The Research Strategic Plan guides the activities of Faculties, Faculty Research Committees, the Research & Innovation Division and other relevant Professional Units and promotes the achievement of the University’s Goals 2 and 7:

- Excellence and innovation in research
- Enhanced capacity to take full and timely advantage of business opportunities that will support our Vision and Goals.

It also provides a major platform for imparting the Attributes that we aim to develop in all our students and which distinguish them as UOW graduates.

Our specific vision for research over the next planning cycle is to facilitate the university vision by supporting excellent research that has international and national recognition and that brings a sustained benefit to the community.

The University has had in place a centralised approach to research management for approximately 15 years. This planning approach has provided central support to:

- encourage collaborative research;
- initiate new research foci in strategic areas;
- facilitate activities that cross traditional discipline boundaries.

Many of the research groups formed as part of this process have now developed into high performing Institutes and Centres. Hence the focus of research planning in recent years has shifted to managing the balance between provision of essential infrastructure and support for existing high performing research areas and the need to create new research opportunities via strategic initiatives over the next three to five years.

This Strategic Plan will be played out in transforming times for higher education and research management in Australia. It is likely that there will be further emphasis over the next 3-5 years on indicators of research quality and on the commercialisation of research outcomes. Within the University, the development of the Innovation Campus will also have increasing significance for research and the dynamics of collaboration and commercialisation.

The Plan aims to consolidate the substantial growth over the past decade in the quality, scope and depth of the University's research activities, whilst creating an environment where new, higher levels of research activity will further enhance our international and national reputation as a leading, research-intensive University.
The External Environment – Snapshot 2004

The policies of government and other funding bodies, such as the Australian Research Council and the National Health and Medical Research Council, have had a profound impact on the way in which Universities have planned for, supported and undertaken research over the past decade.

On-going strategic research planning needs to take into account both current and future trends in government policy and a range of other external factors including changes in the global business environment. Examples of some of the external factors and policies that will impact on research planning over the next three to five years include:

- Increased competition for research funding in National Competitive Grant Schemes and other direct grants to researchers; with concomitant increased competition for direct funding allocations to Universities i.e. the Research Training Scheme (RTS), the Institutional Grants Scheme (IGS), the Research Infrastructure Block Grant (RIBG), and Australian Postgraduate Awards (APAs) for higher degree research students.
- Competition for high calibre national and international research students.
- The Federal Government’s research funding packages, “Backing Australia’s Ability I and Backing Australia’s Ability II”, which aim to strengthen Australia’s ability to generate ideas and undertake research; accelerate the commercial application of these ideas; and develop and retain Australian skills.
- Federal government research priorities: i.e. an environmentally sustainable Australia; promoting and maintaining good health; frontier technologies for building and transforming Australian industries; safeguarding Australia.
- The key Federal Government reviews of research and research infrastructure, including: The National Research Infrastructure Taskforce (2003), the Evaluation of the Knowledge and Innovation Reforms (2003) and the review of the role of “publicly funded research agencies” (PFRAs) (2003) emphasise collaboration between universities and other PFRAs such as CSIRO; accountability for outcomes from research funding (including commercialisation), and a foreshadowed emphasis on improved measures for assessment on the quality and impact of increased investment in universities and PFRAs.
- Changes in the external business environments, most notably in rapidly changing areas such as information and communication technologies (ICT) and biomedical and pharmaceutical sectors.
- The Higher Education Support Act 2003 has impacts on growth, funding and student profiles, and support for collaboration and innovation.
- The impact of an increased emphasis on developing scale and focus for institutional research activities in areas of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences where there has been a tradition of individual scholarship.

The University’s ability to plan for and manage changes in the international and national environment will be paramount to maintaining and growing research activities and reputation.

