Research Policy

1 Purpose

To establish the framework under which the University manages and enables Research Activities.

2 Scope

This policy applies to all Researchers.

3 Policy Statement

In support of the UniSQ Research Plan, this policy outlines the Research environment and culture in which Research is undertaken at the University. For further details on expected standards of conduct, please refer to the Research Code of Conduct Policy.

This policy aligns with:

- *Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021*: Standard 4.1 Research

4 Principles

The University is committed to promoting high-quality, ethical Research that aligns with the ambitions of the University's Strategic Plan and Research Plan to drive industry and community engagement and deliver high-impact Research outcomes.

The University upholds focussed, high-quality Research and Research Training as an integral part of academic work that contribute to excellence in industry growth, innovation and sustainable communities.

The University's Researchers will:

- comply with the standards specified in the Higher Education Standards Framework;

- promote and contribute to a Research culture of excellence, integrity, professionalism and mutual respect;

- conduct ethical Research and responsible Research practices in compliance with the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, 2018;

- meet the occupational health and safety standards necessary for the type of Research being undertaken;

- align with the ambitions of the University's Strategic Plan and Research Plan to drive industry and community engagement in the delivery of high-impact Research outcomes;

- contribute to the production and promotion of high-quality Research outcomes;

- participate in peer review in a way that is fair, rigorous, timely and maintains the confidentiality of the contents; and

- secure external funding as required to support relevant Research Activities.

The University will enable this by:

- establishing and maintaining appropriate governance and management practices for the responsible conduct of Research, in accordance with relevant regulatory, ethical and scientific standards;

- setting and monitoring institutional standards for Research performance and facilitating effective development, implementation and review of support and training mechanisms to ensure maintenance of the standards;

- providing workload allocation for Employees who conduct Research that is commensurate with their Research Activities, the operational needs of the University, external obligations to funding bodies, and performance benchmarks in their field;

- acknowledging that Research with First Nations Peoples or collections spans many methodologies and disciplines, and there are wide variations in the ways in which First Nations Peoples, communities or groups are leading, active in, or affected by, Research;

- establishing (under the authority of the Vice-Chancellor) external and internal Research institutes and Research Centres, on the recommendation of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation). These Research institutes and Research Centres are managed and monitored as outlined in the Research Entities Procedure;

- encouraging the use of, and participation in, peer review to support the publication of high-quality Research Outputs and the submission of high-quality funding applications;

- supporting Open Access of Research findings and encouraging the publication and wide dissemination of Research, to promote scholarly dialogue and contribute to public knowledge; and

- supporting the responsible conduct of Research through the establishment of ethics and biosafety committees, and other relevant administrative support, committees and working groups as required.

5 References

Nil.

6 Schedules

This policy must be read in conjunction with its subordinate schedules as provided in the table below.

7 Policy Information

Accountable Officer	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation)
Responsible Officer	Director (Office of Research)
Policy Type	Academic Quality Policy
Policy Suite	Higher Doctorates Procedure Research Active Procedure Research Management Procedure
Subordinate Schedules	
Approved Date	10/9/2024
Effective Date	10/9/2024
Review Date	16/11/2026
Relevant Legislation	Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, 2018 Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Research) 2017 *Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000* Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 *Higher Education Support Act 2003* *Information Privacy Act 2009*

	National Code of Practice for Providers of education and Training to Overseas Students 2018
Policy Exceptions	Policy Exceptions Register
Related Policies	Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech Policy
	Animal Wellbeing and Ethics Policy
	Code of Conduct Policy
	Higher Degree by Research Student Policy
	Intellectual Property Policy
	Learning and Teaching Policy
	Research Code of Conduct Policy
Related Procedures	Authorship Procedure
	Commercialisation of Intellectual Property Procedure
	Human Research Ethics Procedure
	Integrated Planning and Performance Procedure
	Intellectual Property Procedure
	Research Active Procedure
	Research Code of Conduct: Management of Potential Breaches Procedure
	Research Data and Primary Materials Management Procedure
	Research Management Procedure
	Research Structures Procedure
	Visiting Academic, Adjunct and Honorary Titles Procedure
Related forms, publications and websites	UniSQ Research Plan
	UniSQ Strategic Plan
	Graduate Research School
	UniSQ Research

Definitions	Terms defined in the Definitions Dictionary
	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) The person bearing that title including a person acting in that position. **Open Access** Open Access scholarly works are freely available via the Internet, permitting any person to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full text of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any lawful purpose, without financial, legal or technical barriers. **Research** Research is the creation of new knowledge and/or the use of existing knowledge in a new and creative way to generate new concepts, methodologies, inventions and understandings. This could include the synthesis and analysis of previous research to the extent that it is new and creative. **Research Activities** Refers to activities that result in the creation of new knowledge and/or the use of existing knowledge in a new and creative way so as to generate new concepts, methodologies and understandings. This could include synthesis and analysis of previous research to the extent that it leads to new and creative outcomes. **Research Output** An output is an outcome of research and can take many forms. Research Outputs must meet the definition of Research. **Research Training** A formal course of postgraduate study that leads to the acquisition of advanced skills, techniques and knowledge in the conduct of Research, and requires the production of a substantial original Research Output. **Strategic Plan** The Strategic Plan developed by the University, as required under Section 8(1)(a) of the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019.

	University
	The term 'University' or 'UniSQ' means the University of Southern Queensland.
	Vice-Chancellor
	The person bearing the title of Vice-Chancellor and President, or as otherwise defined in the University of Southern Queensland Act 1998 , including a person acting in that position.
	Definitions that relate to this policy only
Keywords	
Record No	21/464PL