Committees
Clause 13.1 of Ordinance 13, provides Academic Senate with the power to establish Committees and Clause 13.2 of Ordinance 13, In establishing a committee, Academic Senate is to specify the terms of reference and membership structure of the committee and include that information in a schedule to its meeting procedures.

During 2019, amendments were made to the Terms of Reference and membership of the Student Experience Committee, University Quality and Standards Committee, University Learning and Teaching Committee, University Research Committee and University Course and Unit Proposals Committee to reflect new appointments, changes in organisational structure and/or the disestablishment of Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups.

The following Senate Committee and Working Group were disestablished:
- University Quality and Standards Committee (April)
- Performance Monitoring Working Group (April)

The following Sub-Committee of an Academic Senate Committee was disestablished:
- Divisional and Cross College Learning and Teaching Committee (Sub-Committee of the University Learning and Teaching Committee) (April)

The following Senate Committee was established:
- University Admissions Committee (September)