

**GOLDSMITHS  
University of London**

**ACADEMIC BOARD**

**RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER COMMITTEE  
1 November 2006**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2006**

**Present:** Professor Simon McVeigh (in the Chair), Professor Howard Caygill, Professor Scott Lash, Mr Mike Metelits, Professor Carrie Paechter, Dr Len Platt, Professor Nirmala Rao, Professor Maria Shevtsova, Professor Robert Zimmer, Ms Lynda Agili (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Professor Angela McRobbie

**In attendance:** Academic Registrar, Management Accountant (Academic), Research Office Secretary, Research Development Officer

**OPEN BUSINESS**

**1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS POLICY**

Received:

the College Policy on Conflicts of Interest (A; S06.133)

**2 THE NEW COMMITTEE SYSTEM, AND TERMS OF REFERENCE, COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP**

Received:

a paper on the new committee system, including the Terms of Reference, Composition and Membership of the Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee (B; R06.235)

Noted:

- (i) the Chair welcomed the following new members of Research Committee:  
Professor Carrie Paechter – Dean of the Graduate School  
Mr Mike Metelits – Head of Business Development
- (ii) Mr Justin Davin-Smith, appointed as Research Development Officer in the Research Office, was also welcomed to sit in attendance
- (iii) that within the Terms of Reference the Committee now had a specific function to consider knowledge transfer issues
- (iv) that the Committee would no longer oversee the activities of the Graduate School but would continue to take note of the postgraduate research environment

**3 MINUTES**

**Resolved:**

to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2006

#### **4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Noted:

##### **Citations**

- (i) that to ensure Goldsmiths citations would be maximised in the likely metrics-based research assessment exercises of the future, the same format should be used by all academic staff for acknowledgments, quotations, general publicity and publications
- (ii) that in an article, members of staff should ensure to include a mention of Goldsmiths, University of London in either the header of the text or as a footnote

##### **Resolved:**

that the format for all citations and acknowledgements should be:

NAME (in whatever format required for purpose), DEPARTMENT of ---  
Goldsmiths, University of London

#### **5 RAE 2008**

Received:

an Equality and Diversity training powerpoint presentation, the Goldsmiths' RAE 2008 Code of Practice Dissemination Timetable (C; R06.236) and an oral report from the Chair providing an update on the College dry-run and the responsibilities of Research Committee

Noted:

- (i) that the Goldsmiths dry-run exercise was progressing smoothly and that all members representing Departments must ensure to attend the RKTC Special Meeting on 1 March to consider the submissions and make recommendations to the Senior Management Team
- (ii) that a College Open Meeting was to be held on 2 November to give all academic and support staff an opportunity to ask questions and express any concerns regarding the process
- (iii) that Committee members attending dry-run panel meetings should keep in mind the Code of Practice when considering submissions and in particular equality and diversity issues, and any special circumstances that might affect an individual submission
- (iv) that there would be an impact assessment exercise led by the Equal Opportunities Officer after the dry-run

#### **6 REFORM OF HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH ASSESSMENT AND FUNDING CONSULTATION**

Received:

the Goldsmiths response and the 1994 Group response to the consultation (D; R06.237), and the Report of the AHRC/HEFCE Expert Group on Research Metrics (E; R06.238)

Noted:

- (i) that the Treasury is continuing to press for a change in the funding of research in universities and a radical reform of the RAE, to the extent that the funding resulting from RAE 2008 may only hold for a couple of years before a revised assessment method is introduced to distribute funding

- (ii) that the government agenda appeared to be to move to a metrics based system of assessment very quickly
- (iii) that the AHRC and HEFCE had established an expert group to consider possible metrics that would have relevance to non-STEM subjects
- (iv) that there was not yet an equivalent expert group for the social sciences but it was anticipated that ESRC would be taking appropriate action
- (v) that the Arts and Humanities expert group had recommended that peer review should continue to account for 50% of any assessment but that other metrics to be considered could be spend on research infrastructure, wider social and economic significance of research, PhD completions per member of staff, peer-reviewed external research income and esteem indicators
- (vi) that with these recommendations in mind, maximising citations, PhD completions and the cultural/economic relevance of Goldsmiths research would become very important

