

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

ACADEMIC BOARD

**RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER COMMITTEE
7 May 2008**

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2008

- Present:** Professor Simon McVeigh (in the Chair), Professor Les Back, Professor Howard Caygill, Mr Mike Metelits, Professor Carrie Paechter, Dr Len Platt, Ms Lynda Agili (Secretary)
- Apologies:** Professor Maria Shevtsova, Professor Nirmala Rao, Professor Robert Zimmer
- In attendance:** Academic Registrar, Management Accountant, Academic, Research Office Secretary, Research Development Officer

OPEN BUSINESS

44 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noted:

that the Chair welcomed Professor Baldock from the Degree Awarding Powers assessment team in attendance at the meeting

that the Chair welcomed Ms Nalini Seeromben, recently appointed as the Management Accountant (Academic), in attendance at the meeting

45 MINUTES

Resolved:

to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2008 (enclosed)

46 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

(i) Leverhulme Research Programme Applications

that neither of the proposals submitted to the competition had been taken to the full proposal stage but that Research Office would be working with Professor Les Back and Dr Matt Fuller to develop the proposals for submission to other funding bodies

(ii) Research Leave Policy

that the Director of Human Resources and Director of Finance were currently modelling potential approaches to the unification of Research Leave across the College and would be reporting to the Senior Management Team

(iii) Transformations

that the new Research Report entitled "Transformations" had been published by the Communications and Publicity Office and provided Goldsmiths researchers with an excellent opportunity to showcase their work

(iv) AHRC Block Grant Partnership and Institutional Arts and Humanities Research Strategy

that the deadline for departmental submissions to the Arts and Humanities Research Strategy is 30 June; the Dean of Graduate School will be finalising the Goldsmiths strategy over July and August for submission to AHRC on 2 September 2008

47 RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK (REF) CONSULTATION

Received:

the HEFCE response to the REF consultation (**A; 08-203**)

Noted:

- (i) that in response to the consultation, the first science-based subjects REF would be delayed until a pilot REF had been undertaken to demonstrate the robustness of assessment based upon citations
- (ii) that it had been recognised that assessment for science-based and non-science based subjects could not be rigidly divided and that some science-based disciplines would still require a degree of peer review
- (iii) that consultation responses regarding potential science-based UoAs Psychology, Computing and Subjects Allied to Health, were in accordance with Goldsmiths concerns for the disciplines
- (iv) that a new measure of performance may be impact and user value – which might need to be demonstrated in narrative form, indicating the value of research undertaken to industry or the community in terms of social, cultural and policy impact
- (v) that there was some discussion of the effect of combining HEIF and QR income: if this was to be considered, then institutions would need to be clear on their institutional drivers
- (vi) that Goldsmiths disciplines would need to address these drives in their own strategies to ensure they were ready to meet the potential challenges in future assessment

48 HIGHER EDUCATION INNOVATION FUND 4 (HEIF4) INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY

Received:

the Goldsmiths HEIF4 Institutional Strategy submitted to HEFCE (**B; 08-170**)

Noted:

- (i) that the strategy outlines how Goldsmiths will spend HEIF funds over the next three years and how knowledge transfer fits into the overall College strategy
- (ii) that the Business Development Office was developing projects with Research Councils and the Technology Strategy Board which would provide a major source of potential funding in the coming years
- (iii) that key Goldsmiths business sectors included gaming, smart textiles, mobile communications and design
- (iv) that it must become an organisational focus both to work with SMEs and to continue to develop strategic alliances with large organisations such as Intel and BT
- (v) that Goldsmiths was included in the Emerald Fund consortium which developed IP licensing and provided us with access to venture capitalists

- (vi) that a new consultancy and incentives framework was being finalised and that successful commercialisation needed to be incorporated into the College promotions structure
- (vii) that there was concern that there did not seem to be much emphasis in the strategy on social value and impact; and that it did not acknowledge some of the knowledge transfer work being undertaken in departments like PACE or Educational Studies
- (viii) that the new HEIF 4 emphasis was clearly on income generation and that David Sainsbury in his review of Science and Innovation 'Race to the Top' had suggested that UK HEIs should concentrate on quantifiable income development
- (ix) that the HEIF4 strategy should not be considered as the only direction for knowledge transfer across Goldsmiths but as a document demonstrating our response to the driving forces behind future HEIF funding

