



Intellectual Freedom Policy

1. PURPOSE

To recognise and protect intellectual freedom as integral to the proper conduct of teaching, research and other scholarly activity at the University.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

2.1. The University will recognise and protect the right of all staff and students at the University to freely and honestly engage in critical enquiry, scholarly endeavour and public discourse, and to participate in public debate without censorship or fear of professional disadvantage or penalty.

2.2. Except where expressly authorised, staff and students will not represent their views as being the views of the University.

2.3. The University does not extend the right of intellectual freedom as a means to harass, defame, vilify or intimidate.

2.4. In exercising their right to intellectual freedom, staff and students should be mindful of their responsibilities (see [Compliance Procedures](#)) and the University's values.

3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION, COMPLIANCE MONITORING, MEASURING AND CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT

The Head of School/Area is responsible for taking reasonable steps to ensure:

- (a) the implementation and compliance monitoring of this policy in their work area; and
- (b) that any breaches of this policy are dealt with in a timely manner through the University's complaints processes.

4. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all members of the University community (which includes Council members, students, staff, University Associates, Curtin controlled entities, and all persons participating in University business or activities, including whether as a visitor, adjunct appointee, service provider, contractor or volunteer).

5. DEFINITIONS

(Note: Commonly defined terms are located in the [Curtin Common Definitions](#). Any defined terms below are specific to this document)

Intellectual freedom

The freedom to engage in scholarly inquiry and public discourse without censorship or fear of professional disadvantage or penalty.

6. SUPPORTING PROCEDURES

Nil

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS/LINKS

[Code of Conduct](#)

[Media Procedures](#)

[Compliance Procedures](#)

[Complaints Procedures](#)

[Conflict of Interest Procedures](#)

[Values and Signature Behaviours](#)

Policy Compliance Officer	Ian Jackson , Director, People and Culture
Policy Manager	Provost
Approval Authority	Academic Board
Review Date	1 st April 2020

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved/ Amended/ Rescinded	Date	Committee / Board / Executive Manager	Approval / Resolution Number	Key Changes and Notes
New	Approved	27/07/2005	Academic Board	AB 123/05	Document No 00913/05
	Administratively Updated	20/03/2008	Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Reformatted and Amended to Reflect Organisational Chart
	Administratively Updated	16/10/2012	Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Updated Policy Manager
	Administratively Updated	04/03/2014	Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Updated Policy Manager, title change from Deputy Vice- Chancellor to Provost and Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor
	Administratively Updated	02/09/2014	A/Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Department name change, Professional Standards and Conduct Unit changed to Integrity and Standards Unit
	Administratively Updated	6/10/2015	Director, Legal and Compliance Services	EC 76/15	Executive Manager Title Changes
	Administratively Updated	06/11/2015	Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Policy Contact Updated
	Amended	27/05/2016	Academic Board	AB 67/16	Attachment A to Item 9.4 (Also includes name change from Academic Freedom Policy)