UOW Research Environment

UOW Research Growth 1996-2004

The success of the University centralised research strategy is evident by growth in each of four key research indicators as shown in Figures 1a to 1d.
Figure 1a. Research Income

Figure 1b. HDR Students
In addition to the funds provided through the University Research Committee for direct research support, the University has invested over $40 million in research infrastructure since 1996. Examples of major investments over this period include: construction of Science Stages II and III, and provision of research laboratories for polymer research, biological sciences, biomedical science, geosciences and psychology, refurbishment of engineering and biological sciences research laboratories; construction of a new informatics building; construction of the Commerce Research Student Centre and the Animal House, Stage II. In addition there have been substantial co-investments in ARC REIF/LIEF schemes to create world class facilities in materials characterisation, geochronological dating, whole room calorimetry, biomolecular analysis, polymer characterisation and surface analysis, amongst others.

Over the past two to three years, considerable effort has been devoted to consolidating the activities that support the increasing level of research growth. Examples of initiatives designed to improve the central management and support for research activities and research students. Include:

- The creation of the Research Student Centre (2002) to provide a focus for management of all aspects of research student candidature from enrolment through to graduation.
- The restructure of the University Research Committee (URC) and its associated sub-committees to provide greater representation of key areas and more streamlined support (2002).
- An extensive review of funding policies for Faculties and Research Units to enable greater focus on areas of research strength, and to provide Faculties with greater flexibility and ownership of research developments (2003).
- A reduction in the level of reporting required by the URC (from 2004).
- A major restructure of the Office of Research accompanied by an increase in personnel to create the Research and Innovation Division (RaID) and the Legal and Commercial Unit (2004). The new division has improved focus in the management of research students, research grants, ethics, contracts, commercialisation opportunities and partnerships.
- A review of the Code of Practice Supervision and a range of other policies that impact on Higher Degree Research (HDR) students (2004).
- Increased emphasis on research potential in staff recruitment and retention at all levels.
Challenges for UOW, 2005-2007

Despite the recognised advances and recognised success, the following challenges/opportunities remain to be addressed over the next triennium:

- Provide additional, purpose-built space for a number of areas where the research effort is growing rapidly.
- Improve the University-wide understanding of the changes from the 2003 review of funding policies for Faculties and research units, to ensure involvement in research planning occurs at all levels.
- Communicate and monitor new URC policies and practices in respect to HDR students to ensure that these are implemented at the Faculty/School level consistently and transparently.
- Expand the diversity of our research effort from a relatively narrow discipline base of researchers with substantial external funding, while continuing to provide resources to areas of strength to enable them to both fulfil existing commitments and continue to grow.
- Sustain and encourage smaller areas of research excellence within the research strength/Faculty funding model.
- Ensure excellent multidisciplinary areas are not impeded by academic structures.
- Improve articulation between the URC and the University Internationalisation Committee (UIC) and University Education Committee (UEC) to ensure there are consistent goals and approaches in areas of overlap (in particular international research partnerships and activities (UIC) and the research/teaching nexus (UEC).
- Monitor and take account of the impact of the foreshadowed changes in RTS funding on research student load and allocations to faculties.
- Allow for the prospect of an increased emphasis on quality measures in any future research funding allocations/schemes.
- Enhance commercialisation of research where appropriate.
- Take advantage of opportunities created by the Wollongong Innovation campus.
- Take advantage of opportunities arising from the establishment of a Graduate Medical School.
To facilitate the university vision by supporting excellent research that has international and national recognition and that brings a sustained benefit to the community. The Plan is underpinned by a commitment to excellence, high quality outcomes and ethical conduct in research and research training.

### UOW Goals
- Excellence and innovation in research
- Enhanced capacity to take full and timely advantage of business opportunities that will support our Vision and Goals.

