

Notice of the 2026 **Academic Board** Students Elections and invitation to self-nominate

The University welcomes nominations from our students to serve on the UNSW Academic Board. Find out more about UNSW, gain valuable governance experience and contribute to the academic activities of the University by nominating yourself as one of the elected student members on the Academic Board.

What is the role of the Academic Board?

As the principal academic body of the University, the Academic Board:

- elects the President and Deputy Presidents of the Academic Board;
- oversees academic governance and maintenance of academic standards;
- advises the Vice-Chancellor and Council on the conduct and standards of teaching, scholarship and research;
- liaises with the faculties and makes recommendations to Council.

What positions are available for students?

- 1 Undergraduate student
- 1 Postgraduate Coursework student
- 1 Higher Degree Research (HDR) student

What is the term of office?

2 years, from **1 January 2027 to 31 December 2028**

When do self-nominations open?

9am, Wednesday 14 October 2026

When do self-nominations close?

4pm, Wednesday 28 October 2026

How do I know if I am eligible to stand for election and vote?

You are eligible to self-nominate as a candidate for a position and eligible to vote in any ballot for that position if you meet the following criteria:

- **Undergraduate students:** You are enrolled as a student of the University proceeding towards a bachelor's degree or a non-graduate diploma.
- **Postgraduate coursework students:** You are enrolled as a student of the University proceeding towards a degree (other than a bachelor's degree or a doctoral or master's degree by research), graduate diploma or graduate certificate.
- **Higher Degree Research (HDR) students:** You are enrolled as a student proceeding towards a doctoral or master's degree by research.

To be eligible as a candidate for these positions, you must **not** be employed as an academic or professional staff member of the University at 0.5 FTE or greater.

What else do I need to consider?

- Your Australian Higher Education Graduate Statement (AHEGS) can include a list of co-curricular activities you have undertaken while at university, which includes governance activities such as serving on boards.
- Being a member of the Academic Board is rewarding. However, it does require a time commitment in terms of

preparing for and attending meetings. There are 6 Academic Board meetings per year.

How do I self-nominate?

- Self-nominations must be made via BigPulse, UNSW's online election provider. If you have not received an email from BigPulse by Wednesday 14 October 2026, please contact elections@unsw.edu.au.
- Students who would like to nominate themselves to be elected as student members of the Academic Board should prepare a candidate statement of up to 150 words to upload to BigPulse with a recent photograph of themselves – without using any UNSW branding.

Self-nominations must be lodged with BigPulse before **4pm, Wednesday 28 October 2026**.

What happens next?

For any positions where there are more self-nominations than positions available, online voting will be conducted from **9am, Wednesday 4 November 2026 to 4pm, Wednesday 11 November 2026**.

Who do I contact if I have any questions?

The Elections Office at elections@unsw.edu.au

Please note that Academic Board and Faculty Board elections are two different elections held simultaneously. When self-nominating, please ensure you select the BigPulse email for the right board if you intend to nominate for one board only.

2026 TIMETABLE FOR THE ELECTION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD

ACADEMIC BOARD – STUDENT ELECTIONS	
Self-nominations open	9am, Wednesday 14 October 2026
Self-nominations close	4pm, Wednesday 28 October 2026
Ballot (voting) opens (if required)	9am, Wednesday 4 November 2026
Ballot (voting) closes	4pm, Wednesday 11 November 2026
Results	As soon as practicable following the close of voting