**Table 1: An Outline of the RSD Framework for the University of the South Pacific**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels of Student Autonomy</th>
<th>Prescribed Research (Level 1)</th>
<th>Channeled Research (Level 2)</th>
<th>Scaffolded Research (Level 3)</th>
<th>Student-initiated Research (Level 4)</th>
<th>Open Research (Level 5)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Highly structured directions and modelling from educator prompt student research.</td>
<td>Boundaries set by and limited directions from educator channel student research.</td>
<td>Scaffolds placed by educator shape student independent research.</td>
<td>Students initiate the research and this is guided by the educator.</td>
<td>Students research within self-determined guidelines that are in accord with discipline or context.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Facet A: Embark & Clarify**  
Respond to or initiate research and clarify or determine what knowledge is required, heeding ethical/cultural and social/team considerations.

**Facet B: Find & Generate**  
Find and generate needed information/data using appropriate methodology.

**Facet C: Evaluate & Reflect**  
Determine and critique the degree of credibility of selected sources, information and of data generated, and reflect on the research processes used.

**Facet D: Organise and Manage**  
Organise information and data to reveal patterns and themes, and manage teams and research processes.

**Facet E: Analyse & Synthesise**  
Analyse information/data critically and synthesise new knowledge to produce coherent individual/team understandings.

**Facet F: Communicate & Apply ethically**  
Write, present and perform the processes, understandings and applications of the research, and respond to feedback, accounting for ethical, social and cultural (ESC) issues.

- **Identify the problem, frame research question**
- **Use methods/procedures to generate information**
- **Evaluate the methods and data collected to select credible and appropriate information**
- **Organise information in a logical and coherent format**
- **Synthesise and analyse knowledge**
- **Communicate and present research findings**