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<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Performance Indicators*</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1. Research Income</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Increase the level of externally-funded research to enhance the capacity and diversity of our research effort</td>
<td>1.1 Concentrate internal resources on areas of strength to build capacity and opportunities for external funding schemes</td>
<td>Level of research income</td>
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<td>1.2 Encourage the formation and development of multidisciplinary teams with the capacity to capitalise on new funding opportunities</td>
<td>Share of available national research income</td>
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<td>1.3 Implement Faculty-based development plans and strategic initiatives within faculties</td>
<td>Growth in income received by areas of research strength</td>
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<td>1.4 Continue to refine training &amp; review processes for generating grant applications</td>
<td>Distribution of research income across faculties and research strengths</td>
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<td>1.5 Promote awareness of diverse funding schemes, industry and non traditional income sources.</td>
<td>Distribution of income across all income categories</td>
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<td>Number of externally-funded research staff</td>
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<td>Income generated by new areas and initiatives</td>
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<td><strong>2. Higher Degree Research Students</strong></td>
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<td>2. Improve the quality of higher degree research student scholarship and training by aligning them with strategic research directions.</td>
<td>2.1 Review and improve the level of resources (physical, financial, information literacy and technological) for all Higher Degree Research students</td>
<td>Results of triennial resource and supervision surveys</td>
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<td>2.2 Develop and implement appropriate policies and training that support the operation of the research training environment and promote quality supervision</td>
<td>HDR Completion numbers</td>
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<td>2.3 Allocate scholarships &amp; resources to students in strategically important areas</td>
<td>HDR Completion rates</td>
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<td>2.4 Improve articulation between undergraduate honours programs and areas of existing or emerging research strengths.</td>
<td>Average length of HDR candidature</td>
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<td>2.5 Promote excellence of the research student environment to enhance recruitment of external students</td>
<td>Proportion of HDR Students associated with research strengths</td>
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<td>2.6 Support HDR students through academic workshops, training in ethical practice, research training modules and provision of additional career-orientated training opportunities</td>
<td>Outcomes of Postgraduate Research Experience Questionnaire (PREQ)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Number of Thesis commendations</td>
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<td>National and international student awards</td>
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<td>Attendance at training courses by supervisors and students</td>
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### 3. Quality of Outcomes

**3.1** Identify measures of quality, high-impact outcomes appropriate to all research endeavours and disciplines

**3.2** Identify measures of multidisciplinary research excellence

**3.3** Promote and reward publications and other outputs that meet quality criteria

- Proportion of publications and outputs that meet discipline-specific criteria for highest quality and high impact
- Citation rates (where applicable)
- Awards and national/international recognition of quality output
- Numbers of publications and outputs that meet multidisciplinary excellence criteria

### 4. Linkages/Partnerships & Commercialisation

**4.1** Identify and selectively grow partnerships with industry and other external parties

**4.2** Promote collaborative research with private and government R&D organisations through the Wollongong Innovation Campus

**4.3** Implement an efficient, cost-effective process to identify and manage commercialisation opportunities

**4.4** Provide training in Intellectual Property protection, entrepreneurship, and commercialisation.

- Number of “new partnership” grants
- Number of commercial partnerships established
- Number and value of ARC Linkage Grants
- Number of invention disclosures received
- Number of patents lodged
- Number and value of commercial research contracts
- Number of licenses and spin-out companies
- CRC income
- Number of training programs delivered on issues including IP, commercialisation and innovation.

### 5. International Linkages and Reputation

**5.1** Implement reporting by research strengths and faculties of indicators of international recognition and collaboration

**5.2** Identify and promote international funding and award schemes

**5.3** Promote recognition of international success in newsletters, publications and media releases

**5.4** Improve articulation between research and internationalisation objectives

- Number and value of ARC linkage international awards
- Number of international conferences held at UOW
- Invited keynote/plenaries at international conferences
- Number of staff involved in senior roles in international conferences
- Research income derived from international sources
- Numbers of distinguished visitors to UOW
- Number of collaborative activities with leading international universities (including those involving HDR students)

### Objectives | Strategies | Performance Indicators*
--- | --- | ---
6. **Researcher Environment and Recognition** | | |
6. **Create a strong culture of support for research excellence**

6.1 Support and promote ethical research practice
6.2 Develop a strong link between research potential and recruitment
6.3 Promote and encourage both internal and external recognition of our researchers
6.4 Continue to emphasise research development as part of career development (especially for early career researchers)
6.5 Ensure we have appropriate and responsive policies to support and retain our key staff
6.6 Develop improved practices to integrate research-only staff into faculty activities
6.7 Ensure there is articulation between URC, research strengths and faculties in planning and staff development

*Note: The Performance Indicators necessarily have a quantitative emphasis because these are indicators for which data is available, however, there will also be qualitative evidence of success of these strategies.*

**Implementing the Plan**

This Plan is implemented through a multifaceted research management process. The key personnel, committees, policies and administrative units as outlined below. Their various business and action plans articulate the strategic activities needed to put the Plan into operation (thus correlating with Appendix 1 of the other Core Function Plans).

