

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Guidelines for selecting a Chair

Along with the change in processes for organizing the milestones comes the requirement that students need to select and nominate their own Chair. It is essential that you select your Chair in consultation with your Primary Advisor; please refer to the School's [List of Chairs](#).

The Chair of your Review Committee will take on the responsibility for all three milestones and may also act as the Chair of Examiners for the thesis examination. The Chair is the Head of School's representative on the Committee and is responsible for ensuring the required standards of scholarship are met. The Chair is **not** required to be an expert on the research topic and as such is not to be selected based on their knowledge of the topic or area of expertise. All Chairs on the panel have research expertise and knowledge of academic integrity, ethics and good academic structure and writing. More importantly they are also experts on the requirements that have to be met within each milestone and are there to provide the student and advisory team with advice and support on ensuring these are achieved and maintained throughout the course of the candidature.

During the course of the PhD and associated milestones you will build up a relationship with the Chair whereby they will be an observer who knows the story of your PhD journey and is independent of your advisory panel. This is of great value to you and will provide an extra level of support to your PhD experience.