School Review Policy

1. PURPOSE

To support quality assurance and improvement of the University's Schools through systematic, externally-referenced review.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

2.1 School reviews form an integral part of the University's strategic planning and quality enhancement to position the university for the future.

2.2 The systematic, externally-referenced review and evaluation of the University's activities and the subsequent development and implementation of action plans result in continuous improvement.

2.3 School reviews are informed by the [Higher Education Standards Framework](#).

2.4 The Vice-Chancellor may initiate a school review at any time.

2.5 School reviews are undertaken on a regular, planned cycle against the following standard criteria unless varied by the Provost:

1. Learning and Student Experience

(a) demand for courses and the relative competitive position in the market;

(b) external stakeholder perceptions in relation to the alignment of courses and curriculum to stakeholder needs;

(c) appropriateness of the course portfolio mix relative to opportunity;

(d) compliance with University and external accreditation body requirements relating to review and improvement of units and courses;

(e) evidence of commitment to teaching excellence and innovation by School staff

(f) ability to attract a growing share of quality students;

(g) attraction, retention and completion of low SES and Indigenous students;

(h) student academic success as measured by retention, progression and graduate outcomes;

(i) student and graduate satisfaction with course and teaching quality; and

(j) external stakeholder perceptions in relation to the quality of graduates.

2. Research and Innovation

(a) extent and quality of past and present research within the School's disciplines in comparison to benchmark Universities, including:

    a. relevance of the research focus of the School;

    b. amount and category of research funding;

    c. level of productivity and quality of research outcomes including creative practice outcomes;

    d. extent and significance of national and international research leadership and collaboration;

    e. achievement of esteem measures and reputation of researchers; and

    f. extent and quality of research leadership;

(b) extent and significance of contribution to research quality (ERA);

(c) research capacity of the School, including the level and quality of research activity of academic staff;

(d) research impact including industry and commercialisation revenue;

    (e)   effectiveness and quality of research training of graduate students and early career researchers; and

    (f)   growth in Higher Degree by Research enrolments and timely completion.

3. Engagement and Impact

    (a)   overall ranking and reputation, including the performance on peer and employer reputation surveys and international ranking systems at a subject/discipline level;

    (b)   systematic and regular engagement and relationship management of key industry and other stakeholders;

    (c)   level of industry engagement in relation to establishing needs and expectations for program offerings, graduates and research;

    (d)   extent of maintenance of quality international collaborations and partnerships for teaching and research; and

    (e)   processes for maintaining the affinity and connectedness of alumni.

4. People and Culture

    (a)   alignment of the School's culture and values with those of the University;

    (b)   appropriateness of the academic staff profile in relation to the strategic objectives of the School, Faculty and University;

    (c)   performance of academic staff in relation to teaching and research outcomes commitment to equity and inclusivity including gender balance and Indigenous participation; and

    (d)   commitment to, and culture of, health and safety.

5. Global Strategy

    (a)   International load, onshore and offshore;

    (b)   Comprehensive global strategy and footprint;

    (c)   Student mobility; and

    (d)   International rankings & reputation and key international accreditations.

6. Supporting Our Strategic Ambitions

    (a)   overall management of resources, including the financial sustainability of operations;

    (b)   financial sustainability of courses and units in relation to enrolled load (EFTSL);

    (c)   effective use of facilities and equipment;

    (d)   School planning processes and the alignment of School Plan to Faculty Plan and University Plan; and

    (e)   compliance with University policy and procedures, as related to operations

3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION, COMPLIANCE MONITORING, MEASURING AND CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT

These management positions are responsible for implementation and compliance monitoring of the policy in their work areas:

3.1 Provost

    (a)   Approves the schedule for the School Review program.

    (b)   Appoints members of School Review Panels.

    (c)   Approves variations to the standard criteria.

    (d)   Approves School Review Action Plans.

    (e)   Reports to Academic Board and Senior Executive Team on the progress and findings of the School Review Program.

4. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to the University community, including Council members, students, staff, University Associates, Curtin controlled entities, and all persons participating in University business or activities, including whether as a visitor, adjunct appointee, service provider, contractor or volunteer.

5. DEFINITIONS

(Note: Commonly defined terms are located in the *Curtin Common Definitions.* Any defined terms below are specific to this document)

Nil

6. SUPPORTING PROCEDURES

Nil

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS/LINKS

Area Review Policy

Benchmarking

Higher Education Standards Framework

School Review Guidelines

Policy Compliance Officer	Melissa Thong, Director, Strategy, Performance & Market Analysis, Office of Strategy and Planning
Policy Manager	Provost
Approval Authority	Senior Executive Team
Review Date	1st April 2020

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved/ Amended/ Rescinded	Date	Committee / Board / Executive Manager	Approval / Resolution Number	Key Changes and Notes
	Approved	17/05/2016	Planning and Management Committee	PMC 35/16	Attachment A to Item 7.1
	Administratively Updated	29/09/2016	Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Links updated