

**Terms of Reference:**

1. To develop, implement and update University policies on the good governance of research, the ethical conduct of research and ensuring integrity through the implementation of good research practices. These policies currently include:
  - (i) Code of Conduct and Integrity in Research
  - (ii) Regulations for Research Involving Human Participants
  - (iii) Policy on the Ethical Approval of Research
  - (iv) Regulations Governing Research Involving Animals
  - (v) Policy on Fieldwork in Conflict Zones
  - (vi) Regulations Governing the Allegation and Investigation of Misconduct in Research
  - (vii) Standard Operating Procedures to help researchers with the conduct of research.
2. To ensure the promotion of research ethics and the good conduct of research within the University.
3. To ensure that the governance, ethical and integrity agenda reflect regulatory and funder requirements and national good practice frameworks through:
  - (i) Identification of issues pertinent to research
  - (ii) Engagement with representatives from the research community to ensure the solicitation of opinions and views for the preparation of regulations and policies.
4. To monitor compliance through regular audit of studies, thereby providing assurance to the University of adherence to Legislation, Regulations and Policies, and that the University is fulfilling its duties as a sponsor of research and as an employer of researchers.
5. To provide oversight of the University's structure established to consider the ethical review of research studies. This shall include Faculty RECs in EPS and MHLS and School RECs in AHSS (until such times as the Faculty REC model is rolled out\*). This oversight shall include, but is not limited to:
  - (i) Receipt of an annual report of activity from RECs;
  - (ii) Periodic review of studies considered by RECs to ensure consistency in practice;
  - (iii) Acting as an appeal mechanism for decisions made by Faculty REC ensuring that due process was followed in their decision-making.
  - (iv) The identification and subsequent delivery of training to REC members enabling them to develop and maintain the required skills to execute their duties.
6. To receive an annual report from the Animal Ethical Welfare Review Body and ensure that AWERB is executing its duties appropriately.
7. To learn from issues identified from breaches of good research practice and develop mechanisms to prevent recurrence.
8. To determine opportunities for shared learning and training through the review of aggregated audit findings.
9. To ensure compliance with the reporting requirements of the Concordat to Support Research Integrity and make an annual report to Senate on matters of research governance, ethics and integrity.

\*Once the Faculty REC process established which shall be approximately 2020-21 resources permitting.

## Research Governance, Ethics and Integrity Committee

<b>Membership:</b>		
<b>Composition</b>		<b>Current Members</b>
Chair:	Nominated by Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research, Enterprise	Professor Alan Stitt
Ex Officio:	Director of Research and Enterprise or nominee	Mr Scott Rutherford/Dr Wendy McLoone
	Dean of Research Chair of Faculty REC*/School REC as nominated by Dean of Research until such time as FREC model is rolled out to AHSS At least one other research active member of academic staff from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences (nominated by Dean)	Professor P Connolly Dr Paulo Sousa Professor Anne-Marie McAlinden
	Dean of Research Chair of Faculty REC At least one member of research active academic staff from the Faculty of Medicine, Health & Life Sciences (nominated by Dean)	Professor A Maule Dr Michelle McKinley Dr Lesley Anderson
	Dean of Research Chair of Faculty REC At least one member of research active academic staff from the Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences (nominated by Dean)	Professor Su Taylor Professor B Murtagh Dr Martin Dempster
	Minimum of one lay member external to the University	Ms Anne McGlade
	A representative from each Faculty Post-Doctoral Society	Dr Michelle Templeton (AHSS) Dr Zara Gibson (EPS) Dr Helina Marshall (MHLS).
	Director of Clinical Research Facility	Professor Judy Bradley
	Named Compliance Officer (Animal Scientific Procedures Act)	Professor Alan Stitt
	3- co-opted Members, as required.	
In attendance:	Relevant University Officers: Research Governance, Ethics and Integrity Team	
<b>Serviced by:</b>	Research and Enterprise Directorate	
<b>Reports to:</b>	Research and Postgraduate Committee	
<b>Receives reports from:</b>	Faculty/School Research Ethics Committees Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body	

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