Department of Biological Sciences

Terms of Reference – 2014 External Review

1. Governance, Leadership and Management
   Review the effectiveness of the Department of Biological Sciences planning, leadership and management structure, processes and resources in responding to Faculty and University strategic planning directions.

2. Academic Program
   Review the appropriateness of the degrees, programs, and units offered by the Department of Biological Sciences relative to Faculty and University priorities, employer and professional community demands.

3. Research
   Review current research outputs, activity, and capability relative to Faculty and University objectives including opportunities for developing research and knowledge leadership.

4. Research Training
   Review the HDR program, including admission standards, methodology and skills training, completion times and drop-out rates, supervision and reporting standards.

5. Staff and Student Profile
   Review the alignment of academic, professional, and student profile relative to current and future objectives and plans.

6. Community Engagement
   Review the scale, scope, and quality of community/industry engagement, including external/professional contribution to and referencing of, curriculum and research development.

7. Future Directions
   Recommend future development opportunities for the Department of Biological Sciences in terms of its resources, research, teaching and community/industry engagement activity.
**Potential review panel chairs**

Professor Steve Simpson, Sydney University – physiology, ecology & behaviour
Professor Rhonda Jones, James Cook University – zoology & ecology

**Potential external panel members**

Professor David Ackerly UC Berkeley - plants & evolution
Professor Sally Otto, University of British Columbia – populations genetics, zoology, mathematical modelling
Professor Steve Stearns, Yale University – evolution and medicine
Professor Cathy Rankin, University of British Columbia – genetics & behavior
Professor Emma Johnston, University of NSW – marine community ecology

**Potential internal panel members**

Associate Professor Ann Goodchild (ASAM)
Professor Julie Fitness (Human Sciences)