

Reserved Powers of Council and Committees

9 April 2026

Version 1.2



Council

Ref	Source of Authority	Function/Authority	Authority or Delegate	Reference	Comment
RP1	MQU Act Section 16	Oversee the University's performance	Council		Via VCRC and other committee reports
RP2	MQU Act Section 16	Approve and monitor systems of control and accountability for the University	Council		Via Finance & Facilities, Audit & Risk and VCRC
RP3	MQU Act Section 16	Oversee risk management and risk assessment across the University	Council		Via Audit & Risk Committee
RP4	MQU Act Section 16	Oversee the academic activities of the University	Council		Via Report of Academic Senate
RP5	MQU Act Section 16	Approve the University's mission and strategic direction	Council		
RP6	MQU Act Section 16	Approve the University's annual budget and business plan	Council		Via approval of Annual Budget on recommendation of Finance & Facilities
RP7	Council	Approve Campus Master Plan	Council		On recommendation of Finance & Facilities
RP8	Council	Approve Capital Management Plan	Council		On recommendation of Finance & Facilities
RP9	MQU Act Section 28	Make By-laws	Council		
RP10	MQU Act Section 29 and MQU By-law Section 35	Make Rules	Council		The Vice-Chancellor may also make rules (not inconsistent with the rules of Council)
RP11	MQU Act Section 12	Approve appointment and termination of the Vice-Chancellor	Council		On recommendation of Nominations and Remuneration Committee
RP12	Council	Approve Policy on development of Policy	Council	Policy Framework Policy	Other policies approved by Executive members or Vice-Chancellor and reported to Council
RP13	Council and MQU Act Section 17	Approve Policy on Delegations	Council	Delegations of Authority Policy	

Ref	Source of Authority	Function/Authority	Authority or Delegate	Reference	Comment
RP14	Council	Approve policies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honorary Degrees Emeritus Professors Council Emeritus Title Policies affecting Council, Council members and Council committees Other matters on which Council has reserved power 	Council	Honorary Degree Policy Award of Emeritus Professor Policy Council Resolution 18/05	These are policies in areas where Council has reserved powers
RP15	MQU Act Section 16	Approve and monitor systems of control and accountability for controlled entities of the University	Council	Controlled Entities Policy	Via Audit & Risk Committee
RP16	MQU Act Section 16A	Ensure that the governing bodies of controlled entities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possess the expertise and experience necessary to provide proper stewardship and control, and Comprise, where possible, at least some members who are not members of the Council or members of staff, or students, of the University, and Adopt and evaluate their own governance principles, and Document, and keep updated, a corporate or business strategy containing achievable and measurable performance targets, and That a protocol is established regarding reporting by governing bodies of controlled entities to the Council 	Council	Controlled Entities Policy	
RP17	Council	Approve establishment of MQU controlled entities (where research arrangements are involved)	Council Council on advice of DVCR	Controlled Entities Policy	
RP18	Council	Make appointments to the boards of directors of MQU controlled entities that restrict Class A members to members of Council	Council	Controlled Entities Policy	Via MQU Council members becoming Class A members of controlled entities with voting power to appoint and remove Directors
RP19	MQU Act Division 3 21B (e)	Designate MQU Commercial Activities	Council	MQU Guidelines on Commercial Activities	Via Council and Minister-approved Guidelines
RP20	Council	Establish and maintain branches and colleges of the University, within the University and elsewhere	Council		

RP21	Council	Approve establishment, naming and closure of faculties	Council	Faculty Rule	
Ref	Source of Authority	Function/Authority	Authority or Delegate	Reference	Comment
RP22	Council	Approve the award of Honorary Degree	Council	Honorary Degree Policy	On recommendation of Honorary Awards Committee
RP23	Council	Approve appointment as Emeritus Professor	Council	Award of Emeritus Professor Policy	On recommendation of Academic Senate
RP24	Council	Approve the award of an Emeritus Title	Council	Council Resolution 18/05	On recommendation of Nominations and Remuneration Committee
RP25	Council	Approve appointment as Pro-Chancellor	Council	Council Resolution 18/22	On recommendation of Nominations and Remuneration Committee

Committees of Council

Ref	Source of Authority	Function/Authority	Authority or Delegate	Reference	Comment
RP26	Council	Negotiate specific terms and conditions of offer within policy framework and refer to HR for letter of offer for Vice-Chancellor	Chancellor		
RP27	Council	Monitor the performance of the Vice-Chancellor and determine the Vice-Chancellor's salary	Nominations and Remuneration Committee		Committee terms of reference
RP28	MQU Act Section 16	Approve and monitor financial systems of control and accountability for the University, including Schedule of Financial Delegations	Finance & Facilities		Committee terms of reference
RP29	Council	Review University's financial performance against budget on a quarterly basis for report to Council	Finance & Facilities		Committee terms of reference
RP30	Council	Approve disposal of property off campus within the limitations of the MQU Act	Finance & Facilities		Committee terms of reference
RP31	Council	Review a periodic report from the Executive Director, Property Services on:	Finance & Facilities		Committee terms of reference

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability initiatives, including waste management; and Energy and water consumption 			
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RP32	Council	Take remedial action that may be required where project status indicates that contractual arrangements are not being met	>\$3M - \$50M Finance & Facilities Remaining values cascaded to VC, VPFR and Executive Director, Property Services		Committee terms of reference
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Ref	Source of Authority	Function/Authority	Authority or Delegate	Reference	Comment
RP33	Council	Approve acquisition and transfer of property	>\$3M - \$50M Finance & Facilities Remaining values cascaded to VC, VPFR and Executive Director, Property Services		Committee terms of reference

RP34	Council	Approve maintenance and renovation arrangements of University property	>\$3M - \$50M Finance & Facilities Remaining values cascaded to VC, VPFR and Executive Director, Property Services		Committee terms of reference
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RP35	Council	Provide advice to Council on approval and signing of the annual statutory financial statement	Audit & Risk		Committee terms of reference
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RP36	Council	Review the internal audit coverage and annual work plan, ensure that the plan is consistent with the University's risk profile, and approve the plan	Audit & Risk		Committee terms of reference
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RP37	Council	Review and approve the internal audit charter at least annually to ensure organisational structures, authority, access and reporting arrangements are in place.	Audit & Risk		Committee terms of reference
RP38	Council	Approve the appointment or replacement of the Internal Auditor	Audit & Risk		Committee terms of reference
RP39	Council	Approve actions and consider reports on the University's commercial activities as set out in Division 3 of the MQU Act	Audit & Risk	MQU Guidelines on Commercial Activities	Committee terms of reference
RP40	Council	Consider regular reports from MQU controlled entities and take actions as required	Audit & Risk	Controlled Entities Policy	Committee terms of reference
RP41	Council	Determine appeals against decision of the Student Conduct Committee under Clause 20 of the Student Conduct Rule or any appeal under Clause 25 of the Student Conduct Rule	Student Conduct Appeal Committee	Student Conduct Rule	Committee terms of reference.

AMENDMENT HISTORY

Version	Effective From	Approving Authority	Sections Modified	Amendment
1.1	14 June 2018	Council	Council Section	<p>Addition of delegations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve the award of an Emeritus Title (Resolution CNL 18/05); • approve policies on the Award of University Council Title of Emeritus (Resolution CNL 18/05); and • approve appointment as Pro-Chancellor (Resolution CNL 18/22).
1.2	9 April 2026	Council	Council and Committees of Council sections	<p>Removal of delegation RP24 on Conferral of Awards, and minor changes to titles and policy instruments to maintain currency of the document.</p>