## **7 RESEARCH ACTIVITY DATABASE**

Received:

a presentation of the new Research Activity Database from Mr Duncan Branley, Research Applications Officer

Noted:

- (i) that 85% of data from Papyrus had now been migrated into the new database
- (ii) that new data would be entered directly by individual members of staff via a web based interface and approved by their Head of Department and possibly Research Office before being officially included in the database
- (iii) that items would be linked to Staff IDs and could be easily adapted for creating CVs
- (iv) that members of staff would be able to choose which items should be publicly available and the database could be used as a valuable dissemination tool

## **8 GOLDSMITHS OPEN ACCESS REPOSITORY**

Received:

a presentation of the Goldsmiths Open Access Repository from Ms Mary Nixon, Librarian

Noted:

- (i) that the Institutional Repository was developing partly as a result of a Research Council requirement that all funded research outputs be freely available to the community
- (ii) that Goldsmiths had joined the SHERPA project funded by JISC and the Vice Chancellor of the University of London fund to establish repositories for the UoL colleges
- (iii) that the Goldsmiths repository was now available for staff to deposit research outputs and could be accessed at <http://eprints.goldsmiths.ac.uk/>
- (iv) that in many cases text-based items were being provided in PDF but staff could provide a link direct to a website which might showcase an exhibition or other practice-based work

- (v) that in cases where there were copyright issues, academics should seek to gain agreement from publishers to be able to deposit a final, refereed manuscript in the repository in lieu of the formatted journal article
- (vi) that the repository would provide a valuable showcase for Goldsmiths research and could also be used for publishing PhD theses
- (vii) that the Library had developed a strategy for introducing the repository to departments and had piloted the project with the Psychology Department

## **9 APPLICATIONS AND AWARDS FOR RESEARCH FUNDING**

Received:

a summary of applications and awards for the last 5 years (F; R06.239), a schedule of applications for funding and awards made in the year ending 31 July 2006 (G; R06.240) and a table of Research Income and Awards (H; R06.241)

Noted:

- (i) that there had been a spectacular rise in the value of research grants awarded in 2005-06 which was in part due to the impact of fEC but also some notable achievements: a particularly large fEC grant being awarded to the Department of Computing, a significant increase in successful Psychology awards from the ESRC and EU, and the prestigious award of the Leverhulme Major Research Programme worth £1.25 million led by the Department of Media and Communications
- (ii) that success rates in 04/05 and 05/06 had remained constant at about 36% indicating that fEC had not adversely affected awards made to Goldsmiths

## **10 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A CENTRE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Received:

a proposal submitted by the Department of Professional and Community Education (I; R06.242)

Noted:

that the proposed centre aimed at addressing the research needs of lifelong learning initiatives and would not create any conflict with Educational Studies based interests

**Recommended:**

**to approve the establishment of a Centre for Lifelong Learning and Community Engagement with effect from 24 January 2007, attached to the Department of Professional and Community Education**

## **11 COLLEGE RESEARCH FUNDS**

Noted:

- (i) that funds for 2005/06 and 2006/07 had been spent on supporting the RAE but that the anticipated fund of £25,000 for 2007/08 could be spent on fellowships or seedcorn funding
- (ii) that since each fellowship required a sizable proportion of the money available, in the region of £7-8k, it would be more equitable to provide seedcorn funding for research that could be awarded across more sectors of the College

- (iii) that an open competition could be run with an upper limit of £3,000 per project
- (iv) that the seedcorn funding could be targeted at strategic research areas likely to attract external funding applications and to encourage early career researchers

**Resolved:**

to spend 07/08 funds on seed corn funding for research projects and to consider targeting the call to maximise the potential return to Goldsmiths at the next meeting

