# *REVISED VERSION - Round table ‘birds of a feather’ session*

**The essential role of scholarship in achieving and validating quality curricula: building on a national project**

Introduction. The inaugural Australian Council of Deans of Science (ACDS) National Teaching and Learning Fellowship in 2019/20 was a response to the requirement for institutionally supported scholarship for teaching and learning (SoTL). To encourage adaption and adoption of scholarship by teaching teams of STEM curricula, a Curriculum Evaluation Research (CER) framework was promoted as one approach to providing distributed leadership and an environment to meet TEQSA’s expectations for assuring quality in teaching and learning. The CER framework as an approach aims to empower teaching teams to undertake a scholarly approach to quality improvement and quality assurance to enhance student learning that is grounded in the discipline. Evaluation data for the Fellowship suggests strong support for the importance of responding to the TEQSA Guidance Note: Scholarship and neutral to good confidence that scholarship is important to their institution.

Format of the round table. Birds of a Feather

Topic for discussion. How can higher education institutions value and implement strategies for teaching staff to engage in quality improvement and assurance of course curricula, that links to and integrates with Scholarship of Teaching?

Context/background. The *TEQSA Guidance Note: Scholarship* (2018) interprets five standards in the Higher Education Standards Framework (HESF). It asserts that individuals and institutions must be able to provide evidence that the research and scholarship of all academic staff informs the quality of the course they are teaching and occurs in a climate of scholarship.

Intended outcome. Identify barriers and opportunities to meeting the challenge posed by the TEQSA Guidance Note: Scholarship, from institutional and course curriculum/faculty teaching team, perspectives.

TEQSA. (2018). *Guidance Note: Scholarship (Version 2.5\_2, 12 December 2018)*. Canberra, Australia: TEQSA*.* Retrieved 5 February 2020. Available: <https://www.teqsa.gov.au/latest-news/publications/guidance-note-scholarship>