

# STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE — CONFERRAL OF AWARDS

Date: 12 July 2018

Author: University Secretary and Director, Governance Support Unit

## Background

1. In accordance with [Higher Education Standard Frameworks \(HESF\) 2015](#), Australian higher education providers have primary responsibility to ensure that the provider's higher education activities are reputable, of high quality, comply with institutional policy requirements, deliver expected outcomes for students, and that all qualifications awarded are credible for the level of qualification involved.
2. UTS recognises the requirements of the HESF 2015 and its responsibility for the academic standards of awards made in its name, and ensures conformance of HESF 2015 with a comprehensive governance framework.

## Purpose

3. This Statement of Assurance — Conferral of Awards (statement) is developed as part of the University's quality management process for the conferral of awards, and outlines the governance framework (including standards of quality and processes) in place to ensure that the University meets the HESF 2015 requirements. It sets out the University's approach to quality assurance for conferral of awards with relevant links to the governance framework (including individual policies and procedures, which establish more detail).

## Applicability and scope

4. This statement supplements and supports the University's governance framework, which sets out the University's expectations and requirements for practice by its staff, particularly in relation to quality assurance and quality enhancement in the process of conferral of awards.

## Responsibilities

5. This statement has been developed, and will be maintained, by the Governance Support Unit.
6. Academic Board will note and recommend to Council (for noting) the statement from time to time, as required, and when amended.

## Governance framework

7. The University has established a comprehensive governance framework for establishing, monitoring and sustaining quality and integrity in the conferral of

awards process. The following governance instruments enable the University to confer awards in conformance with HESF 2015.

- **UTS Act:** [section 6\(2\)\(e\)](#), [section 16\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- **Student Rules:** [section 11](#), [section 12](#), [section 13](#)
- **General Rules:** [Rule G3, Division 3](#)
- **Delegations:** 4.10.1 and 4.10.3 (see [Delegations Schedule](#))
- **Standing Orders for Faculty Boards:** [2.2 \(vii\)](#)
- **Policies:**
  - [Award Course Approval and Reaccreditation](#)
  - [Coursework Assessment](#)
  - [Credit Points for UTS Coursework Awards](#)
  - [Credit Recognition](#)
  - [Graduate Research and Supervision](#)
- **detailed internal procedures/processes** within faculties, Graduate Research School (GRS) and Student Administration Unit (SAU). These are available upon request.

## Plan, do, review, improve

8. The University's [Plan, Do, Review, Improve \(PDRI\) cycle](#) (Staff Connect) is the approach used for continuous improvement of processes at UTS.

## Procedures

9. SAU and GRS have developed local-level procedures for conferral of awards, which are available upon request (to SAU and GRS).

## Assurances

10. The processes and practices for conferring awards at UTS will:
  - a) be undertaken in compliance with the requirements prescribed in the [Governance Framework](#)
  - b) be undertaken in accordance with the abovementioned SAU or GRS procedures (as relevant), and
  - c) follow the PDRI quality improvement approach.