

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The Researcher Development Action Group provides advice and oversight to the implementation of a living curriculum for developing and training UniSA researcher skills and knowledge.

2. Background

UniSA has aspirational targets for research activity that include maintaining and building on current strengths, developing internal capacity and promoting emergent research that is responsive to community and industry need. As part of continued investment in supporting the growth of outstanding academics, the university has committed, through the Academic Enterprise Plan 2021-2025¹, to providing coordinated and career-long development opportunities for researchers.

This project will take a One Team approach to design and deliver a Researcher Development framework and program spanning the research career pathway from PhD (EDGE), early career researcher, mid-career and senior professoriate; accessible to all. Activities will be fit-for-purpose, pedagogically informed and responsive to the needs of researchers, the practice of research and industry/partners.

3. Functions and responsibilities

The Researcher Development Action Group (RDAG) was established to:

- provide advice on the development, implementation, communications and evaluation of the Researcher Development Framework.
- identify the business requirements for the establishment of a centralised communications, booking and recording platform that supports individuals (and their managers) to structure bespoke programs of development using an extended EDGEx platform.
- oversee progress of the project to ensure quality, alignment with local area and institution-wide priorities and timely progress.

RDAG will have overall responsibility for overseeing project activities across four concurrent streams:

- Stream 1 - Platform
- Stream 2 - Program
- Stream 3 - Evaluation
- Stream 4 - Implementation

¹ Action 1.7, Academic Enterprise Plan, p18

It is expected that members attend Action Group meetings, review project documents, provide constructive feedback, and contribute to the success of key deliverables.

4. Frequency of meetings

It is proposed that the action group meets every quarter, aligned to project schedule deliverables. Out of session meetings may be used to progress certain activities.

5. Membership

Nominee	Position
Professor Susan Hillier (Chair)	Dean of Research UniSA Allied Health & Human Performance
Professor Alan Boddy	Dean of Research UniSA Clinical & Health Sciences
Professor Sam Sellar	Dean of Research UniSA Education Futures
Professor Jason Whittle	Dean of Research UniSA STEM
Professor Jill Dorrian	Dean of Research UniSA Justice & Society
Professor Nancy Arthur	Dean of Research UniSA Business
Jodieann Dawe	Director: Research and Innovation Services Research and Innovation Services
Peter Stevens	Director: Enterprise Partnerships Enterprise Partnerships Unit
Professor Sandra Orgeig	Dean of Graduate Studies Chancellery and Council Services
Professor Alistair McCulloch	Head: Research Education Research and Innovation Services
Craig Batty	Executive Dean, Creative UniSA Creative
Sarah Johnston	Manager: People and Organisational Development People, Talent and Culture
Michelle Theeuf	Deputy Director: Organisational Capability People, Talent and Culture
Professor Lia Bryant	Professor of Sociology and Social Work UniSA Creative



Megan Prideaux	Coordinator: Researcher Development Research and Innovation Services
Katrina Gillespie	Deputy Director: Library, Client Services University Library
Dr Jessica Logan	Research Fellow UniSA Clinical & Health Sciences
Dr Sarah Moulds	Senior Lecturer in Law UniSA Justice & Society
Claire Jackson <i>(Professional Lead)</i>	Senior Project Manager: Researcher Development Research and Innovation Services
Deandra Goodchild <i>(Secretariat)</i>	Project Officer Research and Innovation Services

6. Reporting

The project is sponsored by the DVCRE, with oversight from an Academic Lead (Dean of Research, ALH), project managed by a Professional Lead (RIS), supported by a Project Officer (RIS) and overseen by the Researcher Development Action Group (RDAG).

Actions will be recorded and shared directly with members; and reporting to the DVCRE will be on an ad-hoc and timely basis.