

Australasian Strategic Advisory Board Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The core purpose of the Advance HE Australasian Strategic Advisory Board (ASAB) is to provide strategic input to ensure Advance HE's operations and services meet the needs of members and partners across Australasia. The Board is involved in:
- a) Reviewing and shaping Advance HE's priorities and strategic development;
 - b) Identifying current and emerging strategic issues, challenges and opportunities across a range of global contexts to inform the future work of Advance HE;
 - c) Considering the implications of global insight and good practice and shaping how Advance HE's portfolio could respond to work for each relevant area;
 - d) Representing Advance HE and contributing to thought leadership to enable mutual learning across the Advance HE global membership community.

2. Duties

- 2.1 The ASAB is responsible for:
- a) Providing direction, scrutiny and critical challenge to support the development of Advance HE's services in order to maximise the value of Advance HE's work in Australasia.
 - b) Providing updates to the wider Advance HE Board of Directors informing Advance HE's regional and international strategic thinking.
 - c) Identifying current and emerging issues, challenges, and opportunities, in relation to Advance HE's areas of focus and work with the sector in Australasia.
 - d) Supporting the development of appropriate Strategic Partnerships that facilitate solutions for the Australasian sector in Advance HE's areas of activity.
 - e) Receiving updates from the Australasian Program Leaders Network and Pro-Vice Chancellor Education Excellence network seeking to maximise the benefits for members.
 - f) Receiving updates from Advance HE on its global activities and seeking to inform future work and maximise the benefits for members.
 - g) Convening and chairing an annual meeting of all Advance HE member institutions in the Australasian region, with the aim of sharing best practice, solutions and impact of the work of ASAB, APLN and other areas of activity of value to member institutions.

- h) Providing critical input to and feedback on Advance HE's communications and public relations strategy within Australasia.

3. Membership

- 3.1 The maximum number of members will be 12 members drawn from Advance HE member institutions, stakeholders and partners. Other members may be appointed for their specific skills and experience.
- 3.2 There needs to be representation from across Australia, New Zealand and if possible the Pacific.
- 3.3 Members will typically be appointed for a two year term of office. All members will be reviewed at the end of each term to ensure fresh and diverse perspectives. Members will ordinarily serve a maximum of two terms. The Chair of the group will be appointed on a three year term to ensure there is greater continuity.
- 3.4 Membership will also explicitly reflect Advance HE's sector remit and commitment to inclusion. The Group will bring together individuals with experience and expertise in embedding and advancing inclusion in leadership and transformation, and will model inclusive practice in its composition, behaviours, and advice to the organisation.
- 3.5 The ASAB comprises:
- The Chair (A senior representative of an Australian Advance HE member)
 - Co-Chair
 - Seven representatives from Advance HE member institutions.
 - Up to four representatives of Advance HE Strategic Partners.
- 3.6 Advance HE's Global Strategic Advisor will be in attendance at the meeting.
- 3.7 The ASAB will require specific skills and expertise as outlined in the person specification (Annex A).

4. Meetings

- 4.1 The ASAB will meet twice per year. The meeting may be conducted entirely virtually, or in a hybrid (face-to-face with virtual dial-in option) format by agreement in advance by the ASAB members
- 4.2 Members are expected to attend at least **two of the four meetings held during their two-year term**. Where a member is unable to meet this expectation, they may be asked to step down from the Board.
- 4.3 Secretariat support will be provided by Advance HE.

Next review date for ToR: February 2028

Annex A

Australasian Strategic Advisory Board Person Specification

Experience

- Experience of senior strategic leadership with responsibility for learning and teaching, leadership, governance or equity and inclusion within Australasian Higher Education.
- Experience of working with global partners and leading international projects / collaborations.
- Be currently employed by an Advance HE member organisation or a strategic partner of Advance HE
- Have prior experience of Board and committee work.

Expertise and Skills

- Demonstrate a commitment to the values of Advance HE.
- Demonstrate highly developed interpersonal and communication skills.
- Bring the ability to understand complex strategic issues, analyse and resolve difficult problems.
- Demonstrate sound independent judgement, common sense and diplomacy.
- Familiarity with policies and trends in the Higher Education sector in Australasia.
- Expertise in leadership, teaching and learning, or equity and inclusion.
- Open to sharing challenges and opportunities for developing Higher Education in Australasia.

Diversity of Perspective

In selecting members, consideration will be given to seeking diversity of perspective including:

- types of university, higher and tertiary education providers.
- institutions from regions and countries across Australasia institutions from different mission groups.
- first nations people perspectives.
- diversity of protected characteristics / equity seeking group and background.