

Academic Board

(A Committee of Council)

The Academic Board is established as a committee of the Council under the provisions of s.182(2) of the Education Act 1989 to advise the Council on matters relating to courses of study or training, awards and other academic matters, and to exercise powers delegated to it by the Council. These powers, defined in detailed terms of reference below, are delegated by the Council under the provisions of s.222(1) of the Education Act 1989.

Note: The term 'School' in this document includes Faculties and the term 'Head' includes Deans. The terms 'School of Graduate Research' and 'Dean of the School of Graduate Research' apply only where specified.

Terms of Reference

1. To advance and coordinate the academic activities of the University.
2. Informed by participation and communication with the wider academic community through its membership, Divisional Boards, Boards of Studies and other committees, to serve as a forum within which to initiate and engage in discussion focussed on strategic and other academic matters of importance to the University, and, where required, to provide advice to external authorities on behalf of the University with respect to academic matters.
3. To foster across the University
 - (a) a constructive and collegial academic culture and effective academic leadership
 - (b) high standards in teaching, supervision and research.
4. To consider and make recommendations to Council, either at its own initiative, an initiative of its Divisional Boards, Boards of Studies or other committees, or by invitation, with respect to
 - (a) strategic objectives relating to teaching, learning, supervision and research in the University, and
 - (b) any other academic matter.
5. On the basis of consultation with the Divisional Boards, Boards of Studies and other committees, to approve proposals for new qualifications and programmes of study, for changes to existing qualifications and programmes of study and for the discontinuation of existing qualifications and programmes of study.
6. Informed by the University's strategic planning framework and priorities, and on the basis of consultation with the Divisional Boards, Boards of Studies and other committees, to approve new policies, regulations and standards, or changes to existing policies, regulations and standards, relating to
 - (a) admission, re-enrolment and credit
 - (b) the requirements for the award of qualifications, honorary degrees and other academic distinctions
 - (c) assessment
 - (d) the appointment of examiners, assessors and moderators
 - (e) the granting of scholarships, prizes and similar awards
 - (f) research
 - (g) agreements in support of academic cooperation and collaboration with other institutions and organisations, with the exception of Guaranteed Credit Agreements
 - (h) student discipline
 - (i) any other academic matter.

7. To make recommendations to Council with respect to
 - (a) the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates Statute
 - (b) the Delegation of Powers Statute.
8. To consider recommendations from the Honours Committee with respect to nominations for the award of the degree of Honorary Doctor of the University of Waikato, the Distinguished Alumni Award and the University of Waikato Medal and make comment on them to Council with respect to the approval of those nominations.
9. To consider recommendations from the Vice-Chancellor with respect to nominations for the awards of Emeritus Professor and Honorary Fellow and make comment on them to the Vice-Chancellor with respect to the approval of those nominations.
10. On the basis of consultation with the Divisional Boards, Boards of Studies, the Animal Ethics Committee and the Human Research Ethics Committee, to make recommendations to the Vice-Chancellor with respect to policies, regulations and procedures for ethical conduct in research involving animals and humans.
11. To serve as a forum for discussion and formulation of advice to the Vice-Chancellor, either on its own initiative, an initiative of its Divisional Boards, Boards of Studies or other committees, or by invitation, with respect to the academic implications of alternative structural or organisational arrangements in the University.
12. To exercise any powers or functions delegated to it by any statute, policy or regulation or as prescribed from time to time by the Council.
13. To receive annual reports from relevant staff of the University on decisions taken by them under authorities delegated by the Academic Board under the Delegation of Powers Statute.
14. To report to its committees (Divisional Boards, Boards of Studies, Research Committee and Education Committee) and Council following every meeting with respect to its business under these terms of reference.

Approved by
Council, 26 March 2019