Student Member of Senate (Student Senator)



Term:

1 January 2027 – 31 December 2027
Student Senators may stand for re-election

Appointment:

Elected by all enrolled undergraduate and postgraduate students who are undertaking at least one (1) unit in an award course of study or are actively enrolled in a Higher Degree by Research award course at the University, as set out in ACU Statute 8.1 - Elections to the Senate.

Summary:

The Student Member of Senate (Student Senator) is the student member of the University Senate and a director of Australian Catholic University Ltd. The Student Senator contributes to the broad governance of the University.

The Role of Student Senator on University Senate

The Student Senator is the Student Member of the Senate at Australian Catholic University.

The Student Senator does not represent students on the Senate, but rather brings an independent perspective as a student of the University to the deliberations of Senate. The Student Senator supports and articulates the Mission of the University.

As the governing body of the University, the Senate acts as a Board of Directors and is responsible for the governance, risk management, budget approval, the provision of a policy structure for the University and for providing advice on issues of relevance to the University and to the Higher Education Sector.

The duties of the Student Senator include:

- Being a Director of Australian Catholic University Ltd
- Being an active and informed member of the University Senate
- Contributing to the broader governance processes of the University
- Reporting to Senate on student matters relevant to Senate's deliberations
- Attending six face-to-face or virtual meetings of Senate and Planning Day
- Attending some University functions as a Senator



The Student Senator may attend meetings of the Australian Catholic University National Student Association (ACUNSA) comprising the President of ACUNSA, Campus Student Association presidents and other student representatives.

The Student Senator may be required to travel to other campuses during the year of their term on Senate. Airfares, transport and accommodation expenses are approved in advance and paid for by the University.

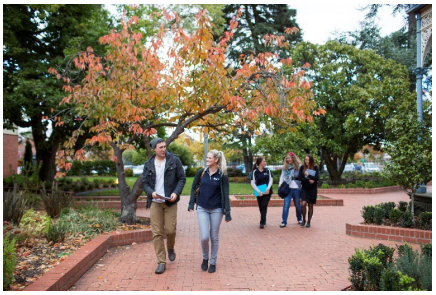
The Student Senator is accountable to the University for responsible use of budget and resources.

The role of Student Senator is one that is undertaken in addition to academic commitments. This reflects the University's value of volunteerism and service to the community as critical aspects of student leadership. In recognition of the time commitment required to serve in the role, an allowance also applies to this position to enable the Student Senator to prepare for, and make meaningful contributions to, the activities of Senate. The details of this allowance are provided for in the Student Members Workload and Recognition Policy.

Criteria to be the Student Senator

The following characteristics contribute to success in the role of Student Senator:

- Clear understanding of, and engagement with, the University's Mission
- Ability to understand the responsibilities of a Company Director and the governance of the University
- An interest in the ongoing development of the University and in contributing to the achievement of current and future excellence
- Acts with integrity
- Organised and hardworking
- Enthusiastic and proactive
- Able to collaborate and consult effectively with fellow Senators, students, staff and University stakeholders
- Able to make decisions for the good of the University at large
- Able to manage competing priorities
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills
- Leadership ability and experience



Development

The Governance Directorate will organise an induction for the successful candidate to provide the relevant preparation and development required to understand the governance and policy related responsibilities of this important position.