POLICY	Higher Degree Research Supervision				
Area covered	University-wide				
Approval date	15 June 2016	**Effective date**	15 June 2016	**Next review date**	15 June 2019
Policy Statement					
Intent	To outline the fundamental principles under which higher degree research (HDR) supervision is conducted at UNSW				
Scope	This applies to all members of supervisory teams or panels, and HDR candidates who are engaged in research training leading to award of a HDR qualification				
Policy Provisions					

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1. Overarching context

1.1. Supervisory teams

All research candidates, upon admission to a higher degree research program, must have a supervisory team of at least two supervisors appointed.

1.2. Qualifications, knowledge and skills

Supervisors and candidates must have qualifications, knowledge and skills commensurate with their roles. Role descriptions, qualifications and eligibility requirements are outlined in the HDR Supervision Procedure and HDR Admissions Procedure.

1.3. Accountability for research integrity culture

Supervisors are accountable to the institution. All supervisors are responsible for leading research with integrity according to the Research Code of Conduct and for setting an example for all higher degree research candidates under their supervision in keeping with UNSW Policy.

2. Principles

a. *Proactive engagement in forming and cultivating a positive, professional relationship founded on mutual respect.*

1) Candidates must have a key role in identifying their supervisory team prior to submitting a formal admission application and during candidature where there is a need for a change in supervision

2) Supervisors and candidates are expected to clarify their expectations of the relationship at the start of the candidature, in particular those on maintaining clear and regular communication, scheduling and preparing for meetings, developing plans and meeting milestones

3) Supervisors, Schools and Faculties must work together to provide continuity of supervision throughout the candidature and, in instances where a change in supervision is needed, must work with the candidate to source alternate supervision

4) Candidates and supervisors are expected to engage proactively with university processes for resolving conflict with all parties working together in good faith and with mutual respect.

b. *Promotion of a strong research training culture and environment based on an intellectual and collegiate research community.*

1) Supervisors and candidates, as key members of the research community, are expected to engage in developing and promoting a culture supportive of networking, mentoring and development, including expanding research and generic skills to support the candidate's career development

2) Supervisors and candidates need to be conscious and respectful of any cultural differences

3) Supervisors and candidates need to be mindful about managing conflicts of interest and competing interests in such areas as authorship and intellectual property, and conscious of the potential effects of the power imbalance between supervisors and candidates

4) Grievances between a candidate and their supervisor must be sensitively and proactively managed by Schools and Faculties

c. *Practice of research according to the fundamental principles of research integrity, excellence, and safety.*

1) Supervisors and candidates must understand and comply with relevant national standards and University policy, and proactively seek specialist advice where they are unsure.

2) Supervisors, in consultation with the Head of School, are expected to identify and agree that appropriate facilities and resources are available to support the proposed research

3) Supervisors and candidates are expected to engage in publication and/or dissemination of research findings appropriate to disciplinary norms

4) Supervisors must have an active and continuing participation in research at UNSW

d. *Development of candidates as independent researchers capable of producing original research.*

1) There is a mutual responsibility for supervisors and candidates to work together to develop feasible research proposals

2) Both supervisors and candidates must work together to maintain consistent progress, engage in the annual progress review process, and complete candidature in a timely manner as defined in the Conditions for Award Policy for relevant Higher Degree

3) Supervisors and their schools must engage in consistent and proactive reporting and management of all aspects of candidature from admission, to confirmation of candidature, to examination

4) Supervisors must support candidates in the preparation of an examinable thesis and advise the candidate on addressing feedback from examiners

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Revision History

Version	Approved by	Approval date	Effective date	Sections modified
1.0	Academic Board (AB06/151)	7 November 2006	1 January 2007	Full review and re-issue as a Policy
2.0	Vice-Chancellor	9 August 2010	9 August 2010	Minor modification and re-structuring to all sections
3.0	President and Vice-Chancellor	11 December 2012	7 December 2012	Minor revisions in response to PhD Review and updating supervisor eligibility and removal of suspension (3.9.6 added)
3.1	Administrative update by Head of Governance	18 July 2014	18 July 2014	Section 3.7.1 (b)
4.0	President and Vice-Chancellor	15 June 2016	15 June 2016	Full review

Supporting Information

Supporting Procedures and Guidelines	Higher Degree Research Supervision Procedure Higher Degree Research Supervision Guidelines
Related Documents	Research Code of Conduct Conflict of Interest Policy Admissions Policy and HDR Admissions Procedure Intellectual Property Policy Health and Safety Policy Facilities and Resources to Support Higher Degree Research Candidates Guideline Conditions for Award Progress Review and Confirmation of Research Candidatures Procedure Thesis Examination Procedures

Superseded Documents	Higher Degree Research Supervision Policy v3.1, approved 18 July 2014
UNSW Statute and / or Regulation *Any variation to Policy or Procedure must remain consistent with the parent statute or regulation*	**Register of Delegations** 7.5.12 Appoint supervisors, co-supervisors, supervisory panels, and other supervision arrangements and changes to supervision arrangements, for students in research higher degree Programs.
Relevant State / Federal Legislation	Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2015, effective January 1, 2017 https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2015L01639
Accountabilities	
Responsible Officer	Dean of Graduate Research
Contact Officer	Director, Graduate Research School
Definitions and Acronyms	
No terms have been defined	

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