

Research and Innovation Committee Terms of Reference

Remit:

The Research and Innovation Committee shall act as guardian of the Research and Innovation Priority of the University Strategy by having ownership of, and responsibility for, the development and implementation of key initiatives (within the three pillars of People, Research Quality, and Partnership and Place) to: Strengthen our research portfolio; Enhance our research collaborations; Address real world need; and Foster a creative, inclusive and collaborative culture. Initiatives are also underpinned by the four Strategy enablers, Our People; Financial Sustainability; Infrastructure; and Technology. The Committee will also act to horizon scan, forward plan and develop new initiatives as the Strategy adapts over its lifecycle and have responsibility for research governance matters, including overseeing compliance with the Concordat to Support Research Integrity.

Terms of Reference:

Recommendations

To make recommendations for endorsement by Academic Council and approval by Senate regarding:

- (i) The Concordat to Support Research Integrity.
- (ii) The annual report from the Animal Welfare Ethical Review Body (AWERB).

To make recommendations to Academic Council for the consideration and approval of:

- (i) The Research and Innovation Strategy, and other related strategies.
- (ii) Research policies, objectives, delivery mechanisms and governance structures that are informed by Strategy 2030 and related strategic documents.
- (iii) The prioritisation of university investment in future research and innovation themes and strategic objectives.
- (iv) Actions which develop the environment for research, including enhancing the research culture.

Consideration and/or Approval

To consider, discuss and/or and grant approval of:

- (i) Research and innovation matters relating to the University, including any matter referred to it by the Academic Council, or for recommendation to the Academic Council/Senate.
- (ii) The development, implementation, co-ordination and evaluation of procedures and initiatives regarding:
 - a. The Research and Innovation Strategy, and other related strategies, policies, and objectives.
 - b. Research assessment, and research performance monitoring and evaluation.
 - c. Research governance, ethics, and integrity.
 - d. Research culture, institutional research environment, and the delivery of high quality and impactful research.
 - e. Research business engagement and knowledge exchange, research internationalisation, and institutional research partnerships and consortia.
 - f. Postdoctoral Researchers, and Early Career Researchers, and pathways for ensuring talent development at all levels of experience (academic and professional services) in priority areas which are related to the Research and Innovation Strategy.
 - g. Strategies and proposals for Postgraduate Researchers which pertain to advancing the delivery of objectives and themes in the Research and Innovation Strategy.
- (iii) The delegation of any of its functions as it may, from time to time determine, to groups appointed by the Research and Innovation Committee, including the establishment of subgroups, working groups, task and finish groups and advisory groups, as appropriate, to advise and report on any of the above matters.
- (iv) Reports from, actions of, and recommendations made by subgroups, tasks and finish groups and other bodies (e.g. Faculty Research Committees) as derived from the implementation of the Research and Innovation Strategy and related strategies, policies, and procedures.

Delegation

To delegate authority on the following:

To the Research Governance, Ethics and Integrity Committee

- (i) Decisions arising from the implementation and periodic review of procedures regarding the University's research governance duties and protocols to oversee all research which requires ethical approval.

To the Postdoctoral and Research Staff Oversight Group

- (i) Decisions arising from the implementation of strategies, proposals, policies, and procedures for supporting Postdoctoral Researchers and their integration within the wider academic research community at Queen's.

To the Postgraduate Research Group

- (i) Decisions arising from the implementation of the Postgraduate strand of the Research and Innovation Strategy, as specified by the Research and Innovation Committee.

To the Open Research Group

- (i) Decisions arising from the implementation of the Research and Innovation Strategy, as specified by the Research and Innovation Committee.

To the Research Systems and Processes Board

- (i) Decisions arising from the implementation of the Research and Innovation Strategy, as specified by the Research and Innovation Committee.

To Faculties, Schools, and Professional Services

- (i) Decisions arising from the implementation of the Research and Innovation Strategy, as specified by the Research and Innovation Committee.

Membership:

Chair:	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise)	Professor Archie Clements
Members:	<i>Faculty Deans of Research:</i> Dean of Research (AHSS) Interim Dean of Research (EPS) Dean of Research (MHLS)	Professor Janice Carruthers Professor Adrian Murphy Professor Christopher Scott
	<i>BRCD/Centre/Institute Representatives:</i> IGFS Senator George J Mitchell Institute Seamus Heaney Centre AMIC iREACH Health Momentum One Zero	Professor Nigel Scollan Professor Richard English Professor Glenn Patterson Professor Sam Turner Professor Judy Bradley Dr Paul Miller
	Representative of Fellowship Academy	Dr Dermot Green
	Student's Union Postgraduate Officer	Amy Smith
	<i>Chairs of Sub-committees:</i> Research Governance, Ethics and Integrity Committee (also Technicians' Commitment representative) Postdoctoral and Research Staff Oversight Group (PROG) Postgraduate Research Group Open Research Group	Professor Alan Stitt Professor Lorraine Martin/ Professor Denise Fitzgerald Professor Colin McCoy Jane O'Neill
	<i>Senior Directorate Representatives:</i> Interim Director of Research (also Research Systems and Processes Board Chair) Interim Director of Enterprise People and Culture Finance Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility	Dr Wendy McLoone Brian McCaul Laura Lynch Matthew Graham Alistair Stewart

In attendance:	University staff as required
Quorum:	Eight members with at least one member from each Faculty If members are unable to attend a meeting, they may nominate a representative substitute.
Serviced by:	Director of Research's Office, Research and Enterprise
Reports to:	Academic Council
Receives reports from:	Faculty Research Committees (presented via Deans of Research or substituting Directors of Research nominated by Deans) Research Governance, Ethics and Integrity Committee Postdoctoral and Research Staff Oversight Group Postgraduate Research Group Open Research Group Research Systems and Processes Board

August 2024