

## FREE INTELLECTUAL INQUIRY POLICY

### STATEMENT

Free intellectual inquiry relies on a culture of research investigation undertaken without prejudice which may be associated with race, religion, gender, sexuality or disability, with open-minded access and acknowledgement of the work of others, as the foundations for scholarship, learning and personal scholastic development. Students and staff of Whitehouse Institute will conduct themselves in their research investigations with an expansive and scholarly approach to all information through teaching and learning practices, and will foster academic generosity and reciprocity with other students and scholars nationally and internationally.

This Policy should be considered in conjunction with the Code of Conduct and the Academic Honesty Policies.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction on matters of free intellectual inquiry. Students and staff are expected to adhere to the provisions of relevant legislation, and to the rules, policies, regulations, procedures and guidelines at Whitehouse Institute, the accepted ethical practices of the higher education community in Australia, and the standards of relevant academic research disciplines and professional practice.

### DEFINITIONS

**Free Intellectual Inquiry** may be described at Whitehouse Institute as a process by which curiosity is facilitated through unprejudiced scholarly research investigations, undertaken as a means by which to develop innovative and original design solutions, approached with a diverse and open-minded attitude to discovery and experimentation, which fuels life-long learning.

### RIGHTS OF STUDENTS

Students at Whitehouse Institute have the right:

- to have access to information about free intellectual inquiry;
- to develop design theories, concepts and products underpinned by the access to information from a broad and diverse scholarly base;
- to freely and generously cooperate with other students to reciprocally exchange information and ideas for significant scholarly advancement; and
- to create original and innovative design solutions to complex problems with open-minded and professional research approaches, unimpeded by preconceived notions of outcomes by staff or industry representatives.

This policy was approved by the Academic Committee on 27 August 2008 and is set out in the Student Handbook, Staff Handbook, Policy and Procedures manual and published on the Whitehouse Institute website [www.whitehouse-design.edu.au](http://www.whitehouse-design.edu.au)