

## Handling Conflicts of Interest in HDR candidate matters

In the first instance, Higher Degree by Research candidates should discuss matters relating to their candidature and research progress directly with their supervisory teams. At times, candidates may wish to also discuss their circumstances with someone who has broader oversight of higher degree by research programs within their School of enrolment. In the first instance this should be with the School's Higher Degrees by Research Coordinator.

Occasionally, there may be conflicts of interest that arise during such discussions. Conflicts of interest can arise when a Higher Degree Research Coordinator, Associate Dean of Research or School Dean is on the supervisory panel of a particular student. These conflicts are handled by the school of enrolment as outlined below

When there is a conflict of interest at the Higher Degrees by Research Coordinator level, the matter should be referred to the School's Associate Dean of Research.

If there is a conflict of interest with the Associate Dean of Research, the matter should be referred directly to the Dean.

When there is a conflict of interest with the Dean, the HDR matter should be referred to:

- a. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic as the direct line-manager/supervisor of the Dean
- b. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation as the person with overall responsibility for Federation University's research and research training
- c. The Dean Graduate Studies to act on, as the person responsible for oversight of the University's higher degree by research candidate programs
- d. The Chair, Higher Degree Research Committee
- e. The Academic Board.