1. **Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research):** The Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) is responsible for initiating and promoting research opportunities; overseeing the University Research Committee and the Research and Innovation Division; and providing advice to the Vice-Chancellor and Senior Executive in relation to strategic decisions that impact on research, higher degree research students and commercialisation of research outcomes.

2. **The University Research Committee (URC):** The URC, a committee of Academic Senate, is responsible for developing research management policies and procedures regarding research and overseeing their implementation. The URC budget consists of the Institutional Grant Scheme (IGS) available to the University for that year. The URC is also responsible for all systemic issues relating to research training (see full Terms of Reference- Appendix 3).

The relationship between the URC and its subcommittees is shown in **Figure A** below.
The detailed terms of reference for each committee are provided in Appendix 4. The UOW funding model allocates funds awarded under the Institutional Grants Scheme (IGS) and Research Infrastructure Block Grant (RIBG) to the URC for distribution.

3. Research and Innovation Division: The Research and Innovation Division has responsibility for the key administrative functions relating to research, higher degree research students, innovation and commercialisation. The structure of the Research and Innovation Division is shown in Figure B below:

4. Faculties and Faculty Research Committees: The UOW budget model involves distribution of the major portion of the funds awarded under the Research Training Scheme to faculties, based on weighted student load and research performance (income, HDR completions and publications). Faculties are responsible for provision of the major share of staff involved in research student supervision. Faculty Research Committees are involved in the development of faculty-specific policies to support research and provide advice to the URC on allocation of resources, grants and scholarships.
Faculties play a critical role in supporting research and research directions via allocation of staff to different activities. Deans and/or Heads of academic units have key responsibility for career development and oversight of workload models/agreements that determine relative time commitments of staff to research activities.

5. Directors/Coordinators of Research Strengths and Units: The precise role of Directors/Coordinators of research units or areas of research strengths varies depending on the stage of development and history of each area. In a number of the more established Institutes, the Director has a direct line management role in relation to staff and students, in addition to a broader development role. In others, the Director/Coordinator plays a role in mentoring staff and in the identification/facilitation of new funding opportunities, rather than in direct management of staff. In either case, Directors/Coordinators are expected to play a role in Faculty planning.

6. URC and Other Major Committees: Figure A above shows the current University committee structure and highlights where the URC system sits within this framework. (The Terms of Reference of the UEC and UIC are attached in Appendix 3).

6.1 University Education Committee (UEC) has intersecting responsibility with the URC in a number of key areas. First, policy developments that relate to all students need to take into account higher degree research students (and vice versa), noting that some HDR students (specifically those enrolled in professional doctorates and some masters programs) also undertake coursework. This does not imply uniformity, but rather clear articulation where there are points of differences. (The relevant HDR Policies are listed in 6.2 below). Second, undergraduate Honours programs involve research projects and the relationship between the UEC and URC is critical in ensuring compliance with good supervision practices and the relevant Codes of Practice. Further, maintenance of effective and interesting Honours programs is critical to recruitment of HDR students since a relatively high number of our scholarships are awarded to UOW graduates. Finally, the importance of a strong nexus between teaching and research is recognized and this is an area where both the URC and UEC have responsibility.

6.2 The University Internationalisation Committee (UIC) is responsible for providing policy advice, goals and strategies for internationalisation. Since a major thrust of research planning involves promotion of international linkages and recognition it is important that there is communication between the two committees and the development of a common strategy in relation to the internationalisation of research activities and objectives. Again, different perspectives need to be clearly articulated.