49 RESEARCH PROJECT ACCOUNTS

Received:

a report presented by Ms Nalini Seeromben, Management Accountant (Academic), showing current Research Project balances (**C; 08-204**)

Noted:

- (i) that the internal auditor had recommended that RKTC monitor research project accounts expenditure against budget and particularly consider areas of concern where budgets are significantly overspent or underspent
- (ii) that there was concern that projects were frequently underspent since PIs did not have direct access to project accounts and tended to be over-cautious with their expenditure
- (iii) that Heads of Departments received all their department's research accounts monthly and these should be passed on to the relevant PIs

Recommended

- (i) **that the Finance Office should consider reviewing the way research project accounts are disseminated to departments to ensure PIs are aware of their projects' financial position**
- (ii) **that the Finance Office and Research Office should work on post-award procedures to ensure underspends on projects do not occur**

50 GOLDSMITHS RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (GRMS)

Received:

an outline of current progress on the development of a Goldsmiths Research Management System and an initial list of requirements (**D; 08-205**)

Noted:

- (i) that the new system was likely to be based on EPrints software which the Library have been using to build the Goldsmiths open access repository (Goldsmiths Research Online)
- (ii) that Goldsmiths had been part of a consortium of University of London Colleges working with EPrints and that the system had proved to have a very user-friendly interface which academics had found straightforward to use

- (iii) that for the forthcoming REF it would be best to use a national standard form of record keeping rather than a bespoke system, so that Goldsmiths could ensure to be in step with other institutions when decisions were taken regarding the format of data required for the new REF
- (iv) that it would be important that the GRMS included an IP management system
- (v) that the new student records system needed to link into the GRMS since research student completions would be an important measure for the next REF

51 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A CENTRE FOR PHILOSOPHY

Received:

the proposal submitted by the Department of Visual Cultures **(E; 08-206)**

Noted:

- (i) that the Centre would capitalise on existing expertise within Goldsmiths and would be affiliated to the department of Visual Cultures
- (ii) that there was a great deal of interest within the Graduate School to develop the centre since there was a lack of applied philosophy research centres within London
- (iii) that there was concern that the Centre might attract too many students too swiftly and there would need to be careful control of the number of students whom key Centre staff were able to supervise

Recommended to Academic Board:

to approve the establishment of a Centre for Philosophy with effect from June 2008, attached to the Department of Visual Cultures

52 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A UNIT FOR FAITHS AND CIVIL SOCIETY

the proposal submitted by the Department of Professional and Community Education **(F; 08-207)**

Noted:

- (i) that the Unit had originally been established at Anglia Ruskin University by Dr Adam Dinham who would be joining Goldsmiths in August 2008
- (ii) that the Unit had already attracted external funding which would be transferred to Goldsmiths and had a great deal of future potential

Resolved:

to approve the establishment of a Unit for Faiths and Civil Society attached to the Department of Professional and Community Education with effect from August 2008

53 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A UNIT FOR THE PURPOSES AND POLITICS OF ARTS EVALUATION

Received:

the proposal submitted by the Department of Drama **(K; 08-227)**

Noted:

- (i) that the Drama Department have proposed the Unit in order to capitalise on their position in the arts development industry

- (ii) that the Unit would strengthen Drama's links with other College Departments and have strong potential for developing Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Resolved:

to approve the establishment of a Unit for the Purposes and Politics of Arts Evaluation attached to the Department of Drama with effect from June 2008

54 RESEARCH ETHICS SUB-COMMITTEE

Received and noted:

the minutes of the Research Ethics Sub-Committee meeting held on 26 February 2008 (**G; 08-208**)

55 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY HORIZON SCANNING

Received and noted:

a report of major research initiatives currently open for application (**H; 08-209**)

56 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Noted:

