Policy Governance and Management Policy

Purpose and Scope

To establish the principles for governing and managing University Legislation and Policy Documents.

This policy applies to all members of the University community.

Policy

1. In this policy, the following words have the following meanings:
    1.1. An “Act” is a formal law or decision made by a Federal or State legislature.
    1.2. “Authorisation” is explained in the Delegations and Authorisations Policy.
    1.3. A “Code” is statement of mandatory requirements guiding the behaviour of the University’s community.
    1.4. A “By-Law” is delegated legislation established under the Murdoch University Act 1973 which regulates the University. By-Laws pertain to the use of university lands and buildings and provide for penalties for breaches.
    1.5. “Delegation” is defined in the Delegations and Authorisations Policy.
    1.6. A “Policy” is a statement of mandatory principles guiding the University’s operations and significant decision making.
    1.7. “Policy Documents” are Codes, charters, Policies, frameworks, terms of reference, plans, principles, statements, Procedures, standards, and guidelines.
    1.8. A “Procedure” is a statement of the University’s mandatory processes and responsibilities which give effect to a Policy.
    1.9. A “Regulation” is a delegated legislation established under the Murdoch University Act 1973 and is designed to control or govern procedure or conduct.
    1.10. A “Rule” is delegated legislation established under the Murdoch University Act 1973 governing a particular matter.
    1.11. A “Statute” is established under the Murdoch University Act 1973. It is a law or directive, or mandate intended to be or a permanent or long-lasting that

governs the internal affairs of the University and prescribes the University's structure, procedure, or practice.

1.12. "University Legislation" means the Murdoch University Act 1973 and University By-Laws, Statutes, Regulations and Rules.

2. Regulations, Rules, and Policy Documents:

2.1. exist only when there is a justifiable need

2.2. are clear and concise

2.3. do not duplicate statements in other Regulations, Rules and Policy Documents

2.4. are flexible, while maintaining appropriate controls

2.5. apply consistent approaches to related circumstances

2.6. apply across the University community unless otherwise stated

2.7. are consistent with:

2.7.1. legal and regulatory requirements

2.7.2. University Legislation

2.7.3. Policy Documents

2.7.4. Delegations and Authorisations

2.8. align with the University Strategy

2.9.

2.10. are designed for longevity

2.11. are able to be implemented efficiently within university resources

2.12. assign responsibilities to the most appropriate roles.

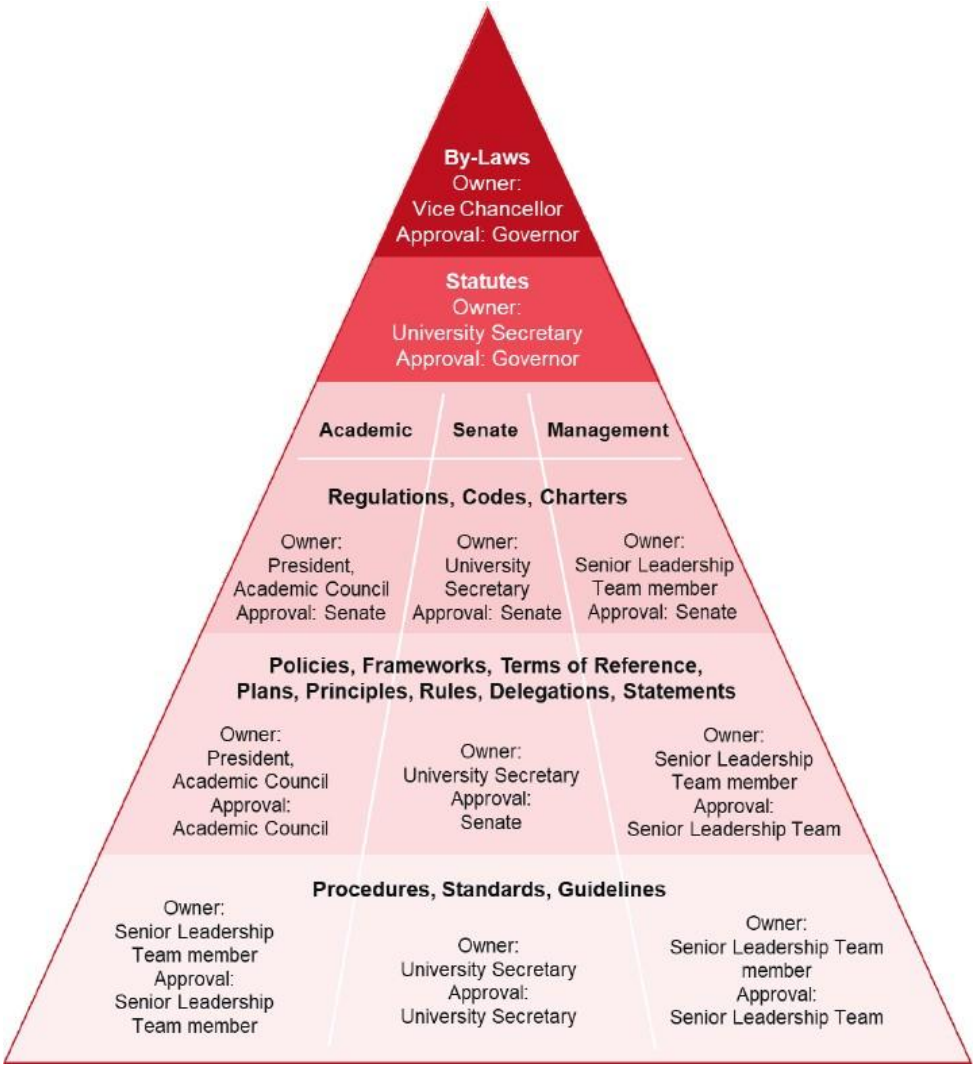
3. Normally only Regulations, Policies, Codes and Procedures may be developed.

4. Regulations exist only where required by Statute.

5. By-Laws, Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Policy Documents are reviewed at least every three years.

6. A Regulation, Rule, or Policy Document remains valid until it is revised or rescinded, even if it has not been reviewed within its review date.

7. Approval authorities, owners and hierarchy are normally classified as follows:



8. All members of the University community must:
   8.1. comply with relevant University Legislation and Policy Documents
   8.2. inform themselves about and keep up to date with relevant University Legislation and Policy Documents.

Governance

Approval Authority	Senate
Owner	University Secretary
Legislation mandating compliance	*Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021* *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000*

	Murdoch University Act 1973 *Universities Accord (National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-based Violence) Act 2025* and supporting legislative instruments including the *National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-based Violence 2025*
Category	Primarily a function of Senate
Related University Legislation and Policy Documents	*Policy Governance and Management Procedure* *Delegations and Authorisations Framework* *Delegations and Authorisations Policy* *Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response Policy* *Gender-based Violence Response Procedure*
Date effective	27/10/2026
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Revision History

Approved/Amended	Date Approved	Resolution No. (if applicable)
Approved	27/10/2026	S/39/2026
Approved	09/12/2025	S/40/2025
Approved	16/05/2023	S/20/2023(i)

Please refer to the electronic copy in the Policy and Procedure Manager to ensure you are referring to the latest version.