



HÖGSKOLAN
I SKÖVDE

Vice-Chancellor

Remit¹

2022-11-15

Reg. nr. HS 2022/791

Research Ethics Council

1 General

The Research Ethics Council is a university-wide body at the University of Skövde (the University), reporting to the Vice-Chancellor.

2 Responsibilities and Tasks

The Council has both a proactive and a reactive mission in relation to issues of research ethics, and works to maintain good research practice at the University. When it comes to the Council's proactive work, and associated policy documents, the Council collaborates with the Faculty Board. When it comes to the Council's reactive work, concerning suspected misconduct in research or other deviations from good research practice, and associated policy documents, the Council collaborates with the Vice-Chancellor.

The Council's assignment is to:

Proactively

- increase research ethical awareness at the University in all education cycles.
- provide advice and recommendations on issues that concern research ethics, e.g. related to ethical review or other research ethical aspects of a research project.
- organise seminars with a research ethical perspective to stimulate ethical attitudes and debates about ethical issues.
- make information about such issues available on the University's website.
- initiate updates to policy documents within its remit.
- initiate the development of new policy documents as required, in relation to research ethical issues.

¹ This is a translation of the Swedish version (Uppdragsbeskrivning för forskningsetiska rådet, registration number HS 2022/791). In the event of any discrepancy, the Swedish version of this document shall prevail.

Reactively

- act as recipient body for an initial dialog in those cases where there is suspected research misconduct or other deviations from good research practice.
- assist the Vice-Chancellor with preparation and collection of materials from researchers in those cases where research misconduct is suspected, in order to supply those materials to the National Board for Assessment of Research Misconduct (Nämnden för prövning av oredlighet i forskning, Npof). The Vice-Chancellor is formally responsible for reporting suspected research misconduct and providing materials to Npof.
- investigate cases that are not labelled as research misconduct (and therefore not tried in Npof) but that are suspected to deviate from good research practice.

3 Structure

The council is made up of the following members:

- one representative from each school
- one representative from the Faculty Board
- one student representative from third-cycle education

The University's legal advisor may be co-opted if necessary.

All council members (except the student representative of third-cycle education) should be a docent. The group must include Council members with experience of research ethical decision-making. The council's chair should be a professor. The Vice-Chancellor appoints the Council's members based on suggestions from the schools and the Faculty Board. The Vice-Chancellor also determines which member will chair the Council. The student representative of third-cycle education is appointed by the student union. The gender equality aspect should be taken into consideration when appointing members to the Council.

The Support Services of the University provide administrative support to the Council.

4 Taking Effect

This remit was ratified at the Vice-Chancellor's decision-making meeting on the 15 of November, 2022, and takes effect on the same date.