

DIGEST – ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING 04/2025, 9 July 2025

A summary of the Academic Board meeting 04/2025 held on 9 July 2025 is detailed below.

Chair of Academic Board's Update

Academic Board:

- endorsed the Provost, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) (DVCE) and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous) Risks Submissions.
- discussed and noted the new TEQSA Guidance Notes: Staffing; Learning Resources and Educational Support
- noted the Chair of Academic Board Approvals.

As part of the Action Items Update, the Academic Board reviewed the proposed options for the Progress Outcome Rate benchmark (Attachment B – Action AB 2025/007, Institutional performance against the Schedule A Benchmarks) and endorsed Option 2. This option retains the current benchmark while modifying the calculation method to include only students who subsequently enrol at ACU.

Vice-Chancellor and President's (VCP) Update

The VCP provided an update on several key matters:

- the post-election landscape in higher education, including recent meetings between the university and newly elected members of parliament representing electorates where ACU campuses are located.
- the establishment of the Australian Tertiary Education Commission (ATEC), outlining its mandate, anticipated impact on the sector, and initial priorities.
- Universities Australia's ongoing efforts to address antisemitism within the higher education sector.

Academic Board noted the Report of the Vice-Chancellor and President.

Academic Board noted the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Council Progress Update on the Implementation of the AI Action Plan as provided by Professor Tania Broadley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) (DVCE).

Provost's Update

The Provost provided an update on several key matters:

- current information regarding international student caps for ACU in 2026.
- the university's achievement in surpassing its 2025 EFTSL targets, providing an overview across different student cohorts, including commencing, continuing, and international students.
- progress on the new vertical double degree program, Bachelor of Computer Science / Master of Data Science.
- the successful hosting of the Air Aware Hackathon 2025 at the North Sydney Campus on 7–8 July.

Academic Board discussed and noted: 2025 enrolment outlook, Faculty health checks, Higher Degree Research snapshot, portfolio highlights and an update on the new four-year vertical double Bachelor of Computer Science and Master of Data Science.

Policy Review, Approval and Monitoring

Academic Board:

- approved amendments to Recognition of Prior Learning Policy and Procedures and the Academic Regulations with immediate effect.

- noted the Semester 1 2025 Graduation Report.
- approved the amendment to the Admission to Coursework Programs Policy to lower the minimum GPA for Honours Programs at ACU from 5.5 to 5.0.
- approved the revised Classification of Research Outputs Policy as endorsed by the University Research Committee on 3 June 2025.
- approved the new Publications Research Classification Procedure as endorsed by the University Research Committee on 3 June 2025.

Reporting Committees

1. Courses and Academic Quality Committee (CAQC)

Academic Board:

- noted the Digest of the CAQC meeting 04/2025 held on 11 June 2025.
- approved the major course change for the Bachelor of Psychological Science / Master of Teaching (Primary) to amend the Course Duration, Rules, Map, and Semester Intakes, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR001270, effective for Semester 1 2026.
- approved the major course change for the:
 - Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology (MCEPN;) and
 - Graduate Certificate in Clinical Exercise Rehabilitation (GCCLER) for offer at the Blacktown campus, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR001389, effective for Semester 1 2026.
- approved the major course change to the Master of Social Work (Qualifying) to amend the admission requirements (1) in relation to the related fields and previous studies (for MSWQUA and MSWQOQ), and (2) by removal of the GPA requirement for International students on the Canberra Campus (MSWQUA), as detailed in CMAS proposal PR001449, effective immediately for 2026 applications.
- approved the major course change arising from the recommendations of the Stage 1 Review of the Master of Information Technology as detailed in CMAS proposal PR000899, effective for Semester 1 2026.
- approved the major course change arising from the recommendations of the Stage 1 Review of the Bachelor of Information Technology, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR000897, effective for Semester 1 2026.
- approved the major course change arising from the recommendations of the Stage 1 Review of the Master of Professional Accounting, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR000898, effective for Semester 1 2026.
- approved the major course change for the:
 - Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice
 - Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice/Bachelor of Laws
 - Bachelor of Human Rights/Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice as detailed in CMAS proposal PR0001409, effective for semester 1 2026.
- approved the major course change for the:
 - Bachelor of Business
 - Bachelor of Nutrition Science / Bachelor of Business
 - Bachelor of Business / Bachelor of Laws
 - Bachelor of Commerce / Bachelor of Laws
 - Bachelor of Commerce / Bachelor of Laws (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Commerce
 - Bachelor of Commerce
 - Bachelor of Biomedical Science / Bachelor of Business
 - Bachelor of Nursing / Bachelor of Business
 - Bachelor of Exercise Science / Bachelor of Business Administration
 - Bachelor of Psychological Science / Bachelor of Commerce to refresh associated Majors and Minors for Semester 1 2026, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR0001429, effective for Semester 1 2026.
- approved the new course proposal for the Diploma in Business for delivery via ACU Online, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR0001350, effective for ACU Term 1 2026.

- approved the new course proposal for the Diploma in Information Technology for delivery via ACU Online, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR0001351, effective for ACU Term 1 2026.
- approved the major course change for the:
 - Bachelor of Theology; and
 - Bachelor of Theology / Bachelor of Philosophyto update the English prerequisite requirements for delivery in Queensland, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR001250, effective for Semester 1 2026.
- approved the proposal to discontinue the Master of Professional Studies in Theology, as detailed in CMAS proposal PR000491 for implementation for Semester 2 2026.
- noted the Domestic Admissions Report Semester 1 2025.
- noted the following course suspensions approved by the Provost:
 - Course Suspensions 2025 for Business and IT courses offered at Blacktown campus (approved 31 March 2025); and
 - Bachelor of Business Administration and associated double degree suspensions at various locations from Semester 1 2026.

2. University Learning and Teaching Committee (ULTC)

Academic Board:

- noted the ACU Education and Student Success Plan Update.
- noted the Digest of ULTC meeting 04/2025, held on 24 June 2025.
- discussed and noted the ACU Thrive Update – Evaluation Report and Future Directions.
- noted the Credit for Prior Learning Report - Semester 1, 2025 as submitted to the ULTC.
- noted the Timetabling Report 2024/5 as submitted to the ULTC.

3. University Research Committee (URC)

Academic Board:

- noted the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) (DVCRE) update.
- noted the URC Acquittal of Annual Work Plan Report 2024.
- noted the Research Operations Report for year-to-date April 2025 results.
- noted the Research Publications Performance Report, May 2025.
- noted the HDR Report, and the Graduate Research School Update, dated June 2025.

4. Faculty Boards

Academic Board noted the digests of:

- Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) Faculty Board meeting 03/2025, held on 8 May 2025.
- Faculty of Law and Business (FLB) Faculty Board meeting 03/2025, held on 8 May 2025.
- Faculty of Theology and Philosophy (FTP) Faculty Board meeting 03/2025, held on 7 May 2025.