

Council Election Policy



1 Purpose

To provide information and guidance on the election of members of the University Council and other committees at the University with elected members, including the Academic Board.

2 Scope

This policy applies to all University Members.

This policy and associated procedure apply to elections for the categories of elected members of the Council pursuant to s.15(2) of the *University of Southern Queensland Act 1998* (the Act).

This policy and procedure do not apply to appointments made by the Council to fill a casual vacancy in accordance with s.20A(2) and s.20A(5) of the Act.

This policy and associated procedure may also be applied to election of members of other committees at the University including the Academic Board.

3 Policy Statement

Prior to the existence of this policy, the University conducted all its Council elections using the *University of Southern Queensland (Conduct of Council Elections Statute) 2010*. Following changes made in 2017 to all the Acts of Queensland universities, each university is required to have an election policy with function and form as stipulated in the relevant Act. The *University of Southern Queensland Act 1998* (the Act) requires that the Council must make a policy about the conduct of elections for its categories of membership including elected academic Employees, general (professional) Employees, and Students. Under the Act, the Council Election Policy is to be published on the University's website. The Policy takes effect on the day it is published on the University's website, or any later date as stated in the Policy, pursuant to s.26AA(4) of the Act.

4 Principles

Elections will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Act and principles commonly associated with democratic elections including independence, fairness, transparency, integrity, privacy and competence.

5 References

This policy is informed by the *University of Southern Queensland Act 1998*, the *University Legislation Amendment Act 2017*, and *University of Southern Queensland (Conduct of Council Elections Statute) 2010* (repealed) which this policy and associated procedure replace.

Department of Education. University of Southern Queensland Act (1998). Queensland.

Office of the Parliamentary Council. University Legislation Amendment Act (2017). Queensland.

6 Schedules

This policy must be read in conjunction with its subordinate schedules as provided in the table below.

7 Policy Information

Subordinate Schedules	
Accountable Officer	Vice-Chancellor
Responsible Officer	University Secretary
Policy Type	Governance Policy
Approved Date	9/7/2018
Effective Date	1/8/2018
Review Date	1/8/2021
Relevant Legislation	University Legislation Amendment Act 2017 University of Southern Queensland Act 1998 University of Southern Queensland (Conduct of Council Elections) Statute 2010 (repealed)
Related Policies	
Related Procedures	Council Election Procedure
Related forms, publications and websites	
Definitions	Terms defined in the Definitions Dictionary Council Council means the governing body, the University of Southern

Queensland Council.

Employee

A person employed by the University and whose conditions of employment are covered by the USQ Enterprise Agreement and includes persons employed on a continuing, fixed term or casual basis. Employees also include senior Employees whose conditions of employment are covered by a written agreement or contract with the University.

Student

A person who: has been Admitted or Enrolled in an Academic Program at the University, but has not yet graduated from the program; or has been Enrolled in a Course at the University but has not yet completed the Course.

University

The term 'University' or 'USQ' means the University of Southern Queensland.

University Members

Employees of the University whose conditions of employment are covered by the USQ Enterprise Agreement whether full time or fractional, continuing, fixed-term or casual, including senior Employees whose conditions of employment are covered by a written agreement or contract with the University; Members of the University Council and University Committees; Visiting and adjunct academics; Volunteers who contribute to University activities or who act on behalf of the University; Individuals who are granted access to University facilities or who are engaged in providing services to the University, such as contractors and consultants, where applicable.

Definitions that relate to this policy only

Keywords

Record No

18/731PL