

Authorship Policy (MPF1181)

University wide consultation- November 2022

The University of Melbourne Authorship Policy working group, with support from the Office of Research Ethics and Integrity, has reviewed the current University Authorship Policy (last reviewed 2015) and seeks your feedback on the proposed draft.

The Authorship Policy working group is chaired by Professor Louise Keogh from Chancellery Research and Enterprise, with members: Professor Mike McGuckin (MDHS), Professor Kat McFerran (Fine Arts), Professor Thas Nirmalathas (FEIT), A/Prof Lisa Sarmas (Law), Dr Peter Woelert (MGSE), Graeme Hairsine (Director, Information and Governance Services) and Elise Grosser (Director, Office of Research Ethics and Integrity- OREI) and support from Lucinda Kolitsis and Becky Argent (OREI).

This review seeks to better align the [Authorship Policy](#) with the [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#) (2018) ('the Code'), accompanying *Authorship Guide*, and the University of Melbourne policy library structure.

The working group has sought specialist input from key stakeholder committees prior to University wide consultation. The group is now seeking feedback from the broader University community prior to finalisation.

We request that all feedback be provided by **COB Friday 25 November 2022**, for consideration by the working group. Feedback can be provided via email to research-integrity@unimelb.edu.au.

Notable changes to the policy include:

- Incorporation of the [Authorship Procedure](#) (MPF1041) and [Authorship Dispute Resolution Procedure](#) (MPF1039) within the Authorship Policy.
- Attribution of authorship now requires an individual's contributions to meet two or more of the listed authorship criteria (clause 5.2), except for within exceptional circumstances.
- Inclusion of Coordinating Author as an interdisciplinary term to capture the role of senior author, lead author, corresponding author, etc.
- Requirement that a Coordinating Author must be identified within the Authorship Agreement.
- Clear statement that authorship must be agreed to by all authors prior to dissemination, via an Authorship Agreement (clause 5.12).
- Restructure of the Dispute Resolution Procedure under the draft's Management of Authorship Disputes section (clauses 5.19-5.27). Section identifies that where there is a dispute, and researchers are unable to resolve the matter through direct discussion, the dispute will be referred to the Dean or Delegate for facilitation to reach a resolution. Where there is a CoI, the dispute will be referred to the DVCR for facilitation.
- Specific clause stating that without agreement of authorship, the output cannot be published (clause 5.23).
- Inclusion of Roles and Responsibilities table (Section 6).