

Policy number	P38	Version	5
Approved by ABG on	12 November 2025	Scheduled review date	November 2030

1. Purpose

The purpose of this National Institute of Organisation Dynamics Australia (NIODA) policy is to articulate the role and responsibilities of candidate and student representatives on the Academic Board of Governance, along with the procedures for determining representation.

2. Scope

The policy is an Academic Board of Governance policy relevant to the Academic Board of Governance, candidates and students.

3. Policy Statement

Candidate and student representation reflects NIODA's values of openness, collaboration, respect and dialogue. Including the voice of candidates and students in academic governance ensures engagement and the relevance and applicability of outcomes.

4. Role and Responsibilities

A student representative is appointed whilst a second year master's student. Each student representative is a full member of the Academic Board of Governance for a two-year period. There are two student representatives at any one time.

Each candidate representative is currently enrolled, beyond their first year, in the PhD degree. Each candidate representative is a full member of the Academic Board of Governance for a two-year period. There are two candidate representatives at any one time.

The role of candidate/student representative is as follows:

- to contribute to the activities and responsibilities of the Academic Board of Governance from both their experience as a candidate/student currently enrolled in the PhD and MLM(OD) courses and from their professional experience.
- to canvas and represent the views of current candidates/students on matters before the Academic Board of Governance that would benefit from direct candidate/student input
- to monitor the effectiveness of Academic Board of Governance 'governance' in support of valid candidate/student expectations for quality teaching and learning in the PhD and LM(OD) courses
- to assist the Academic Board of Governance to 'keep in mind' and understand the candidate/student experience
- candidate/student representatives should report back to the learner cohort the decisions taken, in a timely manner and seek any further feedback as to the implications of decisions taken for learners.

5. Processes for determining the candidate and student representatives

Current PhD candidates are emailed information about the candidate representative role, asking for expressions of interest. In the case of more than one expression of interest, an election is held with voting rights limited to current PhD candidates (beyond first year). The PhD Course Lead is the responsible person for this process.

Second year MLM(OD) students are emailed information about the student representative role, asking for expressions of interest. In the case of more than one expression of interest, an election is held with voting rights limited to second year students. The Master's Course Lead is the responsible person for these processes.

6. Processes for representation

This process is designed to promote two-way communication between the candidate/student bodies and the Academic Board of Governance.

- a) All candidates/students have access to Academic Board of Governance agendas and meeting minutes on the student internal platform
- b) Academic governance items that candidates/students wish to bring to the attention of the Academic Board of Governance are to be communicated to the candidate/student representatives at least two weeks prior to the meeting date
- c) The candidate/student representatives submits those items to the Chair of the Academic Board of Governance with a request for them to be placed on the agenda.
- d) Academic Board of Governance deliberations on the item/s are recorded in the meeting minutes which are available in the candidate/student internal platform of the NIODA website (<https://sites.google.com/nioda.org.au/internalplatform/home>) within two weeks of the meeting date.

7. Grievances

Grievances relating to candidate and student representation on the Academic Board of Governance should be taken up as per the NIODA Grievance Policy. The Grievance Policy is published on the NIODA website www.nioda.org.au/policies.

8. Related Documents

Academic Board of Governance Terms of Reference

Grievance Policy