

RESEARCH DEGREES COMMITTEE

Reports to the University Research Committee

Membership

Provost/Chair of the University Committee (Chair)
Head of Research Services
4 Doctoral Programme Leads (1 from each of the Institutes and the Faculty)
Research Administrator (minute taker)
Head of Registry (ex-officio)

Terms of Reference

1. To be responsible to the University Research Committee for matters relating to the admission of research students, specifically:
 - to approve proposed programmes of research;
 - to submit recommendations for the admission of students whose qualifications do not meet the standard entry criteria;
 - to determine, for students admitted with advanced standing, minimum and maximum durations from initial registration to the submission of the thesis.
2. To be responsible to the University Research Committee for matters relating to the quality of the research student experience, specifically:
 - to receive and consider statistical and qualitative data relating to the admission, induction, training and progression of Research Students;
 - to enhance the research culture for students registered on research degrees in order to ensure a high-quality learning experience;
 - receive and consider statistical and qualitative data relating to examinations and awards.
3. To be responsible to the University Research Committee for matters relating to the supervision, progression and examination of research students, specifically:
 - the submission of recommendations for the approval of staff as research supervisors and examiners, and the appointment of external examiners;

- the induction, development and training of research supervisors and examiners;
 - the progression and award of all research student degree programmes;
 - any non-standard procedures relating to the submission of theses.
4. To monitor and report on the University's procedures for the award of bursaries and studentships to research students.
 5. Monitor the effectiveness of the administrative procedures for Postgraduate Research Degrees.
 6. To discharge such other responsibilities as may be devolved by the University Research Committee and/or Academic Board from time to time.
 7. To advise the University on policy and procedures for research degrees and research students, including, in particular, to propose amendments to the University's Academic Regulations and the Code of Practice.
 8. To authorise or, as appropriate, to recommend, procedures or outcomes *notwithstanding* the University's Academic Regulations or Code of Practice.
 9. To monitor national trends and developments in the area of research degrees, and recommend changes to the University's Codes of Practice in the light of developments to external reference points, such as the QAA Quality Code.