

ACGR Strategic Plan: 2024 – 2027

May, 2024

Vision

As the national peak body for graduate research, the Australian Council for Graduate Research exists to promote and support excellence in research and research training. We support our members to position graduate research as a key contributor to the prosperity of the nation into the future.

Values

Quality – We promote and support the delivery of research training and researcher development opportunities of the highest professional standard.

Collegiality – We work respectfully and collaboratively with members and stakeholders to support the delivery of high quality research training.

Integrity – We act with honesty, transparency, and equity to serve members.

Mission

The Australian Council of Graduate Research is a collaborative alliance of graduate research leaders representing all of Australia's universities. We engage and consult with stakeholders to advocate for excellence in research training and scholarship, and high standards for all higher degree by research programs. In doing so, we support the development of the Australian's research ecosystem and research workforce.

Strategic Goals

1. Develop and promote the importance of graduate research to Australia's social and economic prosperity to the higher education sector, government, public and private industry sectors, and the general public.
2. Advocate for and influence the development of policy, standards, and initiatives both nationally and internationally that enhance Australia's graduate research.

3. Enable networking and best practice sharing between leaders of graduate research both nationally and internationally.
4. Promote and support the delivery of high quality graduate research in Australia, responding to both national and international trends, needs and best practice.

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic Goal 1. *1. Develop and promote the importance of graduate research to Australia's social and economic prosperity to the higher education sector, government, public and private industry sectors, and the general public.*

1.1 Nurture links and alliances with relevant higher education and industry peak bodies and networks.

1.2 Utilize the ACGR website and other appropriate platforms to advocate for and provide resources to support quality research training.

1.3 Undertake or support relevant research and development projects on matters of national importance to graduate research.

1.4 Ensure the recognition of quality in graduate research supervision, leadership, industry engagement, and programs and support through the delivery of the annual ACGR Awards for Excellence.

Strategic Goal 2. *Advocate for and influence the development of policy, standards, and initiatives both nationally and internationally that enhance Australia's graduate research.*

2.1 Collaboratively develop position and policy statements as appropriate and in response to calls from government or other peak bodies.

2.2 Develop and foster strong linkages with stakeholders via regular dialogue on relevant matters of importance to graduate research, and participation in government-initiated review panels and processes.

2.3 Regularly invite government and industry sector representatives to meetings for information sharing, collaboration and policy debate and development.

Strategic Goal 3. *Enable networking and best practice sharing between leaders of graduate research both nationally and internationally.*

3.1 Convene regular member meetings, providing a national forum for discussion of matters of strategic, political, and operational importance to the graduate research community.

3.2 Provide avenues for sharing relevant news, resources, training materials, and updates to members.

3.3 Promote and deliver relevant graduate research events and professional development opportunities to members and the broader graduate research community.

Strategic Goal 4. *Promote and support the delivery of high quality graduate research in Australia, responding to both national and international trends, needs and best practice.*

4.1 Develop and inform best practice on matters relevant to graduate research.

4.2 Monitor and communicate to members matters related to international graduate research trends, needs and best practice via ACGR member communication channels.

4.3 Establish and foster links with relevant international graduate research networks and promote Associate Membership.

4.4 Invite international experts to ACGR meetings and other events for information sharing and collaboration purposes.