

Introduction

The IIRC's <IR> Academic Network ('the Network') provides opportunities for universities, think tanks, industry bodies and others to engage on matters related to Integrated Reporting. Launched in December 2016, the Network:

- Facilitates collaboration and exchange among academics on matters related to Integrated Reporting
- Connects theory and practice by bridging academia to those who directly prepare and benefit from integrated reports
- Ensures the IIRC stays abreast of relevant academic thinking, including evidence supporting the business case for Integrated Reporting.

Features of the <IR> Academic Network

- Online discussion forum including 500 members
- Resource centre showcasing new publications, research in progress, surveys and web content related to Integrated Reporting
- Academic Research Support Group to help advance key research strands and encourage dynamic content and discussions
- Alerts of upcoming conferences, workshops, calls for papers and research grants.

The Network is poised to expand its membership, activities and impacts. To usher in this new phase, the IIRC seeks a small consortium of academic institutions, hereafter called the 'Oversight Body', to manage the Network's strategy, plans and progress. Contributions to the Oversight Body will be on a pro bono basis and for an initial two-year commitment.

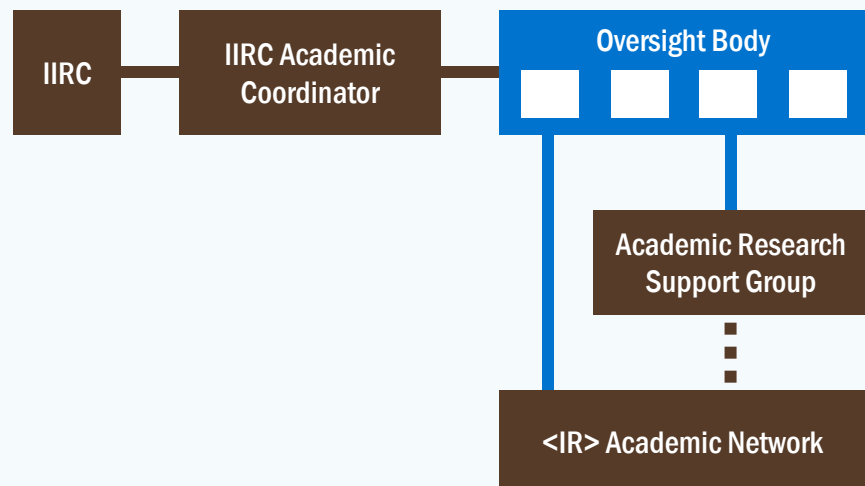
Benefits of participation

Members of the Oversight Body stand to benefit from:

- Profile and branding associated with the <IR> Academic Network
- Institutional knowledge and capacity building in the fields of Integrated Reporting and systems/integrated thinking
- Enhanced credibility as a centre of excellence in Integrated Reporting
- Meaningfully contributing to the evolution of the broader corporate reporting system
- Collaboration with the IIRC on targeted events, publications and other communications

Role and structure of the Oversight Body

The Oversight Body is responsible, via the Network and with input from the IIRC, for stimulating continued research, dialogue and debate in the areas of Integrated Reporting, integrated thinking and broader corporate reporting system reform. An existing Academic Research Support Group, comprised of individuals acting in a volunteer capacity, also contributes to the Network's operations.



Scope of activities

The expanded activities of the Oversight Body will include:

- Maintaining a public inventory of published research in the areas of Integrated Reporting, systems/integrated thinking and broader corporate reporting system reform
- Communicating unpublished papers, including relevant conference papers, working documents and Ph.D. theses
- Facilitating a 'marketplace' for the adoption of research prospects identified by the IIRC and others
- Identifying opportunities for other relevant academic study and collaboration between business and academia
- Preparing calls for research for interested Network participants and partner organizations
- Fostering effective business-academic links
- Targeting major academic conferences to advance the Network's agenda
- Identifying prospective funders of research, particularly in priority markets
- Developing a roadmap to incorporate Integrated Reporting principles into finance, accounting and business school curricula
- Ensuring the Network's online discussion forum remains lively and relevant

Selection criteria

Members of the Oversight Body will be selected based on the following:

- Understanding of the distinction between Integrated Reporting and other report forms
- Demonstrated commitment to advancing research, discussion and debate in the field of corporate reporting
- Capacity to substantively fulfill, or contribute to the fulfillment of, the scope of activities described herein
- Proven networking with businesses, policy makers and others interested in corporate reporting and Integrated Reporting
- Interest in working collaboratively with other academic institutions
- Regional and disciplinary diversity at the Oversight Body level

Application process

- Interested candidates are invited to email an Expression of Interest, using the attached template or other format (which must include the information requested in Sections 1, 2 and 3), to Laura Girella, Coordinator – Academic Network at laura.girella@theiirc.org. All attachments should be clearly cross-referenced in the main body of the Expression of Interest.
- The deadline for submissions is **24:00 (GMT) on Friday 30 March 2018**. Please note that submission of an Expression of Interest is non-binding and does not oblige the IIRC to award a contract.
- The IIRC will contact short-listed candidates to clarify submitted information and/or share preliminary plans for appointments to confirm candidates' continued interest.
- To learn more about the Academic Network, please contact Laura Girella via email (laura.girella@theiirc.org) or Skype ([laura.girella-iirc](https://www.skype.com/people/laura.girella-iirc)).

This template is provided for convenience. Applicants are welcome to submit responses in another format; however, submissions must include the information requested in Sections 1, 2 and 3. Attachments should be cross-referenced in the main body of the Expression of Interest.

Reference: IIRC Tender – Oversight Body of the <IR> Academic Network

Section 1. Applicant information

Institution	_____	Contact name	_____
Department	_____	Position	_____
Address	_____	Email	_____
	_____	Telephone	_____

Section 2. Related experience

Please outline experience in corporate reporting (and Integrated Reporting, as appropriate), collaborative successes and previous involvement in programme management. Include examples of related thought leadership, conference/workshop organization and active participation in national or international reporting communities.

Section 3. Capacity/ infrastructure to deliver

Please outline resources and specialized skills available to substantively contribute to the scope of activities described in the above-referenced tender.