Health, Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities (HASH) Network
Terms of Reference

The Health, Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (HASH) Network brings together scholars interested in health, science and technology, design, creative arts, social sciences and humanities to explore how different kinds of evidence and modes of inquiry can promote effective, grounded research on the health of individuals and communities. HASH will provide a space for people interested in interdisciplinary health research to share ideas, present their work and discuss pressing topics of research methods and theory, impact, and engagement. The network will draw on various contributions from a wide range of researchers, research students, health practitioners, health service users and policymakers. A key aim is to foster the development of interdisciplinary groups that critically engage with contemporary questions of health, society, institutions and technology, and to frame appropriate and useful strategic directions and priorities for interdisciplinary health research at RMIT.

Objectives of the HASH network:

1. Map and make visible the capability of expertise across RMIT relevant to interdisciplinary health research.
2. Develop knowledge exchange opportunities for researchers and research students to engage with colleagues in other schools and research groups.
3. Increase internal RMIT, and external interdisciplinary collaborations with the view of growing transformative research performance, innovation and impact.
4. Explore, develop and pursue strategic priorities and directions for interdisciplinary health research at RMIT.
5. Consolidate internal expertise to communicate to external audiences, and position RMIT as national and international leaders in interdisciplinary health research and research training.

To fulfil these objectives the HASH network will consist of:

- A network of researchers and research students from across RMIT and beyond.
- A Leadership Group of relevant experts from across RMIT to actively promote the activities of the network.

Network member responsibilities:

1. Collaboratively establish a vision for the network.
2. Map the capability of members.
3. Identify relevant external partners including industry stakeholders.
4. Identify internal methods of communicating and engaging with each other, e.g., via a network mailing list.
5. Contribute to the planning and development of large-scale interdisciplinary health research projects, programs, partnerships at RMIT.

Leadership group responsibilities:

1. Establish and manage internal methods of communicating and engaging with network members.
2. Establish and manage an up-to-date web presence that identifies members and their expertise, and includes a capability statement.
3. Organise and coordinate internal events to promote interdisciplinary discussions e.g., reading groups, workshops.
4. Promote opportunities for external collaboration including funding applications with other universities, industry and community.
5. Organise and coordinate 2-3 public events each year which profile the capabilities of the network and engage internal and external partners, industry and alumni.

The HASH Network is currently supported by the Social Change and Design and Creative Practice Enabling Capability Platforms at RMIT University.

The HASH Network will be reviewed after 2 years.