7. Research Codes and Policies

The Plan’s objectives and strategies are pursued in accord with the University’s Values & Guiding Principles. They have been informed by the debate and discussion around R&D Discussion Papers #1-7 and are also realised through the operation and improvement of the following Codes of Practice and policies:

- Code of Practice - Research
- Code of Practice - Supervision
- Code of Practice - Honours
- Commercial Research Policy
- Guidelines for Expenditure of Contract Research & Consultancy Income
- Commercial Activities Guidelines
- Research Delegations
- Authorship Policy
- Intellectual Property Policy
- Research Ethics
  - Animal Research Guidelines
  - Human Research Ethics Guidelines
  - Human Research Ethics Committee Telephone Interviewing Policy
Communicating the Plan

The Plan’s success depends on how well it has been communicated across the University community. The communication method will comply with the University Communication Strategy for all plans and policies. The URC will review the effectiveness of the communication of the Strategic Research Plan annually.

Performance Monitoring

**Action Plans:** Specific action plans to support the broad objectives set out in the Plan will be developed annually by the University Research Committee (URC), the Faculties, and the relevant Professional Units.

**Performance Indicators:** The University employs a range of broad performance indicators (including those identified in the University Strategic Plan) to assess progress towards the objectives

Effectiveness of research training will be measured in terms of the attainment by graduates of our *Research Graduate Attributes* (see Appendix 2) in conjunction with the *Attributes of a Wollongong Graduate*. To ensure that these research attributes are attainable and measurable, they are backed by a set of competencies for each attribute, as provided at: [http://www.uow.edu.au/research/current/resgradattrib.html](http://www.uow.edu.au/research/current/resgradattrib.html).

These competencies are used by faculties and support units in the development of effective research training programs, including coursework subjects and workshops.

Review & Reporting Schedule

The Research Plan operates under the Annual Review and Reporting schedule in Appendix 3 of the University Strategic Plan.

At the end of each three-year planning cycle, the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) and the URC will undertake a full review of the current Plan and develop a Plan for the next three-year cycle. The URC will report to Senate, via the Vice-Chancellor’s Strategic Plan Working Party, on progress against Objectives and present the next Research Strategic Plan. The Working Party will note any issues of alignment with the University’s Strategic Plan as part of the three-year review of the institutional Plan and the University’s planning structure.
University Research Committee (URC)
The University Research Committee (URC) is the central body for research management at the University. It is responsible for:
- developing policies and procedures regarding research and overseeing their implementation.
- all systemic issues relating to research training, including liaison with Faculties and research units in the implementation of the University's research training management plan, which encompasses all aspects of a research student's career at the University.

The URC budget consists of the Institutional Grant Scheme (IGS) available to the University for that year.

The University Research Standing Committee (URSC) is responsible for the implementation of University Research Committee (URC) policy in relation to research and research students, including allocation of research funds (within the guidelines, policies and formulae approved by the URC) to research units, individuals and research students (including scholarships). The URSC is also responsible for the auditing of performance and outcomes resulting from URC funding. The allocations will comprise funds that are awarded on the basis of submissions as well as funds allocated on the basis of past performance.

The URSC will collaborate closely with the Postgraduate Research Student Policy Committee (PRPC) in the development of policies in relation to research students and in monitoring the whole research student experience. Determinations made by the URSC are final and will be referred to the URC for information only, not review.

The URSC has the following membership:
- Pro Vice-Chancellor Research (Chair)
- Deputy Chair (Resources) of URC
- Deputy Chair (Postgraduate) of URC
- The Chairs of each Faculty Research and Postgraduate Committee

The PVC(R) will appoint members to the URSC for a term of two years.

Role of the Deputy Chairs: The PVC(R) will appoint a Deputy Chair (Resources) and Deputy Chair (Postgraduate) of the URC for a term of two years. Either may act as Chair of the URC or URSC in the absence of the PVC(R). In addition, they have the following responsibilities.

Deputy Chair (Resources) will:
- Assist the URC and URSC in the development of policies and guidelines for the allocation of URC funds.
- Have responsibility for making funding recommendations to the URSC on applications to URC funding schemes where allocations may be made at any time throughout the year (including, but not limited to for example, New Researcher Support, and New Partnership Grants).
- Assist the Research Grants Manager in the preparation of agendas and minutes for the URSC.

