

MPF1318 Process C: Penalties for breaches of the Code by students

Overview

This process supports the [Responsible Conduct of Research Policy \(MPF1318\)](#) by outlining the way in which the University will consider and impose penalties for students found to have engaged in research misconduct as described in *MPF1318 Process A: Management of potential breaches of the Code*.

Purpose

This process describes how a Student Research Misconduct Committee (Committee) must be established, how they must operate, how they may impose or recommend the imposition of penalties in accordance with the Academic Board Regulation, and the appeal rights available to students.

Process

1. Where a student is found to have engaged in research misconduct in accordance with *MPF1318 Process A*, the University's Responsible Executive Officer (REO) must convene a Student Research Misconduct Committee (Committee).
2. The Committee must comprise:
 - a. the REO or delegate (as Chair); and
 - b. two registered supervisors who are appropriately experienced senior academics.
3. All members of the Committee must be free from bias and any conflict of interest.
4. The Committee, must consider imposing or recommend a penalty in accordance with the Academic Board Regulation. Any decision to impose or recommend a penalty must be by majority decision.
5. In imposing and/or recommending a penalty, the Committee must consider the appropriateness and proportionality of any penalty imposed or recommended.
6. Within 10 business days of any penalty being imposed or recommended, the REO must provide the student with written notice of:
 - a. any penalty imposed;
 - b. the reason(s) for any penalty imposed;
 - c. the right to appeal; and
 - d. the availability of independent advice from the Student Union Advocacy Service.
7. The student may appeal any penalty imposed in accordance with Part 10 of the Academic Board Regulation and the [Student Appeals Policy \(MPF1323\)](#). A decision made under section 6 of this Process will not be given effect until the expiration of the student appeal period or process, whichever is the latter.
8. Where the Committee recommends to the Vice-Chancellor that the student's enrolment is suspended or that the student is expelled, the Vice-Chancellor, in accordance with relevant regulations:

- a. must have regard to the terms of the decision and recommendation;
 - b. is not required to accord a hearing to the student before imposing a penalty; and
 - c. may:
 - i. accept the Committee's recommendation and expel the student or suspend the student's enrolment (as the case requires);
 - ii. refer the matter back to the Committee for reconsideration; or
 - iii. substitute a different penalty.
9. If a student is also a graduate of the University, the Committee may recommend to Council the revocation of any award where the research misconduct is demonstrated to have occurred in a manner that shows that the award(s) already made were obtained because of this misconduct.
10. Where the Committee recommends the revocation of an award, it must:
- a. allow 20 business days for the student to lodge an appeal in accordance with the [Student Appeals Policy \(MPF1323\)](#); and
 - b. after this timeframe has elapsed, submit its recommendation, including reasons for its decision, to the University Secretary for referral to Council in accordance with the [Revocation of Awards Policy \(MPF1316\)](#).

Authorised by:	Date:
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)	DD/MM/YYYY