

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

ACADEMIC BOARD

RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2010

Present: Professor Jane Powell (in the Chair), Dr Catherine Alexander, Professor Les Back, Mr Mike Metelits, Professor Carrie Paechter, Professor Len Platt, Professor Irit Rogoff, Professor Maria Shevtsova, Ms Lynda Agili (Secretary)

Apologies: Professor Robert Zimmer

In Attendance: Ms Diana Lockyer, Personal Assistant/ Pro Warden (Research and Enterprise)

OPEN BUSINESS

41 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noted:

- (i) that following the approval of the proposals to reconfigure Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee (RKTC) and the Business and Advisory Sub-Committee (BASC) this will be the final meeting of RKTC. It will become the Research and Enterprise Committee (REC) from September 2010.
- (ii) that the event showcasing Interdisciplinary Research at Goldsmiths had been successful. The new Warden and several members of Council attended and had been impressed by the range of research presented.

42 MINUTES

Resolved:

to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2010 subject to minor amendments

43 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

(i) Revised system for distributing grant income

that the revisions to departmental grant income distribution had been approved by SMT and the revised policy will be in place from the start of the 2010/11 academic year

(ii) Internal co-funding of doctoral studentships

that the proposals for co-funding of doctoral students would be subject to further financial modelling over the summer

(iii) Implementation of the Concordat

that the Goldsmiths response to the survey concerning the implementation of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers had been submitted to UUK

that Rody Bristow-Jones of Staff Development was establishing a Concordat Implementation Group (CIG)

Resolved:

that reports from the CIG would be received annually by Research and Enterprise Committee and that the first report should be provided in Spring 2011

(iv) ESRC Doctoral Training Centre

that the initial feedback on the bid from Goldsmiths and Queen Mary was generally positive; the proposed system for Psychology research training was commended as exemplary, and other strengths that were noted included the proposals for a Sociology methods lab, interdisciplinary research days, and integrated research activities

that outcomes were due to be announced on 2 August, with funding arrangements implemented from September 2011

that the Dean of the Graduate School wished to particularly thank Mike Griffiths and Aidan Kelly for their contributions to developing the bid

Resolved:

to congratulate the Dean (Professor Paechter) on her orchestration of a high quality submission

44 UPDATE ON RESEARCH OFFICE ACTIVITIES

Received:

an oral report from the Head of Research Office on recent activities and developments.

Noted:

(i) Research grant news

that the "Understanding Beauty" application led by Professor Zimmer to the Leverhulme Trust Programme Competition has progressed to the final panel stage

that three of Goldsmiths' applicants for the European Research Council Starting Grants competition have progressed to the final interview stage (Dr Eyal Weisman, Visual Cultures; Dr Michael Guggenheim, Sociology; Dr Rebecca Cassidy, Anthropology)

that Dr Mick Grierson (Computing) has been awarded a £250K AHRC Knowledge Transfer fellowship

that Professor Geraint Wiggins (Computing) has been awarded £300K by the EPSRC as part of the SERENA consortium which arose from the British Library "Designing Effective Research Spaces" sandpit meetings

(ii) Goldsmiths Research Online [GRO]

that Goldsmiths has been selected as a case study for the JISC-funded “Readiness for REF” project examining institutional preparations for collating REF data. In our case this is via GRO, our open access repository.

(iii) Agresso for Principal Investigators [PIs]

that PIs now have direct access to their research project accounts on the Agresso system and that by improving the information available to them it should facilitate their management of their grants

(iv) Research and Knowledge Transfer Officer

that Jessica Pavlos is now working as full-time Research and Knowledge Transfer Officer to support academics in applying for knowledge transfer funding

45 RESEARCH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY

Received:

a report from the Chair of the Research Ethics Sub-Committee on issues regarding research ethics management at Goldsmiths

the RCUK Policy and Code of Conduct on the Governance of Good Research Conduct (10-230)

Noted:

- (i) that it is a priority to ensure that all College research-active staff working in any discipline are familiar with the College Research Ethics Code of Practice, and that academic departments, centres and units have appropriate procedures in place to ensure compliance
- (ii) that whilst our social science doctoral programmes already incorporate a focus on research ethics training, it needs to be more systematically addressed in our arts and humanities doctoral training programmes since research in these areas often uses personal data or images
- (iii) that the RCUK Code of Conduct highlighted important issues pertaining to research integrity and that these need to be noted and addressed appropriately, in accordance with College-wide procedures, by all Departmental Research Committees [DRCs]

