

NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS OF SENATE IN 2026

1. Notice of Election

Notice is hereby given that an election is to be held to fill one position by and from the academic staff of the University and one position by and from the professional staff of the University, to be appointed as members of the University Senate for a three-year term of office. The election commences on Wednesday 18 February 2026 with this call for nominations and will close with cessation of voting at 4:00pm AEDT on Wednesday 25 March 2026.

Senate is the peak governing body of the University and operates as outlined in Clause 13 of the [Australian Catholic University Constitution](#). Additional information about Senate including its terms of reference, composition and committees can be obtained from the [Senate website](#).

These elections will be conducted as required by the ACU Constitution and under the provisions of [Statute 2.1 The Senate](#) and [Statute 8.1 Elections to the Senate](#).

2. Authority

Nominations are invited as required by Clause 13.2(h) and (i) of the ACU Constitution.

3. Term of Office

The term of office is from 1 May 2026 until 30 April 2029 inclusive.

4. Eligibility

To be eligible to nominate for election, a member of academic staff must be employed in accordance with the terms of the ACU Enterprise Agreement for Academic Staff (Levels A-E) with substantive salary prescribed by [Schedule 1 - Part A of the Enterprise Agreement](#). This excludes Executive Deans and some senior academic administrators: if you would like to check eligibility before nominating, please contact governance.elections@acu.edu.au.

To be eligible to nominate for election, a member of professional staff must be employed in accordance with the terms of the ACU Enterprise Agreement in a position classified in accordance with the DWM descriptors that is paid in accordance with the salaries set out in [Schedule 1 - Part B of the Enterprise Agreement](#).

Please note that full-time and part-time, permanent and fixed-term academic and professional staff are eligible to participate in this election. Casual staff are ineligible to participate in this election.

5. Election Timeline:

Activity	Date
Notice of election and call for nominations	Wednesday 18 February 2026
Nominations close	4pm AEDT on Wednesday 4 March 2026
Voting commences (if required)	10am AEDT on Wednesday 11 March 2026
Voting closes	4pm AEDT on Wednesday 25 March 2026
Results declared	Friday 27 March 2026

6. Form of Nomination

This election will be conducted via the BigPulse electronic electoral platform. All staff eligible to nominate will be invited to self-nominate by direct email. Nominations are to be returned online using the personalised link provided in the emailed invitation to participate.

To be considered eligible, a nomination must be completed and lodged before the closing date and time for nominations stipulated at 5 above. **Nominations received after this date and time will not be accepted.**

Before close of nominations, candidates are required to provide a biographical statement of not more than 250 words in support of their candidature. This is to be entered into the nomination platform via BigPulse. Candidates may also wish to provide a suitable photograph to accompany the biographical statement. Note that both candidate statement and photo will be made available to voters as part of the ballot process.

7. Senator Workload and Recognition

In accordance with the [Senator Workload and Recognition Policy](#) and in recognition of the time commitment required to be an effective member of Senate, the University provides workload allowances to enable staff Senators to discharge their duties and travel to and from Senate commitments. The relevant Executive Dean, nominated supervisor and Chief People Officer are notified of the appointment so this allowance can be activated. Expenses associated with Senate activities (such as travel and accommodation, where required) are also covered by the University.

8. Further information

Further information may be obtained by emailing the Governance Directorate via governance.elections@acu.edu.au

Dr Diane Barker
Returning Officer and Secretary
17 February 2026