A.3 SENATORS MEMBER STANDARDS AND ROLE PROFILE

i. The provisions of Ordinance A.2.2 set out the Member Standards that apply to all members of Council and its Committees and which therefore apply to all members of Senate:

a. Members have a responsibility to ensure that Senate conducts itself in accordance with accepted standards of behaviour in public life.

b. Members have a responsibility to ensure that they conduct themselves in accordance with accepted standards of behaviour in public life.

c. Members are expected to play an appropriate part in ensuring that the necessary business of Senate is carried out efficiently and effectively.

d. Members must accept collective decisions once made. They should indicate where they disagree with a decision and this will be noted in the Minutes.

e. Members should not act as representatives of any particular part of the institution or any external stakeholder but in the interests of the University as a whole.

f. Members must recognise the proper separation between governance and management and [in their role as Senators must] avoid involvement in the day to day executive management of the University.

g. Members must maintain confidentiality when agenda items or minutes are marked “Closed”.

h. Members must attend and participate in such information-sharing events, training, procedures and appraisals as are deemed necessary by Senate and/or the Chair of Senate.

i. Members must attend Senate and meetings of Senate subcommittees which they are members. Members will normally be expected to serve on one Committee of Senate.

ii. All Senators should consider the interests of the University as a whole in deliberating and taking decisions about academic quality and standards. Senate is a deliberately large and diverse body which includes office-holders with responsibilities for academic quality and standards, elected Senators drawn from five Boards of Study areas, and undergraduate, postgraduate taught and postgraduate research student Senators. But in deliberating and taking decisions about academic quality and standards at Senate, Senators should not act as representatives of groups from which they are drawn or of the offices that they hold.

iii. All Senators bring considerable experience to Senate and are encouraged to bring their knowledge and experience to bear in addressing the issues of academic quality and standards discussed at Senate. All Senators are also encouraged to discuss issues related to enhancing academic quality and assuring academic standards with their colleagues.

iv. The role of Student Senators in bringing the student voice to Senate is very important. It is recognised that while Student Senators, like all other members of Senate, must
accept a Senate decision, the Students’ Union may continue to campaign for a change in that decision.

v. The role of elected Senators is critically important in raising the institution’s ambition to do better academically. They serve as both a sounding board and also as a check on the Executive. The role can be uncomfortable – they may at times have to be critical of the Executive to which they report on a daily basis. It is important that their role is supported and appreciated by the Executive when this happens.