

La Trobe University  
Academic Board  
**BOARD OF GRADUATE RESEARCH**

### Establishment

The Committee was established by Academic Board in November 2014 (*min. ref. 477.3.4, AB14/163(M)*) as a sub-committee of Research and Graduate Studies Committee. It replaced the Higher Degree Committee (Research) and the Higher Doctorates Committee.

### Membership

Composition	Appointment status
<b>A</b> Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Training) (Chair)	Ex-Officio
<b>B</b> 4 x Directors of Graduate Research	Nominated by DVC-RI for 2-year term
<b>C</b> 4 x Academic Leaders	Nominated by Academic Board for 2-year term
<b>D</b> Director, Research Education and Development Team	Ex-Officio
<b>E</b> Senior Manager, Graduate Research	Ex-Officio
<b>F</b> 2 x Graduate Research Candidates	Nominated by the Graduate Researchers Team for 2-year term
<b>G</b> Chair of the University Coursework Committee*	Ex-Officio
<b>G</b> Director, Quality and Standards*	Ex-Officio
In attendance	Appointment status
<b>A</b> Secretariat	In attendance

\* The Board of Graduate Research will co-opt the Chair of the University Coursework Committee and the Director, Quality and Standards, to its membership when considering any proposal to establish, revise or close a graduate research course.

### Role

To advise and make recommendations to the Research and Graduate Studies Committee and Academic Board on strategy and governance in graduate research training and degrees across the University.

### Terms of reference

1. Provide advice and recommendations to the Research and Graduate Studies Committee (RGSC) in relation to:
  - research training strategic objectives;

- policies relating to graduate research degrees and research training and the monitoring of standards and performance against those policies;
  - research misconduct and integrity matters relating to research training;
  - the development of new research education and training programs and other opportunities for enhancement of the University's research training activities.
2. Monitor and advise the Research and Graduate Studies Committee in relation to:
    - the admission, progress, candidature, and examination and completion outcomes of candidates enrolled in graduate research courses;
    - graduate research candidates' experience and post-degree employment outcomes; and
    - the development of new external partnerships and review of existing partnerships relating to research training.
  3. Review and provide advice to the Academic Board on proposals for the establishment, amendment, suspension, or closure of all graduate research degrees, including entry and examination requirements, joint enrolments, and pathways.
  4. Recommend to the Academic Board the award of graduate research degrees to qualified candidates.
  5. Monitor and make recommendations regarding graduate research candidates' levels of financial support and resources.
  6. Oversee and monitor the development of supervisor capacity and supervision standards, including conduct of Supervision Assessment Committees.
  7. Any other responsibilities articulated by Statute or Policy.

### **Quorum**

50% of members plus 1.

### **Deputy Chairs**

Two Deputy Chairs will be appointed from among the senior academic members from categories B, C or D of BGR by the Chair, BGR for a one-year term through an expression of interest process. In the absence of the Chair, or if the Chair has a conflict of interest, or at other times when called upon, a Deputy Chair will assume the same rights and responsibilities accorded to the Chair when called upon, including attendance at Research and Graduate Studies Committee and Academic Board meetings and speaking to the Report from the Chair.

### **Frequency of meetings**

Approximately six times per year. The Chair may approve that a matter is urgent and cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting of BGR. In such cases, the relevant paper(s) and a recommendation will be circulated via email to all members for consideration. If the majority of members support the recommendation by reply email, it is deemed to have been endorsed or approved by BGR by circulation.

### **List of any sub-committees**

None.

### **Secretariat**

Program Manager, Graduate Research

### **Contact person and email**

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Sam Spiers, Program Manager, Graduate Research, Graduate Research School

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Approved: 19 November 2025 by Academic Board