

University Statute No. 30 - Admission, Enrolment and Academic Progress

1. Preliminary

- (1) Under the provisions of section 26(1) of the *Edith Cowan University Act 1984* (“the Act”) Rules may be made under this Statute with respect to the admission, enrolment and academic progress of students.
- (2) These Rules may prescribe the responsibilities and obligations of those persons, classes of persons and bodies of persons within the University necessary to regulate, or provide for the regulation of:
 - (a) the admission of students to the University at all levels of academic program;
 - (b) the enrolment and re-enrolment of students;
 - (c) the granting of advanced standing, the recognition of prior learning and credit transfer;
 - (d) the assessment and grading of student performance;
 - (e) the academic progress of students, including student appeals; and
 - (f) other such matters that may be required to fulfil the functions and responsibilities of the University with respect to the objects of the Act and the academic progress of students.
- (3) The Rules may provide for the maintenance, promotion and improvement of the academic standards of the University, whilst giving due consideration to the rights and freedoms of students, the academic support required generally by students and the specific needs of designated student populations including students with disabilities, students in other defined equity groups and international students.

2. Investigations and appeals

- (1) Appeals instigated under this Statute must be conducted in accordance with the principles of equity and good conscience and the substantial merits of the case without regard to technicalities or legal forms. Subject to the requirements of natural justice, those deciding appeals will not be bound by any rules of evidence and may inform themselves of any matter they believe to be relevant.
- (2) When hearing an appeal:
 - (a) freedom of speech and freedom of expression shall be permitted where such speech or expression is consistent with like freedoms given to others and the rights of any person affected;
 - (b) the student must be provided with an opportunity to be heard (although not necessarily face to face or even orally); and
 - (c) when a conclusion is reached, the student must be:
 - (i) notified of the outcome; and
 - (ii) provided with sufficient reasons to explain the outcome.
- (3) Appeals must be lodged in accordance with the procedures and in the timeframe specified in Rules made under this Statute, except in exceptional circumstances approved by the Vice-Chancellor.

- (4) In all other circumstances, time limits established in Rules under this Statute should, where practicable, be complied with provided that:
- (a) the Vice-Chancellor may, upon such terms as he or she believes to be appropriate, extend or abridge any period of time fixed by a provision of a Rule made under this Statute, and may do so after the expiration of any such period; and
 - (b) no action shall be invalidated because a time limit is exceeded.
- (5) Hearings instigated under this Statute will be in private unless the presiding member of the body hearing the appeal decides otherwise.

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