

UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RECOGNITION OF EDUCATORS

PRINCIPLES

Under this Statement of Principles, Universities Australia (UA) members undertake to collaborate on a student-centric, contemporary and sustainable approach to Professional Development and Recognition of Educators (PDRE). This national approach for ongoing educator professionalism is underpinned by the following principles:

- Respect for member universities' autonomy and self-accrediting status;
- Recognition of the pluralistic ways in which member universities' commitment may be demonstrated;
- An intention to being inclusive of all UA members; and
- An intention to sector-wide collaboration to the approach for PDRE, with facilitation by the UA Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Group.

BACKGROUND

Section 3.2 of the Higher Education Standards Framework requires staff with responsibilities for academic oversight and those with teaching and supervisory roles, to be equipped for these roles. This includes having knowledge of contemporary developments in the discipline or field, which is informed by continuing scholarship or research or advances in practice.

The Universities Australia Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Committee has been working together to explore a collaborative, sector-wide approach to professional recognition of educators in detail since early 2018.

This process has been explored in the context of the loss of the former Office for Learning and Teaching, significant changes to national teaching excellence, program awards and citations, and the introduction of performance funding.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Committee engaged Emeritus Professor Sally Kift to lead a project on behalf of the committee and develop options on what a proposed Australian national framework might look like, and what the key considerations are for such an approach.

This work led to the culmination of these statement of principles, which have been formally endorsed by all 39 UA Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic member representatives.