

Title	University Research Committee, Terms of Reference
Owner	Academic Board
Approved By	Academic Board
Approval Date	23 March 2026
For what period	Indefinite
Next Review Date	12 months from implementation, and then as per section 6.
Version	1.0

1. Purpose

The University Research Committee (URC) is a sub-committee of Academic Board, and through Academic Board, assists the Council and the Vice Chancellor to fulfil their responsibilities for monitoring and managing academic standards, and meet the legislated requirements of the *Higher Education Standards Framework (HESF Threshold Standards) 2021*.

The URC has responsibility for the following HESF Domains:

Domain 4: Research and research training

4.1 Research.

4.2 Research Training.

Domain 5: Institutional quality assurance

5.2 Academic and Research Integrity (with focus on the latter).

5.3 Monitoring, Review and Improvement (with regard to research supervision only).

Domain 6: Governance and accountability

6.3 Academic Governance (with regard to oversight of the quality of research and research training and maintaining research integrity).

2. Objectives

The University Research Committee will:

1. Exercise oversight of, and recommend to the Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research and Innovation and Academic Board, policies standards and practices in research, innovation and research training, including those related to research quality, research integrity, research supervision, research engagement, research infrastructure, research translation and commercialisation.
2. Assess and monitor risks to the research, research training, and research supervision activities and standards of the University, and advise Academic Board of these risks.
3. Provide advice to Academic Board on how the University is progressing with the University Research Strategy.
4. Provide a forum to facilitate information flow and collegial discussion and debate on research and innovation matters relevant to the University and the higher education sector.
5. Provide Academic Board with an annual report addressing the research-related domains in the Higher Education Standards Framework and assessing the performance of the Committee against its Terms of Reference.
6. Consider and report on all matters referred to it by Academic Board and the Vice Chancellor.
7. Receive reports from, and communicate with, the research committees of the Colleges, and its sub-committees.

3. Membership

Role	Position/Representative
Chair	Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research and Innovation (Chair)
Members	Deputy Vice Chancellor - Indigenous Deputy Vice Chancellor – International and External Engagement Pro Vice Chancellor, Graduate Research Training Pro Vice Chancellor, Research Performance Pro Vice Chancellor, Research Services and Infrastructure Pro Vice Chancellor, Research Translation Dean, Research for each College Executive Director, Defence and National Security Executive Director, Research and Innovation Executive Director, Research Services
Term of office	Ex officio members for the term of their office, and other members at the discretion of the Chair.
Proxies	Permitted with the approval of the Chair.
Attendees	By invitation of the Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research and Innovation The Vice Chancellor has a standing invitation.
Executive Officer	Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research and Innovation

4. Meetings

1. Up to six meetings per year, or more frequently as required.
2. Operating procedures are to be determined by the Committee.
3. Quorum: Half the existing membership (ignoring any fraction resulting from division) plus one.
4. Members must declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest.

5. Reporting

1. To Academic Board

6. Subcommittees and Working Groups

University Research Committee may establish and disestablish sub-committees to advise it on any matters within its Terms of Reference.

University Research Committee will approve the Terms of Reference for each of its sub-committees.

All sub-committees of the University Research Committee will provide regular reports to the URC concerning their compliance with those HESF Domains that are included in the sub-committees' Terms of Reference.

The University Research Committee has the following sub-committees:

- i. Graduate Research Committee
- ii. Research Compliance Committee
- iii. Research Infrastructure Committee
- iv. Research Partnerships and Commercialisation Committee
- v. Research Performance Committee

7. Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed every five (5) years or as required by the Academic Board.