

# Memo

## Nomination for senior syllabus Learning Area Reference Groups

### Purpose

To invite teachers and academics to nominate for membership of Learning Area Reference Groups for the redevelopment of senior syllabuses in 2016.

### Background

The Queensland Government recently announced that a new senior assessment and tertiary entrance system will be introduced for students entering Year 11 in 2018. The changes are to include:

- a new senior assessment model that combines school-based assessment developed and marked by teachers with external assessment developed and marked by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA)
- new processes to strengthen the quality and comparability of school-based assessment
- a move from the existing Overall Position (OP) tertiary entrance rank to an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

The announcement was made after consideration of the recommendations arising from the Review of Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance, conducted by the Australian Council for Educational Research, and the results of public and stakeholder consultation. A final Queensland Government position is expected in mid-2016.

To support the commencement of a revitalised system in 2018, the QCAA is redeveloping senior syllabuses in 2016.

As part of the quality assurance mechanisms to support the redevelopment of syllabuses, nine Learning Area Reference Groups (LARGs) are being formed to:

- provide advice to the QCAA's Senior Review Steering Committee on internal and external assessment in the senior phase of schooling
- provide feedback on draft senior subject syllabuses allocated by the QCAA to the reference groups at key points of consultation
- provide advice around consistency of design and approach across the suite of draft senior syllabuses in a learning area.

# Learning Area Reference Groups

Learning Area Reference Groups are organised as follows:

- Arts
- Business and Economics
- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Technologies (Design & Digital)
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Languages
- Mathematics
- Sciences.

The term of appointment to a LARG will be until 31 December 2016 with each LARG meeting up to four times between January 2016 and December 2016.

Membership of LARGs will be comprised of:

- three practising teachers with subject-discipline expertise (one from each of the three education sectors)
- a nominee of each subject association who is a practising teacher with subject-discipline expertise
- a nominee from the Queensland Teachers' Union and the Independent Education Union of Australia — Queensland and Northern Territory Branch with reference group discipline expertise
- a tertiary nominee with reference group discipline expertise/pre-service teacher education expertise
- a member, from the nominees above, who is from a rural or remote location
- QCAA officer (Chair)
- QCAA officer (Executive officer).

Learning Area Reference Groups will meet four times in 2016 and members must make themselves available for these meetings.

| Meeting   | Date (2016)    | Focus  |
|-----------|----------------|--|
| Meeting 1 | 24–26 February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Roles and responsibilities of Learning Area Reference Group members</li><li>• Overview of the new assessment and moderation system</li><li>• Introduction to syllabus design and assessment considerations</li></ul> |
| Meeting 2 | 18–22 April    | Feedback and advice on Draft 1 syllabuses across the learning area   |
| Meeting 3 | 25–29 July     | Feedback and advice on Draft 2 syllabuses across the learning area   |
| Meeting 4 | 2–4 November   | Feedback and advice on Draft 3 syllabuses across the learning area   |

## What you need to do

Please complete and return the attached nomination form to [AdminSeniorCurriculum@qcaa.qld.edu.au](mailto:AdminSeniorCurriculum@qcaa.qld.edu.au) by close of business 1 February 2016.

## Finding out more

Please email Jeff Thompson at [Jeff.Thompson@qcaa.qld.edu.au](mailto:Jeff.Thompson@qcaa.qld.edu.au) or phone 3864 0260.

Jacqueline Wilton  
Director, Curriculum Services Division

# Nomination form

Learning Area Reference Group

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Please print and complete all six sections of the form, including the attachment required in Section 4 Part 1.

Once complete, have the document signed (if applicable), then scan and return to [AdminSeniorCurriculum@qcaa.qld.edu.au](mailto:AdminSeniorCurriculum@qcaa.qld.edu.au) marked 'Attention: Jeff Thompson' by close of business 1 February 2016.

## 1. Your details

|                           |  |                    |  |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| <b>Title</b>              |  | <b>Family name</b> |  |
| <b>Given name(s)</b>      |  |                    |  |
| <b>Position</b>           |  |                    |  |
| <b>School/Institution</b> |  |                    |  |
| <b>Telephone</b>          |  | <b>Work</b>        |  |
|                           |  | <b>Mobile</b>      |  |
| <b>Email</b>              |  |                    |  |
| <b>Postal address</b>     |  |                    |  |

## 2. Reference groups

Identify which reference group you are interested in joining.  
Note that you can only be a member of one reference group.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Humanities and Social Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business and Economics          | <input type="checkbox"/> Languages                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Physical Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sciences                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technologies (Design & Digital) |   |

## 3. Memberships

Consultation will occur with professional associations and unions.

Please indicate if you would like to be considered as a representative of:

- Professional association (please name): .....
- Union (please name): .....

## 4. Experience

### Part 1

Please attach your Curriculum Vitae highlighting knowledge, skills and experience relevant to this role (maximum 2 pages).

### Part 2

Please provide a brief outline of your experience with senior curriculum in Queensland, demonstrating the knowledge and attributes you would bring to the Learning Area Reference Group (maximum 600 words).

## 5. For school employees only

Please provide your principal or supervisor's details and signature to indicate their approval for you to participate in the Learning Area Reference Group meetings.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Principal or supervisor name</b>      |  |
| <b>Principal or supervisor email</b>     |  |
| <b>Principal or supervisor signature</b> |  |

**Please return this form by close of business 1 February 2016 to:**

Email: [AdminSeniorCurriculum@qcaa.qld.edu.au](mailto:AdminSeniorCurriculum@qcaa.qld.edu.au)

Attention: Jeff Thompson