



Senate

Paper Title	Ethics Of Research Committee: terms of reference and membership
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to approve the terms of reference and membership for 2013-14.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	n/a
Questions for Senate to consider	n/a
Regulatory/statutory reference points and links to College strategy	n/a
Strategy and risk	n/a
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	Senate to approve
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Sponsor	Professor Bill Spence Vice-Principal (Research)



Queen Mary Ethics of Research Committee

Queen Mary Ethics of Research Committee is a committee of Senate.

Terms of reference

1. To provide a forum for the independent review of research ethics in the College.
2. To review and advise on College research policies, and to provide a source of advice on ethical issues arising from their implementation. In particular to consider research ethics issues in the light of the College's mission and values, and to ensure that those policies provide an ethical framework for research within the College.
3. To approve policies, procedures and guidelines for the consideration of all proposals for research that involve human participants¹ and materials derived from human participants, and which are to be undertaken by staff or students of the College, including the identification of criteria for low risk and high risk applications.
4. To monitor and report to Senate on the implementation of research policies and to advise Senate on any other matters of relevance referred to it by Senate.
5. To provide a pool of expertise that could be used if appropriate to contribute to investigative panels in cases of alleged research misconduct.
6. To assure itself that appropriate training in the ethics of research is available to staff and students.
7. To establish and maintain the membership of the Research Ethics Review Panels.
8. To monitor the work of the Research Ethics Review Panels and to consider reports on ethical approval granted by the Review Panels and through the fast track system.
9. To consider research ethics applications that meet the criteria for being high risk or that are complex, and those applications referred to it by the Review Panels.
10. To consider relevant external developments relating to research ethics and to identify any implications and required actions for the College and the Committee's work.

¹ For the purpose of the Committee's terms of reference, '*research which involves human participants*' should be interpreted in the broadest sense, i.e. student work, projects based on questionnaires, interviews etc and not just for example scientific experiments involving human subjects. This is further amplified in the College Policy on Research Ethics.

11. To refer researchers who submit proposals which require consideration by an NHS, or other specialist committee, to the appropriate committee if a Review Panel has not already done so.
12. To report to Senate on its work and to make reports to the Vice Principal's Research Advisory Group for its information.

Membership of QMERC

- An external member of Council (Chair), nominated by Council.
 - A representative of Queen Mary Senior Executive, nominated by the Principal.
 - Up to ten academic staff members, including three from each of the three faculties of the College (Humanities and Social Sciences, Science and Engineering, Medicine and Dentistry), One student, nominated by the President of the Students' Union
 - (Up to two further co-opted external members.
 - Up to two further co-opted members drawn from the staff of the College.
- Each member (except the Chair) also serves on a Review Panel, as below.

Quoracy

Six members comprise a quorum.

Secretariat

The Secretary will be a member of administrative staff of the College

In attendance

The following may be in attendance at meetings of QMERC:

- Representatives of the Joint Research Management Office
- Researchers invited to discuss their proposals and other matters with the Committee.
- Other staff and students of the College with the agreement of the Chair.

Meetings

- 3 times per year.

Research Ethics Review Panels

The six Research Ethics Review Panels report to the Queen Mary Ethics of Research Committee and provide independent consideration of applications for research ethics approval involving human participants.

Terms of reference

1. To consider applications for research ethics and decide, on behalf of the College, whether or not ethical approval should be granted. This approval may be conditional or based on specified recommendations.
2. To identify issues for report to the QMERC.
3. To make reports to QMERC on its work as applicable.
4. To identify those proposals that require consideration by an NHS committee or other specialist committee, and advise researchers to refer them to the relevant committee.

Membership

Across all Review Panels, there is equal membership from each Faculty, and each Panel has at least one member from each Faculty.

- A QMREC academic staff member as Chair
- A QMREC member from another Faculty as Deputy Chair
- At least two and up to five academic staff members, at least one of which is from the third Faculty.

APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF CURRENT MEMBERS (QMERC AND REVIEW PANELS)

Ms Wendy Appleby
Academic Secretariat

Professor Richard Ashcroft
Department of Law

Dr Eliane Bodanese
School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science

Professor Maria Delgado
School of English and Drama

Dr Miran Epstein
Blizard Institute

Elizabeth Hall
Chair

Professor David Lee
School of Engineering and Materials Science

Dr Dylan Morrissey
Department of Sports Medicine

Dr Sandra Nicholson
School of Medicine and Dentistry

Dr Magda Osman
School of Biological and Chemical Sciences

Professor Chris Reed
School of Law

Professor Maxine Robertson
School of Business and Management

Professor Peter Sasiemi
Centre for Cancer Prevention

Dr Rhiannon Thompson
Research Degrees Office

Dr Tassos Tombros
School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science

Ms Sarah Sawar
Student Union President

Professor Ferranti Wong
Institute of Dentistry

LIST OF CURRENT MEMBERS (REVIEWS PANEL ONLY)

Professor Lizzie Barmes

Department of Law

Professor Kam Bhui

Department of Psychiatry

Dr Adrian Bevan

School of Physics

Dr Adam Fagan

Department of Politics

Dr Francesca di Ludovico

Department of Physics

Professor Jon May

School of Geography

Dr Rainbow Murray

Department of Politics

Dr Thomas Prellberg

Department of Mathematics

Dr Soren Riis

Department of Computer Science

Professor Stephanie Taylor

Department of Primary Care

Dr Anwar Tappuni

Institute of Dentistry

Ms Hazel Covill

QMREC Administrator