

## Terms of Reference for the Faculty of Technical Sciences Research Committee

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*These Terms of Reference are effective from the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, and replace previous editions.*

### Purpose

The research committee at the Faculty of Technical Sciences is committed to advancing strategic research objectives. Specifically, the committee fulfils this mission by advising the Dean's Office and the faculty leadership on research-related matters, including:

- **Strategic principles:** *Providing guidance on principles that drive research excellence and relevance*
- **Grant activities:** *Offering insights and directions to enhance grant-seeking initiative and improving quality*
- **International engagement:** *Focusing on research impact and visibility globally*

### Further responsibility

The Tech Research Committee is also responsible for facilitating and supporting the local research committees in their activities, including but not limited to:

#### Strengthened focus on funding opportunities, dialogues, and quality

- Prioritize discussions and knowledge exchange regarding funding opportunities
- Provide guidance on best practices for successful research applications
- Secure local engagement in departmental quality support of research applications
- Contribute to mentoring/sparring for specific strategic initiatives

#### Supporting interdisciplinary and mission-oriented research collaborations

- Foster initiatives and initiate interdisciplinary collaborations
- Encourage formation of interdisciplinary partnerships

#### Supporting activities related to research-based innovation, education and policy advice

- Where applicable, help to ensure that the research at the department includes the required topics for maintaining and developing knowledge to support policy advice
- Where applicable, help ensure that research is included in the education, at all levels.
- Help bring attention to the options for research-based innovation

#### Responsible conduct of research

- Share experience and best practice on communicating rules and guidelines on responsible conduct of research
- Follow-up on the annual update on responsible conduct of research

### Composition of members

- The dean establishes the faculty's research committee
- The chairs of the local research committees are members of the faculty's research committee. The chair of the local research committee is either part of the department leadership or participates in leadership meetings on a regular basis.

- The vice-dean for research at the faculty is the chairperson

**Meeting frequency**

- The committee meets as needed and at least 4 times annually

**Secretariat support**

- The faculty's research committee is supported by the faculty secretariat, which is also responsible for coordinating with other AU stakeholders.