

What happened @ Academic Board

10 June 2026

1. WELCOME AND APPOINTMENTS

WELCOME AND MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Academic Board met for its third meeting of 2026 in a hybrid format.

The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

A warm welcome was extended to **Ceri Parsons**, newly elected Academic Staff Representative.

2. KEY DECISIONS/ACTIONS BY THE ACADEMIC BOARD

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Student Complaints Reporting

The Board endorsed a **structured approach to student complaints reporting**, including:

- Nature of complaints
- Thematic analysis
- Institutional responses

Reporting will now occur **twice yearly (mid-year and end-of-year)** to strengthen oversight and transparency.

Assessment Transparency

The Board approved the introduction of sharing of the **average marks (minimum) on all assessments** via Canvas, subject to cohort size considerations, to improve transparency and student benchmarking.

Policy Updates

- **ACA019 Examination Policy** – minor amendment approved to include online examinations
- **AI Operations Policy** – noted following out-of-cycle approval

3. COURSE STANDARDS, ACCREDITATION AND ASSESSMENT

Course Standards Committee (20 May)

- Noted increasing workload and the value of clear summary reporting
- Ongoing accreditation activity

Accreditation Update

- External accreditation for an EMDR unit has been delayed

- The Institute may proceed without accreditation if required, although this remains the preferred outcome

AI and Assessment Integrity

- Continued expansion of **interactive oral assessments** and authentic assessment approaches
- Ongoing work to mitigate AI misuse and strengthen academic integrity
- Student anxiety acknowledged, but overall Board support for innovation affirmed

4. STUDENT EXPERIENCE AND FEEDBACK

Positive Feedback from Students

Students reported:

- Strong satisfaction with recent course changes
- High value of clinic-based placements
- Positive reception of oral assessments
- Strong sense of institutional support

Key Issues Raised

- Placement coordination delays (in some cases)
- High assessment load in selected programs
- Canvas functionality inconsistencies
- Communication delays in some areas
- Requests for greater grading transparency

Actions and Outcomes

- **Comprehensive response reporting** to be developed for student feedback and complaints
- Ongoing monitoring of learning environment concerns, including safety and wellbeing
- Continued review of assessment load and placement processes

5. ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER REPRESENTATION

Work continues to progress **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation on Academic Board**, including:

- Ongoing engagement with potential candidates
- Continued development of respectful terminology guidance

- Alignment with broader governance and representation priorities

6. STAFF ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

Staff Engagement Survey

- Strong participation (~82%) reflects high staff engagement
- Staff value the opportunity to contribute anonymously

Administrative Workload

- Pressures identified, particularly in placements and compliance processes
- Matter is being addressed operationally, with Board support noted

7. REPORT FROM THE DEAN

Key updates included:

- Submission to national **psychology pathway redesign**
- Advocacy for workforce sustainability, access, and sector diversity
- Ongoing engagement with government and sector bodies
- Recognition of potential **sector-wide impacts**

8. VET AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Highlights included:

- Extension of government internship funding
- Continued growth in short courses and diploma programs
- Successful delivery of a major graduation event

9. REPORT FROM STUDENT SERVICES

- Growth in applications across programs
- Increasing participation in graduation ceremonies
- Strong survey response rates (above sector benchmarks)
- Continued demand across undergraduate and honours pathways

10. LIVED EXPERIENCE AND GOVERNANCE INSIGHTS

The Board discussed the **NHMRC consumer participation framework**, highlighting:

- The importance of recognising lived experience expertise alongside scientific knowledge
- Implications for research governance, ethics, and policy development

Further sharing with the Ethics Committee is planned to inform future work.

MEETINGS IN 2026

- Wednesday 11 February (Online)
- Wednesday 8 April (Onsite)
- Wednesday 10 June (Online)
- Wednesday 5 August (Onsite)
- Wednesday 7 October (Online)
- Wednesday 25 November (Online)