Purpose:

The University values higher degree by research candidates and their contribution to the University’s research. The University is committed to providing high quality student-centred research training in an inclusive, supportive and research active environment. The principles in this policy will ensure the University’s research training programs are underpinned by an adherence to our Responsible Conduct of Research Framework.

1 Admissions and enrolment

1.1 Applicants will be admitted to a higher degree by research only where they have demonstrated a high standard of relevant research preparedness and there is an appropriate fit between the applicant, research environment, available resources, and supervision.

1.2 New candidates will be inducted by both the University and the academic unit of enrolment in a comprehensive and culturally inclusive manner that supports candidates to become active members of the University’s research community.

2 Higher degree research scholarships

2.1 Scholarships will be provided by the University to either:

- attract and support high achieving candidates, selected on merit, to undertake a higher degree by research in areas of University research strengths and strategic priorities
- support participation and access from one or more of the University’s defined equity groups.

2.2 The University administers Research Training Program Scholarships as per the Commonwealth Guidelines and provides information about the processes and conditions of the award in the Research Training Program Scholarship Procedure.

3 Academic support, resources, and intellectual climate

3.1 Higher degree research supervisors will provide candidates with intellectual support, procedural guidance, and broad pastoral care in the design and conduct of the higher degree by research program and facilitate and support the timely completion of candidature.

3.2 Academic units will ensure support and guidance for their higher degree by research candidates and that higher degree by research supervisors are appropriately resourced.

3.3 The academic unit will ensure the quality of the research training experience for the candidate regardless of the mode and location of their enrolment, including access to appropriate workspaces, facilities, and resources, in line with the conditions of their candidature.
4 Candidature progression, development, and completion

4.1 The University will provide support for candidates to enable successful completion of all elements of a higher degree by research program within a timeframe consistent with standard degree periods.

4.2 The University will support candidates to undertake original research.

4.3 The University will support candidates to develop research skills as well as transferable skills for academic and non-academic careers.

4.4 The University will review the progress of candidature to identify and address issues that may require additional support.

4.5 The University will ensure the integrity and confidentiality of the examination of higher degree by research theses.

Definitions and acronyms: academic unit | applicant | candidate | candidature | college | degree periods | Graduate Research Coordinator | Head of academic unit | Higher Degree by Research | primary supervisor | research project | scholarship | supervisor | thesis |

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All University community members must comply with all relevant laws and regulations, University By-Laws, ordinances, policies and procedures.