RESEARCH COMMITTEE
Approved at meeting of Academic Senate 15 August 2014

Update of membership approved at the 13 February 2015 meeting of Senate.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Establishment and Representation
   1.1 The Research Committee is established as a standing committee of Academic Senate;

2. Purpose
   The Research Committee
   2.1 is the principal advisory Committee to Academic Senate for research and research training;
   2.2 provides strategic advice to Academic Senate on research, research training and research related matters to ensure high academic and ethical standards and support the strategic direction of the University;
   2.3 provides strategic advice to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research and Development) on the implementation of the University Research Plan to enable strategies that support innovative, flexible and inclusive research practice;
   2.4 reviews proposed amendments to policies and procedures that relate to research training to ensure compliance with the Higher Education Standards;
   2.5 reviews proposed amendments to policies and procedures that relate to research at UWS;
   2.6 exercises the responsibilities located in relevant policies and procedures of the University in relation to research and research training related matters; and
   2.7 promotes the development of productive collaborative research within the University between UWS Research Institutes and Schools, and external entities.

Function

The Research Committee will:
   2.8 Provide advice, and make recommendations to Academic Senate regarding the development, implementation and effectiveness of research policy and practice in the University. This will include:
      a. identifying, encouraging and promoting good practice with regard to the responsible and ethical conduct of research;
      b. reviewing and providing advice on the University’s Research Plan, having regards to the University’s mission, goals and priorities;
      c. reviewing UWS Research Institutes and Schools research plans and monitoring performance and progress against these plans;
      d. developing and monitoring the University’s research policy framework and research performance reports; and
2.9 Provide advice to Academic Senate and Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research and Development) on strategic policy, planning, quality assurance and performance in relation to research training and higher degree research programs. This will include advice on:
   a. the pathways that contribute to student access including credit and articulation, participation, retention, and success;
   b. the admission and selection policies and procedures for research training and higher degree research programs;
   c. the quality and structure of research training and higher degree research programs;
   d. the methods of assessing the quality of all research training activities, including those of third party providers;
   e. the proposals relating to the establishment, revision, discontinuation and disestablishment of postgraduate research programs; and
   f. any other academic policy and quality assurance matters;

2.10 consider matters referred by Senate, School or UWS Research Institute Committees as appropriate.

3. Meetings and Reporting

3.1 The Research Committee will meet a minimum of five (5) times each calendar year;
3.2 The Research Committee is required to report to Academic Senate through the submission of reports at the conclusion of each meeting;
3.3 The Committee may establish Expert Advisory Groups or Working Parties for specific purposes.

4. Membership

The Research Committee shall consist of the following members:

4.1 Ex Officio
   a. Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research and Development) (Chair);
   b. Chair of Academic Senate;
   c. Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) (Deputy Chair);
   d. Chair, Research Studies sub-committee.

4.2 Members
   a. Director of each University Research Institute, or nominee (usually the Director of Research);
   b. A representative of each School nominated by the Dean (usually the Director of Research or Deputy Dean);
   c. Two senior research academics, nominated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research and Development) in consultation with the ex officio members;
   d. Two early or mid-career researchers, nominated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research and Development) in consultation with the ex officio members; and
e. One higher-degree research student elected by the higher degree research students of the University.

4.3 Rights of Audience and Debate:
The Chair may grant rights of audience and debate for a specific purpose, meeting or item(s) to such a person, persons or categories of person as deemed appropriate or necessary.