Policy Document Administrator	Edwina Murphy, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Policy Document Approver	Academic Board
Responsible Body/Person	Academic Board
Next Review date	March 2027
Superseded documents	None
Related documents	*Research Misconduct Procedure* *Academic Integrity Policy for Coursework Awards* *HREC Terms of Reference* *Low Risk Ethics Committee and Approval Rules*
Related HE Standards	*1.4, 4.1, 4.2, 5.2.*
Related National Code Standards	*8.8*

1. PURPOSE

To ensure the **University's** research culture is based on the principles espoused in the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (**Code for Research**) and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (**Statement on Ethical Conduct**).

2. DEFINITIONS

Definitions for any words in **Bold** in this document can be found in the Policy Glossary. The first instance of each defined term has been outlined in bold.

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all **AUT affiliated researchers** and **HDR candidates**, as well as students conducting **human participant research**.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

The **University** is committed to **research** which is conducted responsibly, ethically and with integrity, built on the principles articulated in the **Code for Research** and **Statement on Ethical Conduct** summarised below:

Code for Research

- Honesty
- Rigour
- Transparency
- Fairness
- Respect
- Recognition of the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Accountability
- Promotion of responsible research practices

Statement on Ethical Conduct

- Research merit and integrity
- Justice
- Beneficence
- Respect

All **researchers** affiliated with the **University** must familiarise themselves with the **Code for Research** as well as the **Statement on Ethical Conduct**, if they are conducting **human participant research**.

Researchers who breach the **Code for Research** or the **Statement on Ethical Conduct** will be dealt with in accordance with the *Research Misconduct Procedure*. Academic misconduct arising during coursework, including coursework associated with **HDR candidature**, will be dealt with under the *Academic Integrity Policy for Coursework Awards*.

5. PRINCIPLES

General Principles

5.1.1 The primary responsibility for ensuring the integrity of research lies with individual **researchers** and institutions.

5.1.2 In line with the principles of the **Code for Research**, where permitted, the use of artificial intelligence tools (including, but not limited to, ChatGPT or similar) must be acknowledged.

5.1.3 **HDR Candidates** must have written authorisation from their **principal supervisor** in order to utilise artificial intelligence tools (including, but not limited to, ChatGPT or similar) for text generation, and appropriately reference as outlined above.

AUT's responsibilities

5.2.1 Through its research culture, the **University** will foster responsible research conduct, encouraging and supporting it.

5.2.2 The **University** will do this in accordance with the responsibilities of institutions outlined in the **Code for Research**.

5.2.3 The **University** will ensure that **researchers** have access to the **Code for Research** and the related Guides, as well as the **Statement on Ethical Conduct**, where required.

5.2.4 **Human participant research** will be reviewed under the auspices of the **HREC** in accordance with the *HREC Terms of Reference*, the *Low Risk Ethics Committee and Approval Rules*, the *Ethics Protocol* and associated documents.

5.2.5 **Research Coordinators (Postgraduate Coordinators)** from each **Affiliated College** act as **Research Integrity Advisors (RIAs)**. RIAs will be trained through the **Research Integrity Office** and provided with a copy of the Research Integrity Advisor Guide.

5.2.6 **Supervisors** will be trained through the **Graduate School of Research** and provided with a copy of the Guide on Supervision.

5.2.7 The requirements of the **Code for Research** will be included in induction training for **HDR candidates** through the **Graduate School of Research**.

Researcher's responsibilities

5.3.1 **Researchers** will uphold the principles of responsible research conduct in all aspects of their **research**, in accordance with the responsibilities of researchers outlined in the **Code for Research**.

5.3.2 If **researchers** need guidance on a particular matter, they should contact a **Research Coordinator (RIA)**, either at their own college or at another **Affiliated College**, if they

prefer. **Researchers** who are **HDR Candidates** or **coursework students** may also discuss the matter with their **supervisor** or **project coordinator**.

Supervisor's responsibilities

5.4.1 **Supervisors** of **HDR candidates** have particular responsibilities and must act in accordance with the Guide on Supervision.

Breaches of the Code and Research Misconduct

5.5.1 All allegations of breaches of the **Code for Research** will be dealt with by the **Research Integrity Office** in accordance with the *Research Misconduct Procedure*.

6. QUALITY ASSURANCE

A marker of the effectiveness of this policy will be the extent to which **researchers** comply with the **Code for Research** and the **Statement on Ethical Conduct**, where relevant, and any breaches are handled appropriately. The level of compliance will be evaluated each time the policy is reviewed and, if unsatisfactory, changes to the policy made.

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND LEGISLATION

Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2018)

Guidance to support the Code

National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023)

8. VERSION HISTORY

Version	Approved by	Approval Date	Effective Date	Changes made
1	R&RSC	28 April 2017	28 April 2017	New document updating and reformatting previous policy
2	R&RSC	24 July 2020	24 July 2020	New template
3	Board of Directors	14 November 2022	14 November 2022	Renamed from HDR Candidate Academic Integrity Policy; scope broadened; principles linked directly to the Code
4	Academic Board	10 March 2023	10 March 2023	Introduce explicit reference to the acknowledgement of the use of artificial intelligence tools

5	Academic Board	7 March 2025	7 March 2025	New template; updated legislation; change to University.