- i the following periods of paid leave approved by Chair's action:
- (a) Dr C Blinder, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (12.1.09 – 27.3.09)
 - (b) Dr R Crownshaw, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (22.9.08 – 12.12.08)
 - (c) Dr J Desmarais, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (22.9.08 – 12.12.08)
 - (d) Ms M Dooley, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (22.9.08 – 12.12.08)
 - (e) Prof A Düttmann, Dept of Visual Cultures (1.9.08 – 30.4.09) exact dates subject to funding by AHRC Research Leave Scheme
 - (f) Dr J Martin, Dept of Politics (1.9.08 – 30.4.09) exact dates subject to funding by AHRC Research Leave Scheme
 - (g) Dr R Sansi-Roca, Dept of Anthropology (1.9.08 – 30.4.09) exact dates subject to funding by AHRC Research Leave Scheme
 - (h) Ms A Schmetterling, Dept of Visual Cultures (1.9.08 – 30.4.09) exact dates subject to funding by AHRC Research Leave Scheme
 - (i) Professor M Shevtsova, Dept of Drama (12.1.09 – 27.3.09)
- ii the following periods of unpaid leave approved by Chair's action:
- (a) Prof S Ahmed, Dept of Media and Communications (13.10.08 – 1.6.09)
 - (b) Prof J Baily, Dept of Music (1.2.08 – 31.8.08)

Resolved:

to approve reports following leave of absence: (**I; 08-210**)

- (a) Dr C Ayrey, Dept of Music
- (b) Dr L Boldrini, Dept of English and Comparative Literature
- (c) Dr J Drever, Dept of Music
- (d) Dr M Fraser, Dept of Sociology
- (e) Prof B Morrison, Dept of English and Comparative Literature
- (f) Dr R Lee, Dept of History
- (g) Dr M Simpson, Dept of English and Comparative Literature

57 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Noted:

(i) Establishment of Research Grant Incubator

that Graduate School and Research Office would be using Roberts Funding to establish a mentoring system to provide individual and discipline specific support for final-year research students and junior research staff intending to apply for external funding

(ii) RKTC Chair

that Professor Simon McVeigh would be retiring as Chair of RKTC when he took up the post of Pro-Warden (Academic Development) in August 2008

Resolved:

to thank Professor McVeigh for his outstanding guidance and service to College research both as Pro-Warden (Research and Enterprise) and as Chair of RKTC, in particular for his patience and navigation through the processes of RAE2008; and to wish him well in his new post

(iii) Professor Howard Caygill

that Professor Howard Caygill would be leaving RKTC at the end of his current term this June

Resolved:

to thank Professor Caygill for his excellent service to RKTC

58 NEXT MEETING

to note that dates for Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee in 2008/9 will be
Wednesday 12 November at 2.00pm
Wednesday 4 February at 2.00pm
Wednesday 13 May at 2.00pm

59 APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FROM RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER COMMITTEE

Received:

the gradings for applications to College Research Funds for Early Career Awards and Major Research Initiatives (**J; 08-211**)

Noted

- (i) that the two priorities for funding had not been directed towards established researchers making individual applications, but that some had nevertheless submitted applications that could not be classed as Major Research Initiatives
- (ii) that this should be addressed for the 2008/09 round and that RKTC should hold back some RKTC funds for further development in 2008/09

Resolved:

to award College Research Funds to:

(i) Major Research Initiatives

Dr J Bajorek, Centre for Cultural Studies
The global image archive: cross-cultural approaches
£5,000

Professor N Couldry, Media and Communications
Centre for the Study Of Global Media And Democracy: Support For Large Grant Application To ESRC 2008
£2,933

Dr N Puwar, Sociology
Post-colonial War Requiem
£5,000

(ii) Early Career Awards

Dr A Bremner, Psychology
The development of crossmodal spatial links between touch and vision in the first year of life
£3,830

Dr J Cooke, Library
Goldsmiths Open Access Journals
£2,177

Dr E Darling, Anthropology
Fire on the Mountain: The Politics of Country Music in Britain and Ireland
£5,000

Dr A Gregory, Psychology
Genetic polymorphisms associated with symptoms of insomnia
£4,795

Dr P Harris, Professional and Community Education
Transnationally adopted adults: why do they search and what do they find?
£5,000

Dr S Kelly, Art

Art and Micropolitics
£4,901

Dr S Pearce, Education
*Taking account of diversity? Newly qualified teachers' approaches to ethnic
difference and race equality in the primary classroom*
£5,000

LA
May 2008