

## FACULTY ETHICS COMMITTEE (FEC) TERMS OF REFERENCE

The University Ethics Committee and its Research Ethics sub-committee (RESC) are the bodies that approve the terms of reference of Faculty Ethics Committees (FECs). Each FEC reports directly to the University Ethics Committee. It is the responsibility of the Faculty Dean to ensure a FEC is successfully operating in their faculty. All members will be appointed on an initial 6-months probation and then reviewed every three years.

CONSTITUTION	MEMBERSHIP	DATE APPOINTED
Chair (Ex-officio member of UEC and RESC)	Dr Jim House	July 2016
Vice Chair	Dr Paul Morris	July 2016
Alternate Vice Chair	Dr John Crossland	September 2016
University Ethics Adviser (ex-officio)	Dr Simon Kolstoe	
Associate Dean Research (ex-officio)	Dr Alan Thorne	
At least one member from each School or Department	Dr Julian Mitchell Dr David Radford Dr Kristina Wanyonyi Dr Carmen Solana Dr Michelle Bloor Dr Malcolm Bray Dr Caroline Day Dr Rebecca Stores Dr Annabel Tremlett Dr Helena Herrera Dr Chris Wilkinson Dr Juliane Kaminski Dr Ryan Fitzgerald Dr Jonathan Koppel Dr Joe Costello Dr Clare Eglin Dr Tim Exell Dr Paul Gorczynski Dr Tom Webb	October 2016 July 2012 November 2016 July 2012 July 2012 July 2012 November 2016 July 2012 October 2016 July 2012 July 2012 July 2014 July 2015 October 2016 February 2016 July 2016 July 2014 July 2014 July 2014
2 students (normally FRDC reps)	Marina Harris Diana Leite Louise Jupe Adam Harvey	July 2014 September 2016 September 2016 November 2016
Health and Safety Advisor could be co-opted	David Wright	July 2012
At least one lay member	Terry Atkinson Simon Coleman	July 2012 February 2016
Co-opted Members (appointed by the FEC to provide additional expertise as required)		
FEC Administrator (in attendance)	Holly Shawyer Rose Barrand	July 2012 January 2016
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>		

## **GENERAL**

- To promote and adhere to the University Ethics Policy
- To ensure consistency with University Ethics and Governance guidance through close liaison with the University Ethics Advisor
- To consider general ethical issues relating to learning, teaching, research and innovation activities within the Faculty
- To provide advice when called upon (normally through the chair) to all staff in the faculty regarding ethical issues
- To establish and coordinate (as sub-committees to the FEC) any departmental committees reviewing ethical issues relating to learning, teaching, research and innovation activities conducted by taught post-graduate and undergraduates.
- To facilitate education and training relating to matters of ethics and governance

## **RESEARCH ETHICS**

- To publicise policy and guidance related to ethics both internally and promulgated by external agencies including funding bodies, statutory bodies, charities and learned societies.
- To safeguard the welfare and interests of the subjects of research especially any human participants, but which also may include the protection of public interest, the environment, any other ethically sensitive areas, and the researcher(s) themselves.
- To provide proportionate, consistent and high quality review of PgR and staff research across the Faculty
- To provide a clear opinion following ethical review of research; the opinion may include conditions to be met before embarking on research activity.
- To protect the reputation of the Faculty with regard to the integrity of its researchers and the ethical merits of their research.
- To provide guidance, advice and support to established and prospective researchers with regard to the ethical design, conduct and dissemination of research.
- To provide ethical review of innovation activity across the Faculty.
- To provide advice and support to researchers obliged to seek ethical review from external bodies, including the NHS, and if appropriate, provide a preliminary review.

## **OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

- All member appointments will be consistent with the relevant post descriptors agreed by the Research Ethics sub-committee
- The FEC chair will be appointed by the Dean of Faculty in liaison with the University Ethics Advisor
- Expressions of interest for the position of vice-chair(s) will be sought from the FEC members and confirmed by committee election

- Departmental members will be appointed by Heads of Schools (or Departments)
- Lay members will be appointed by Faculty Ethics Committee chairs
- The committee will adhere to and maintain University Research Ethics procedures as defined by the Research Ethics Sub-committee
- The committee will maintain records of reviewing and advisory activities

#### **SCOPE**

The FEC remit covers all academic staff and postgraduate research students who undertake, or supervise, research and innovation activities within the Faculty. Ethical considerations cover externally funded research and innovation activities, postgraduate student research and internally funded, or non-funded research pursued or managed by University staff. It relates specifically to the planning, design and conduct of the research and NOT to the conduct of the researchers, which is managed elsewhere within the University's research governance arrangements.

#### **QUORACY**

- A meeting of the full Committee must comprise, as a minimum, the Chair or Vice Chair (or a nominated deputy), normally a lay member, and half of the departments represented.
- A sub-committee constituted to undertake a virtual review of a research protocol (normally using the online Moodle software) must comprise the Chair or Vice-chair and at least two committee members, one of whom should be a representative from the department presenting the protocol.

#### **REPORTING**

- To provide reports to the University Ethics Committee.
- Representation by the chair or a vice-chair on the Research Ethics Sub-committee
- To contribute to the University annual statement and assurance exercise on research integrity, as required by the UUK Concordat

#### **EQUALITY STATEMENT**

The University seeks to provide an inclusive environment for work and study through embedding equality and diversity into everything the University does. The business of this Committee will be conducted in that context.