

ESOFT Metro Campus Research Committee

The ESOFT Metro Campus Research Committee, chaired by the Head of Research, is responsible for the development of the ESOFT Metro Campus Research Policy and Strategies to assist the ESOFT Metro Campus in meeting its research objectives. It is the highest research coordinating body of the ESOFT Metro Campus.

Membership of the ESOFT Metro Campus Research Committee

- Vice Chancellor
- Deputy Vice Chancellor- Academic
- Deans of the Faculties
- Heads of the Departments
- Head of Research (Chair)
- Invited (non-voting) experts as and when it is considered essential to seek their advice

Scope of the ESOFT Metro Campus Research Committee

The functions of the Research Committee are to:

- Formulate strategies to assist the ESOFT Metro Campus in meeting its research objectives;
- Identify and use the means by which the ESOFT Metro Campus can engage in emerging research opportunities;
- Monitor and review research performance across the ESOFT Metro Campus and advise the Governing Board and the Academic Council on the ESOFT Metro Campus's research strategies, priorities and performance;
- Interact with external research funding agencies;
- Advise the Governing Board and the Academic Council on the allocation of any funds to support the research strategy;
- Advise the Governing Board and the Academic Council on an appropriate strategy for the submission of proposals for ESOFT Metro Campus funded research;

- Foster the marketing of research activities as a mechanism for enhancing grant and contract income from industrial and research funding sources;
- Consider research matters arising from Departmental Reviews referred to it by the Faculty Research Committees;
- Advice on any matters referred to it by the Governing Board and the Academic Council.

Research Ethics Committee

The Research Ethics Committee (REC) is an independent body and is not subject to the administrative control of any academic body, officer, department or national body and has the powers provided by the relevant Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Laws.

Membership of the Research Ethics Committee

- Two faculty members from each Faculty
- One representative from the Research & Innovation Office

Each Faculty Research Committee will nominate two members for service on the REC. The nominees have to be approved by the URC. The members of the REC will be electing the chair of the REC for a period of 2 years. The length of service for each member (except the ex-officio members) will be two years. The members are entitled to an additional consecutive term of service (maximum of two consecutive terms will be allowed). A member is entitled to apply for new membership two years after two consecutive terms end.

Scope of the Research Ethics Committee

The guiding principle for the REC's decisions is the protection of research participants' human rights. The primary purpose behind this principle is to ensure that no research project is permitted to override or outweigh the health, care, dignity, human rights and well-being of the participant. Researchers, in the presentation of their project proposals, must address issues of ethics and sensitivity of participants and information, and provide adequate guarantees in relation to these issues. The purpose of REC is also to contribute to the protection of Researchers and the ESOF Metro Campus from risk(s) emanating from the conduct of research. Support from the REC should be seen as a pre-assessment phase.

Faculty Research Committees

The aim of the Faculty Research Committee (FRC), one for each Faculty, is to enhance the research profile and reputation of the Faculty both within and outside the University.

Its role is to encourage, facilitate and support research in the Faculty and, where possible, to extend this to cross-departmental, cross-Faculty and interdisciplinary synergy and collaboration. This Committee is where the majority of research management takes place, thus giving more responsibility at Faculty level. The FRC meets on a regular basis and will concern itself with the quality and quantity of research activity and output.

Membership of Each Faculty Research Committee

Membership will consist of at least five persons and should include the:

- Dean of the Faculty
- Heads of the Departments and
- The Directors/Leaders of the Faculty's Research Institute/Centers and/or senior faculty active in research may be invited by the Dean as non-voting members.

Scope of Each Faculty Research Committee

To achieve its aims each FRC will:

- Advise the Faculty Dean on strategic issues with implications for research and disseminate timely information concerning the Faculty's Research Strategy throughout the Faculty;
- Review Faculty research and draft the Research Strategy for the Faculty including the allocation of monetary and non-monetary research resources;
- Identify and develop Faculty Research Themes (areas of possible research collaboration within the Faculty) and research collaborations within the University (other Facultys, Research Institutes/Centers);
- Co-ordinate and rank applications for competitive funds (research grants, startup of research projects and for small cost research equipment¹);
- Allocate and monitor research funds allocated to the Faculty and report to the URC on their use;

- Encourage research meetings and interdisciplinary research to further the research interests of the Faculty;
- Set up research activities, in association with the Research & Innovation Office, where Faculty present their research and discuss future plans; and
- Collect data on research conducted in the Faculty (recent research publications, grants, patents, etc.) and prepare an annual report to the URC.

In the events of internal funding the allocation of this money will initially be determined by the URC on the basis of the priorities put forth by the FRCs and then disbursed through the FRCs according to those priorities.

Research & Innovation Office

The Research & Innovation Office (R&IO) is at the core of the University Research Infrastructure and works in close collaboration with the Faculty Research Committees ,Research Ethics Committee and Research Committee ,

The R&IO provides specialist information, guidance and advice for Faculty and Researchers at the ESOF Metro Campus and its Academically Affiliated Institutions. The R&IO was established to support Faculty/Researchers in achieving their research goals, as well as to keep the University’s Research Community informed and to be informed by them on past, present and future research initiatives at the national, European and international level. In this sense, the R&IO is the central focus for the “Research Community” of the ESOF Metro Campus and aims to promote and expand this community to embrace other Cypriot academic colleagues and researchers, as well as to liaise with other research institutions worldwide.

The R&IO supports and offers assistance in all areas of research at the University; supplying specialist information, guidance and advice regarding research issues to the Research Community of the University.