

Athabasca University General Faculties Council

Academic Research Committee (ARC)

Terms of Reference

Approved November 08, 2011 (GFC Motion 01-03)

Amended July 09, 2015 (GFC Motion 27-06)

The *Post-Secondary Learning Act* gives the Athabasca University General Faculties Council (GFC) responsibility, subject to the authority of The Governors of Athabasca University, over “academic affairs” (section 26(1)), including the ability to delegate (section 26(3)). GFC has thus established an Academic Research Committee and has delegated certain powers to its Academic Research Committee.

The complete wording of the section(s) of the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*, as referred to above, and any other related sections, should be checked in any instance where formal jurisdiction or delegation needs to be determined.

Academic Research Committee advises on the overall research goals of Athabasca University, oversees the distribution of designated or allocated research funds, and recommends on research policies and procedures and has the following powers and duties:

1. Develop policies and procedures and makes recommendations to the Academic Planning, Policy, and Standards Committee on academic research policies and procedures.
2. Advise Academic Planning, Policy, and Standards Committee on the overall research goals for the University.
3. Adjudicate grants and awards for the Academic Research Fund and any other relevant awards.
4. Review the activities of the Academic and Professional Development Fund and the Graduate Student Research Fund.
5. Recommend to GFC on any other matter deemed by Academic Research Committee to be within the purview of its general responsibility.
6. Biannually review the Terms of Reference for the Committee and recommend any changes to GFC.
7. Where the Chair of Academic Research Committee deems it necessary, a special meeting of the Committee shall be called to deal with urgent matters.

The Research Centre shall act as the Secretary to Academic Research Committee. All agendas and minutes of Academic Research Committee and its sub-committees and ad hoc committees must be filed with the University Secretary.