**12 GRADUATE SCHOOL**

Received:

an oral report from Professor Carrie Paechter, Dean of the Graduate School

Noted:

that the Graduate School had been established and that plans for development of services were being progressed

**13 LEVERHULME VISTING FELLOWSHIP SCHEME**

Received:

details of the Leverhulme Visiting Fellowships scheme and College competition for nominations (J; R06.243)

**14 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

Received:

a paper on the revised structure of the Business Development Office (K; R06.244)

**15 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY HORIZON SCANNING**

Received:

a report of major research initiatives currently open for application (L; R06.245)

**16 RESEARCH ON CULTURE AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES SEMINARS**

Noted:

the decision taken by Chair's Action to award £2,000 from College Research Funds to Professor Angela McRobbie following a revised proposal for the Culture and Creative Industries Seminars

**17 THE CONSTANCE HOWARD RESOURCE AND RESEARCH CENTRE IN TEXTILES**

Noted:

the establishment of the Constance Howard Resource and Research Centre in Textiles as an independent 'hard centre' following approval by Academic Board

**18 PINTER CENTRE FOR PERFORMANCE AND CREATIVE WRITING**

Noted:

the renaming of the *Pinter Centre for Research in Performance* as the *Pinter Centre for Performance and Creative Writing* and the appointment of Professor Helen Carr as Centre Director following approval by Academic Board

## 19 RESEARCH OFFICE TRAINING SESSIONS

Received:

a paper on the Research Office contribution to the College Training and Development Programme for Autumn 2006 (M; R06.246)

## 20 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Reported:

- i the following periods of paid leave approved by Chair's action:
  - (a) Dr V Bell, Dept of Sociology (1/1/07 – 31/8/07) 2<sup>nd</sup> term funded by AHRC Research Leave Scheme
  - (b) Dr P Heaton, Dept of Psychology (8/1/07 – 23/3/07)
  - (c) Dr D Hirsh, Dept of Sociology (25/9/06 – 15/12/06)
  - (d) Prof A Ivashkin, Dept of Music (1/9/06 – 30/4/07) 2<sup>nd</sup> term funded by AHRC Research Leave Scheme
  - (e) Dr J London, Dept of Drama (1/9/06 – 30/4/07) 2<sup>nd</sup> term subject to funding by AHRC Research Leave Scheme
  - (f) Dr K Nash, Dept of Sociology (1/4/07 – 23/12/07) 2<sup>nd</sup> term subject to funding by AHRC Research Leave Scheme
  - (g) Prof K Negus, Dept of Music (25/9/06 – 15/12/06)
  - (h) Mr K Potter, Dept of Music (9/10/06 – 15/12/06)
  - (i) Prof J Powell, Dept of Psychology (8/1/07 – 15/6/07)
- ii the following period of unpaid leave approved by Chair's action:
  - (a) Dr J London, Dept of Drama (1/5/07 – 15/6/07)

Received and approved:

- iii reports following leave of absence (N; R06.247):
  - (a) Dr P Barnett, Dept of Visual Arts
  - (b) Prof A Blamires, Dept of English and Comparative Literature
  - (c) Dr G Butt, Dept of Visual Cultures
  - (d) Dr S Cottrell, Dept of Music
  - (e) Mr P Filmer, Dept of Sociology
  - (f) Prof C French, Dept of Psychology
  - (g) Dr M Inghilleri, Dept of English and Comparative Literature
  - (h) Prof M Mayo, Dept of Professional and Community Education
  - (i) Dr G Menz, Dept of Politics
  - (j) Prof B Moore-Gilbert, Dept of English and Comparative Literature
  - (k) Dr U Natarajan, Dept of English and Comparative Literature
  - (l) Dr P Odih, Dept of Sociology
  - (m) Prof C Paechter, Dept of Educational Studies

## **21 NEXT MEETING**

Noted:

that the next meeting would be held on 7 February 2007 at 2.00 pm, and that a special meeting for Committee members to consider the outcomes of the RAE dry-run would be held on Thursday 1 March 2007 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

*LA*  
*January 2007*