**Constitution: Warwick Environmental Systems Interdisciplinary Centre (Wesic)**

**1. Aims of the Centre**

(a) To promote and support inter-disciplinary and cross-faculty research in environmental systems and improve our understanding of complex interactions between humans, biota and the environment.

(b) To increase the internal and external visibility of interdisciplinary environmental research at Warwick and align with the vision of the STEM grand challenge.

(c) To provide a platform for researchers to engage with external stakeholders within an interdisciplinary context

(d) To support and develop internal and external funding applications for interdisciplinary environmental systems research

(e) To provide a forum to support interdisciplinary research led undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in environment systems

**2. Activities of the Centre**

To achieve the aims stated above, WESIC will undertake a range of activities including:

(a) Termly meetings of Wesic directors to ensure planning and delivery of activities

(c) Regular rotating lunch and coffee meetings to stimulate research and grant applications, with the specific aim of supporting more junior members.

(d) Maintaining a strong web presence to promote environmental systems research in Warwick to the outside world.

(e) Attract high quality young researchers to apply for fellowships to be held at Warwick

(f) Undertake other activities commensurate with the aims of the Centre, in particular workshops for development of research collaborations and funding applications.

(h) A yearly public outreach activity to showcase Warwick’s research strengths in environmental systems

(i) Engage with local, national and international stakeholders (eg industry, councils, government departments, UN Climate change conference) in issues relating to environmental systems.

**3. Membership**

The members of the Centre shall consist of academic and research staff, visiting and associate fellows of the University who have research interests in aspects of environmental research; studying natural communities and agro-ecosystems in relation to climate, human-ecosystem environment interactions, anthropogenic impacts and physico-chemical gradients at varying scales from molecular to whole ecosystems

Individuals who wish to be a member of the Centre should approach the Director who will seek confirmation from the Management Committee that their membership will enhance the Centre; requests to become members will not normally be refused.

Academic and research staff in other universities and governmental research agencies may be nominated for membership by the Director to the Management Committee. This will be granted if there is a demonstrable benefit to the Centre.

**4. Directorship**

There shall be a Director, responsible to the Management Committee for the planning, direction and execution of the Centre's affairs. The Director shall be assisted by an associate director, appointed by the management committee

**5. Details of Management Committee**

The role of the Management Committee shall be to advise the Director on the day-to-day activities of the Centre and to provide a link to multiple departments within the University.

The Management Committee shall consist of:

(a) the Director;

(b) the Associate Director;

(c) up to 4 other co-opted members of the Centre representative of participating Departments.

The appointments to the Management Committee shall be for three years. The Director and the Associate Director shall appoint the other members of the Management Committee.

The Management Committee shall meet at least termly

**6. Financial Responsibility**

The Centre does not have any financial standing, responsibility or profile. Any funding obtained to conduct Centre activities will be administered through Departments.