# Research Ethics Sub Committee (RESC) Terms of Reference

## Statement of primary responsibilities of the Research Ethics Sub Committee (RESC)

The Sub Committee's main responsibility is to oversee and monitor the implementation of, and compliance with, the University's Policy & Procedures for research ethics. The Sub-Committee also provides advice to the Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee on the development of institutional policies and guidelines relating to ethical issues in research arising from teaching, research and other related institutional activities and monitors the external research ethics environment to ensure that the University responds to and is compliant with all external requirements.

## Terms of Reference of the Research Ethics Sub Committee (RESC)

The Research and Knowledge Exchange committee has delegated the following responsibilities to the Research Ethics Sub Committee:

1. To develop, monitor and oversee the implementation and revision of, as appropriate, policies, guidelines and procedures devised to ensure that research at the University is conducted according to ethical principles;
2. To oversee the activities of the Research Ethics Review Panels and to monitor recommendations of Research Ethics Review Panels on applications for research ethics approval submitted by members of staff and research degree students in schools;
3. To encourage and maintain good ethical practice in research within the University and to disseminate good practice across schools;
4. To advise, as appropriate, on matters referred to it by Research Ethics Review Panels;
5. To take decisions on applications for ethical approval, in those areas referred to the Sub- Committee by a Research Ethics Review Panel and to take decisions in cases where an applicant for ethics approval appeals against the decision of a Research Ethics Review Panel.

## Quorum

The meeting is quorate when at least 50% (4) members attend.

## Reporting

A report of each meeting of the Research Ethics Sub Committee will be presented to the Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee.

## Frequency of meetings

RESC meets 3 times per year. Meetings are normally scheduled for 1 hour, following on immediately from Research Degrees Sub Committee (RDSC) meetings. This arrangement is convenient for those staff who are members of both sub-committees and has improved attendance rates for RESC. Additional meetings or cancellations will be at the discretion of the Chair.

## Method of operation

The chairs of each Research Ethics Review Panel (RERP) is to provide a report, detailing the membership of the school’s RERP, the number of applications received and their outcomes. RERP chairs may also provide up to 2 anonymised applications (Research Ethics Application Forms) for sampling and discussion.

Where a RERP is unable to reach a decision on an application, or where an applicant wishes to appeal against the RERP’s decision, the application should be referred to the RESC, via the RESC Chair.

## Membership of the Research Ethics Sub Committee (RESC), May 2021

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| **Membership Category** | **Current Member** | **Term Expires** |
| Group Chair | 1. Una Fairbrother | Ex-officio |
| Research Ethics Review Panel (RERP) Chair | 1. Luke Tredinnick (SCDM) | Ex-officio |
| Research Ethics Review Panel (RERP) Chair | 1. Sunny Singh   (AAD) | Ex-officio |
| Research Ethics Review Panel (RERP) Chair | 1. Mark Wheeler (Research) | Ex-officio |
| Research Ethics Review Panel (RERP) Chair | 1. Louise Ryan   (SSSP) | Ex-officio |
| Research Ethics Review Panel (RERP) Chair | 1. Angela Loulopoulou   (Psychology) | Ex-officio |
| Research Ethics Review Panel (RERP) Chair | 1. Dee Bhakta   (SHS) | Ex-officio |
| Research Ethics Review Panel (RERP) Chair | 1. **Mesfin** Habtom **(GSBL)** | Ex-officio |
| External Member | 1. **Grace Grima** | Ex-officio |

Secretary: Tamméé Greeves, Executive Assistant to the SLT