

Postgraduate Research Board – Terms of Reference

2024-2025

Parent body

Research and Enterprise Committee

Purpose

The Graduate School has a pivotal role in ensuring the vitality, productivity, and sustainability of the University's research culture.

It seeks to create and optimise opportunities for postgraduate research students to work with staff in areas of their particular academic expertise, amplifying the University's internationally excellent research and equipping students with the capacities to influence thinking and practice in rewarding future careers within and outside academia.

It has responsibility for ensuring that students benefit from a high-quality experience, and that completion rates are high, by providing a strong infrastructure and a framework for effective supervision which is applied effectively and consistently across departments.

The Postgraduate Research Board (PRB) provides strategic direction and oversight to its policies and activities; it monitors matters including student progress, departmental compliance with supervision requirements, outcomes and completion rates; and it facilitates connectivity with the University's broader research and enterprise strategy, by advising on and overseeing relationships with research councils and other partner institutions, particularly in relation to Doctoral Training Centres and similar externally funded doctoral training schemes.

Terms of reference

1. To consider strategic planning and policy development matters relating to the Graduate School, and to make recommendations to Research and Enterprise Committee [REC].
2. To provide reports to Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee [LTEC] and its sub-committees on programmes, quality and standards as appropriate.
3. To monitor the delivery of aspects of approved strategy relating to the Graduate School.

4. To oversee the operation of policies relating to provision for postgraduate research students, including those pertaining to admissions for research degrees
5. To monitor progression and completion rates across the University, reporting and making recommendations to REC as appropriate.
6. To ensure that the progress of individual PGR students is effectively monitored and that appropriate actions are taken to resolve difficulties where students are falling significantly behind schedule.
7. To oversee, monitor and evaluate arrangements for supervisor training and development.
8. To oversee and monitor the provision of doctoral training within the University.
9. To advise REC and the Executive Board on the development of applications, independently or in collaboration with other institutions, for Doctoral Training Partnerships [DTPs], or other funding partnerships and schemes that support PGR studentships.
10. To monitor the operation of DTPs and other externally funded training centres which have external reporting requirements, making recommendations to REC, LTEC, and the Executive Board as and where appropriate.
11. To ensure that all PGR students are aware of, and that PGR training provision at Goldsmiths, is in keeping with the principles of The Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers, particularly as it applies to Early-Stage Researchers.

Members

Composition	Member	Term
Chair: Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Exchange and Provost	Professor David Oswell	ex officio
Dean of the Graduate School	Professor Mark Johnson	ex officio
Head of the Graduate School Office	Chris Robson	ex officio
Goldsmiths DTC Leads	Professor Mark Johnson (SeNSS)	ex officio
	Professor Farzana Shain (Generation Delta)	ex officio
	Professor Alex Wilkie (Design Star)	ex officio

Composition	Member	Term
	Dr Edgar Schmitz	ex officio
One member of academic staff (PGR Convenor) from each Faculty	Dr Edgar Schmitz	to 2026
	Dr Henrike Donner	to 2025
	Dr Vally Lytra	to 2026 eot
Two Postgraduate Research Students	Jacqueline Glen	to 2025
	Marta Wasenczuk	to 2025
SU Officer	Vacancy	
Secretary	Martin Munroe	

In attendance

Tobin Webb (Head of Student Success)

Lauren Sperring (Doctoral Support Manager)

Note

Terms of office on committees are for three years, renewable for three further years. If the letters "eot" appear against a person's name in a membership listing, this indicates that he or she will reach the maximum term as a member of the body concerned on 31 August in the year specified.

VERSION CONTROL

Full revision of ToR	September 2023	Governance Secretariat
Approval	20 September 2023	Nominations and Governance Committee
Approved	4 October 2023	Council
updated membership	October 2024	
Updated job title	December 2024	Governance Secretariat