Deputy Chair (Postgraduate) will:
- Act as Chair of the Postgraduate Research Policy Committee and therefore will assist the URC and URSC in the development of policies for higher degree research students.
- Have responsibility for approval of suspension of APA, UPA and IPRS scholarships for periods beyond 12 months.
- Have responsibility for approval of fast-tracked APA/UPA scholarship offer list.

Functions of the Committee
The URSC shall:
- Assist the URC in the development of policies and guidelines for the allocation of URC funds.
- Collaborate closely with the Postgraduate Research Student Policy Committee (PRPC) in the development of policies in relation to research students and in monitoring the whole research student experience.
- Allocate research grants and research-related funds (including, but not limited to, competitive URC grant schemes, ARC funds devolved to the University for competitive allocation, equipment funds and annual block allocations to research units) within the context of policies and procedures determined by the URC.
- Allocate funds to support postgraduate students within the context of policies and procedures determined by the URC and URSC (including, but not limited to the research student maintenance fund and scholarships).
- Perform audits of URC funding allocations (including, but not limited to, review of annual reports of research units and of progress/final reports for competitive URC schemes, devolved ARC schemes and equipment funds).
- Review, on a triennial basis, submissions for formation and/or continuation of research units and make recommendations to the URC on the base funding to, and status of, all URC-funded research units.
- Reviews outcomes of URC funding schemes and performance-based allocations to research units and consequently to provide recommendations to the URC when a need for substantial changes in policy or procedures is indicated.

7. **Appeals**: Individuals have the right to appeal the outcomes of URSC decisions on the basis of failure to follow due process. Should any individual wish to appeal the outcome of any URSC decision they must notify the Manager of the Research Services Office in writing of their intention to appeal within 14 days of the receipt of the advice of the decision.

The Manager of the Research Services Office will refer the matter to the Chair, Academic Senate for consideration. If the Chair, Academic Senate determines there is grounds for appeal then he/she will convene a meeting of a URC Appeals Committee.

URC Appeals Committee will comprise: Chair, Academic Senate; Dean of the relevant Faculty; or an academic who is a member of Senate but not a member of the relevant Faculty, nominated by the Chair of Senate. Any individual who has concerns about the academic merit of an adverse decision of the URSC should discuss the matter with the Chair of the relevant Faculty Research and Postgraduate Committee in the first instance.

**The Postgraduate Research Policy Committee (PRPC)**

The Postgraduate Research Policy Committee (PRPC) is responsible, through the URSC to the URC, for the development and oversight of policies and procedures in relation to higher degree research students. This includes:

i. Developing policies and procedures that are aligned with the University's Research and Research Training Management Plan (including its general commitment to research excellence, quality assurance, and supporting areas of research strength);

ii. Advising the URSC and URC of a range of suggestions and initiatives (as formal motions) as a means to achieve (i).

iii. Recommending the procedures to be followed by FRCs as part of an implementation strategy.

The Committee shall consist of:
- the Deputy Chair (Postgraduate) of the University Research Committee as Chair;
- at least one academic staff member from each Faculty Research Committee (not including the PRPC Chair);
- up to two nominees of the PVC(R) who have specialist expertise or interest in relation to higher degree research students;
- the Chair of the Thesis Committee;
- the Dean of Students; and
- two research student representatives, one of whom will be a URC student member.

The Committee shall have representation from both sexes.

**Quorum**: The Committee shall have a quorum, which is equal to one half of the membership plus one additional member. Where Committee members have indicated in advance that they will be unable to attend a meeting, the number required for a quorum will be reduced to reflect one half plus one of the members expected to sit at the meeting, with a minimum quorum of 5 members.

**General**: The Postgraduate Research Policy Committee is a sub-committee of the University Research Committee. It will meet at least 6 times per year. The PRPC is supported by the Postgraduate Research Student Manager as Executive Secretary, and a Minutes Secretary nominated by the Director, Research and Innovation Division.

