Student Advisory Committee (SAC)

The school requires each of the Higher Degree Research (HDR) students to facilitate timely, rigorous and constructive feedback at all stages of the candidature. The SAC will consist of the academic supervisors, an independent panel member who is a convenor. The following procedures will also assist in defining the SAC requirements that form the backbone of candidates’ interaction. The relevant procedures are outlined below. The procedure will apply to all students starting in 2015 and we encourage any current students to adopt this best practice with their supervisors. All supervisors and students should be fully aware of these for 2015.

The supervisory team must follow the UWA requirements:

1. At least two supervisors (including a UWA employee who has a contract that covers the period of the student’s candidature) in the team including:
   a. Principal supervisor (primarily responsible for the academic leadership in the supervision)
   b. Coordinating supervisor (primarily responsible for the academic management) who can also be the Principal supervisor
   c. Co-supervisor (providing specific expertise useful for the student’s research program)
2. At least one experienced supervisor who had a successful HDR completion,
3. The Coordinating supervisor who must be a UWA paid employee while the principal supervisor (the science lead) can be an external supervisor.

The Student Advisory Committee will be determined prior to the proposal milestone and consist of at least:

1. The student’s coordinating supervisor.
2. The student’s co-supervisor(s).
3. An “independent panel member” (SAC convenor) being an academic or research staff member with expertise/interest in the general area of the student’s research. This committee member must not have a direct involvement in the student’s research project (e.g. as a collaborator) but will normally be a member of the same academic unit in which the student is based.