Good Practices in Peer Review

Minimal acceptable practices in peer review, which the University expects to be followed:

i. Peer reviewers should openly declare and justify all real or potential conflicts of interest;

ii. Peer reviewers are expected to be aware of the limits of their own professional expertise, to undertake available training, and to only review within their area of expertise;

iii. Peer reviewers should ensure they are informed about, and comply with, the criteria to be applied when reviewing;

iv. Peer reviewers should properly consider research that challenges or changes accepted ways of thinking;

v. Peer reviewers should provide fair, timely and rigorous evaluations and respect confidentiality when peer reviewing other researchers’ work;

vi. Where a journal has in place its own journal-specific ethics policy for peer reviewers then, if this does not conflict with the GRIP Policy, peer reviewers are expected to follow the journal’s ethics policy for peer reviewers as an extra layer of R&I governance.

Higher practices in peer review, which the University’s researchers should aspire to:

Replication of research observations/results is only possible if the paper submitted for peer review contains evidence that sufficiently explains the conditions under which the claimed observations/results occurred; not all research is reproducible but it should be possible to replicate the conditions under which the research took place.