

Selection of Chancellor Policy

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Purpose:

The Murdoch University Act 1973 [10(1)] provides for a Chancellor of the University who shall be elected by the members of the Senate. This policy underpins the selection procedure for the Chancellor.

Audience:

Staff, Senate Members

Objectives:

- To ensure that a suitable appointment to the office of Chancellor is made.

Definitions:

Any defined terms below are specific to this document. The definition of common terms appears in the Murdoch University Dictionary of Terms.

There are no terms.

Policy Statement:

1. The following attributes are desirable in the person who holds the position of Chancellor of Murdoch University:
 - Well-respected in the Australian community.
 - Understanding of and empathy with the principles on which the University is based.
 - General understanding of the political and financial environment within which universities operate.
 - Ability to relate to a wide range of people.
 - Public presence, including public speaking skills.
 - Comfortable with the demands of protocol.
 - Available for consultation on a reasonably regular basis.
 - Well-developed skills as committee chair.

- Political and negotiating skills
 - A reputation for integrity and probity
 - Ability to establish a close working relationship with the Vice Chancellor, advising on issues of policy, and monitoring but not interfering with management process
 - Ability to establish adherence to appropriate governance principles, particularly the clear separation of Senate and management responsibilities, and the accountability of management to the Senate.
2. Current members of Murdoch University staff and full-time Murdoch University students are ineligible for the position.
 3. The position of Chancellor is limited to three consecutive terms, i.e. up to 9 years. Six years is the expected minimum period. A fourth term may be given only in exceptional circumstances. The limit of three terms does not include any prior service as a member of Senate. This maximum period is not a normative expectation; there is a selection process at the end of each three year term.
 4. A subcommittee is convened to assist in the selection of the Chancellor. The subcommittee comprises:
 - Deputy Chancellor (Chair)
 - Vice Chancellor
 - Two lay Senators (appointed by the Deputy Chancellor)
 - One of the elected staff Senators (appointed by the Deputy Chancellor)
 - One of the elected student Senators (appointed by the Deputy Chancellor)
 - Up to two external members co-opted by the subcommittee.
 5. If the incumbent is available for another term the subcommittee will report to Senate on the result of a secret ballot of Senators and any feedback given.
 6. If the incumbent is not available for another term, the subcommittee will commence a search.
 7. Senate members and the wider University community should be invited to submit names of appropriate people to the subcommittee.
 8. The subcommittee has the discretion to bring forward one or two names for consideration by Senate.

Performance Indicators:

There are no performance indicators.

Related Documents:

[Murdoch University Act 1973](#)

References:

There are no references.

Approval and Implementation:

Approval Authority:	Senate
Responsible Officer(s):	University Secretary
Approval Authority for supporting procedures:	Senate
Contact Officer:	University Secretary

Revision History:

Approved/ Amended/ Rescinded	Date Approved	Effective Date	Next Review Date	Resolution No. (if applicable)
Approved	30/08/2018		30/08/2021	S/19/2018
Recommended to Senate by CNC	11/04/2018			CNC/03/2018
Approved	07/12/2011		07/12/2014	S/45/2011