**Thesis Examination Committee**

The Thesis Examination Committee is a subcommittee of the University Research Committee which looks at higher degree research thesis examination and policy and postgraduate research scholarship determinations.

**University Ethics Committee**

The University Ethics Committee is a subcommittee of the University Research Committee. It role is to advise the University Research Committee on policies and procedures in relation to:
- the Human Research Ethics Committee, in accordance with its functions as defined in the National Statement on Human Research Involving Humans (1999), the University of Wollongong Code of Practice—Research, State and Commonwealth legislation, and other relevant policies and regulations;
- the Animal Ethics Committee, in accordance with its functions as defined in the NHMRC Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Research (6th edition, 1997), NSW Animal Research Act (1985), NSW
Animal Research Regulation (1995), University of Wollongong Code of Practice—Research, and other relevant policies and regulations;
- the Biosafety Committee, in accordance with its statutory and regulatory functions as identified in relevant Commonwealth and State legislation, the University of Wollongong Code of Practice—Research, and other relevant policies and regulations; and
- to advise the University Research Committee on ethical issues relating to research and the University's responsibilities concerning research

The University Ethics Committee is responsible for three ethics operating committees:

**Human Research Ethics Committee** is constituted and functions in accordance with the National Statement on Human Research Involving Humans (1999); the University of Wollongong Code of Practice Research, State and Commonwealth legislation, and other relevant policies and regulations.

**Animal Ethics Committee** is constituted and functions in accordance with the NHMRC Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Research (6th edition, 1997), the NSW Animal Research Act (1985), the NSW Animal Research Regulation (1995), the University of Wollongong Code of Practice Research, and other relevant policies and regulations.

**Biosafety Committee** is constituted and functions in accordance with statutory and regulatory functions identified in relevant Commonwealth and State legislation, the University of Wollongong Code of Practice Research, and other relevant policies and regulations.

**Intellectual Property Committee**

The University of Wollongong Intellectual Property Committee (IPC) was created to manage intellectual property rights and foster a climate of innovation and excellence in both research and teaching within the University. The main brief of the Committee is to:

- determine ownership of Intellectual Property;
- determine appropriate protection strategies for University intellectual property;
- file patent, trade mark, or design applications in the name of the University for University intellectual property;
- assess the commercial viability of and determine appropriate commercialisation strategies for University intellectual property;
- Collaborate with external clients or other groups as appropriate to arrange the necessary partnerships, financing and resourcing for successful commercialisation.
- review Policy and other University practices concerned with intellectual property;
- provide ongoing intellectual property education for staff and students.

**Faculty Research Committees**

Faculty Research Committees liaise closely with the University Research Committee in developing the Faculty's research directions. They play a major role in encouraging Faculty members to apply for a range of appropriate research grants. In addition they play a role in mentoring staff by ensuring that new staff are located in the most appropriate Research Centre/Group, are informed of funding schemes, and have access to more experienced staff in preparing grants.

Faculty Research Committees assume an overseeing role on a range of matters concerning postgraduate research. These include procedures for allocation of students to supervisors, and adequate guidelines to assist postgraduates throughout their courses. Faculty Research Committees review postgraduate annual progress reports and put in place procedures for handling unsatisfactory progress, procedures for changing supervisors if necessary and suitable appeal procedures. They also undertake the preliminary ranking of scholarship applications.
Research Strengths

ARC Key Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies (CAPTRANS)
ARC Key Centre for Smart Foods
BlueScope Steel Institute
Centre for Health Services Development
Centre for Maritime Policy
Engineering Manufacturing
GeoQuEST Research Centre
Institute for Biomolecular Science
Institute for Conservation Biology and Law
Institute for Superconducting and Electronic Materials
Intelligent Polymer Research Institute
ARC Centre for Nanostructured Electromaterials
Telecommunications and Information Technology Research Institute

Other Externally Funded Centres

CRC for Intelligent Manufacturing Systems & Technologies
CRC for Welded Structures
CRC for Railway Engineering & Technologies
National Centre of Excellence in Functional Foods
CRC for Smart Internet Technology