DELEGATION OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE STANDARD WAIVERS

PREAMBLE
The University sets high English language standards for entering students (comparable to the finest institutions internationally, and among the most stringent in Australia). These standards have been imposed in recognition of the crucial relation between English language ability and success in courses taught and assessed in English, and in course requiring extended academic writing, such as research higher degrees. Moreover, the esteem in which our graduates are held, and their fitness for employment or for further study, depends in part on their English language ability at graduation.

Students who do not meet the English language standard for a course may only be selected with the permission of the Academic Board except under the circumstances below where the Board has delegated this authority to the Dean or relevant Associate Dean. A waiver may not be granted by a member of the professional staff.

In delegating authority, the Board does not approve a de facto overall lowering of English language standards.

Band 6.5, Band 7.0 and Band 7.0+ are used to designate the three bands into which English language standards for graduate programs are grouped. (The names reflect the overall IELTS score assigned to that band, along with equivalent standards based on other tests or attributes.)

WAIVER RULES:
1. All waivers must be granted on a case-specific basis and be defensible under audit.
2. The Dean (or associate dean) may only grant a waiver to applicants to graduate programs (including research higher degrees).
3. Documentation (paper-based or electronic) pertaining to each waiver is to be retained in the faculty or graduate school on the student file for future audit by Selection Procedures Committee on behalf of the Academic Board.
4. No waiver may be granted under delegated authority without an identified and recorded, case-specific reason.
5. For courses where the English language standard is Band 7.0 or Band 7.0+, waivers can never be granted under delegated authority for students who do not satisfy at least Band 6.5.

REPORTING
1. At the end of each academic year, the faculty or graduate school must
   - prepare a consolidated list of all waivers of English language standards granted for that year under delegated authority for research higher degrees, to be submitted to Research Higher Degrees Committee, and
   - a separate list for all other graduate programs, to be submitted to Selection Procedures Committee, in time for the first meeting of the following year.
2. The list must include the name of the course, the student number, the student's highest English language qualification identifiable in the standard three-band framework (designated 6.5, 7.0 or 7.0+), a short explanation of why the waiver was appropriate, and where coursework subjects have been completed so far the student's GPA and any subjects failed.
3. Research Higher Degrees Committee or Selection Procedures Committee may recommend that the Board withdraw the delegated authority from individual faculties or graduate schools if the exercise of this delegated authority is perceived to have been problematic.

VERSION HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Approved By</th>
<th>Approval Date</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>Sections Modified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>President, Academic Board</td>
<td>20 April 2015</td>
<td>20 April 2015</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>