Resolved:

- (i) to circulate the RCUK Code of Conduct and the College Research Ethics Code of Practice to all DRC Chairs, and to request that each department designate a staff member to act as a point of liaison concerning issues relating to ethics and research conduct within their department
- (ii) that at one of the 2010/11 meetings of REC, the Chair of the College Research Ethics Sub-Committee would provide an overview of current issues relating to research ethics and research conduct across the College and in individual departments

46 OUTCOMES OF REF CONSULTATION

Received:

the outcomes of the REF consultation and initial College workplan (10-231)

Noted:

- (i) that it is expected that David Willetts will shortly make a formal announcement pushing the REF submission date to 2013
- (ii) that the overall activity profile will be based on the three elements 'outputs', 'environment', and 'impact', and that the weightings given to each element will be decided when the impact pilot exercise has concluded in autumn 2010.
- (iii) that there will be fewer Units of Assessment [UoAs] than previously, and that they will fall under four broad Main Panels. Institutions will only exceptionally be permitted to make more than one submission to a given sub-panel; thus for instance if Anthropology and Sociology are incorporated within the same UoA, Goldsmiths will probably have to put in one joint submission rather than separate ones from these departments. The sub-panels may well, however, form smaller working groups to focus on different thematic areas.
- (iv) that since subject areas are to be combined the submission will not include a narrative seeking to describe "a single coherent organisational structure", and that the research environment section is accordingly likely to be much more formulaically based on quantitative indicators such as research student numbers and income data. These may well be taken directly from HESA statistics.
- (v) that the plan to provide bibliometric (citation) data to panels is more low-key than previously, and may not happen at all for most – or even any – subject areas.
- (vi) that the number of outputs is likely to be four per FTE, with reductions for fractional staff, early career staff, and other special cases
- (vii) that some panels may develop procedures and definitions allowing some outputs (e.g. monographs) to be double-weighted
- (viii) that the conceptualisation of impact has been formally broadened to include "*benefits to the economy, society, culture, public policy and services, health, the environment, international development and quality of life*". A pilot study of the proposed approach to assessing impact in some disciplines is still in progress, and final decisions on definitions, criteria, evidence, etc. are pending the outcome of this study (due Autumn 2010)
- (ix) that impact can relate to research undertaken in the College up to twenty years ago, and that its assessment is therefore complicated by researcher mobility

Resolved:

- (i) to complete the planned 'dry run' approximately one calendar year before the actual census date (potentially November 2013); this is likely to mean in the summer term of 2011/12 or the autumn term of 2012/13.
- (ii) to hold informal audits of departmental progress on outputs and in other areas on an annual basis starting in the coming autumn term
- (iii) to establish an Impact Working Group to identify and subsequently develop potential case studies across all of our UoAs; the group should include

representatives from DRCs and members of the Research and Business Development Offices

- (iv) to strongly encourage academic departments to seek nominations of their staff to REF subpanels via relevant subject associations and professional bodies

47 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE CENTRE FOR CREATIVE AND SOCIAL TECHNOLOGIES (CAST)

Received:

a proposal to establish the Centre for Creative and Social Technologies, led by the Department of Computing and co-directed by three Computing professors, with effect from September 2010 (10-232)

Noted:

- (i) that the vision for the Centre was clear and timely, and would provide a strong focal point for collaborations with the creative industries
- (ii) that RKTC felt that leadership of the Centre would be more effective if there were one overall Head, and that this could rotate on a triennial basis; it would however be prepared to accept a joint Headship between two of the three nominated candidates

Recommended:

to approve the establishment of the Centre for Creative and Social Technologies attached to the Department of Computing, with effect from September 2010 subject to clarification of the Headship and minor amendments to the proposal

48 ENTERPRISE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Received:

a schematic summary of progress against the key recommendations from the Internal Audit Report of Enterprise and Business Development at Goldsmiths (10-233)

a detailed oral report from the Director of Business Development, describing the activities undertaken in response to the Audit recommendations

Noted:

- (i) that whilst some of the recommendations had now been fully addressed, progress on others has been slower than envisaged because of other pressures on staff time
- (ii) that the Director of Business Development would from now allocate one day per week specifically to completing work on the outstanding recommendations, with a projected completion date of December 2010

Resolved:

that the Director of Business Development would provide a written version of his oral report, and that he would subsequently prepare termly updates for consideration by the Research and Enterprise Committee until such time as all recommendations have been appropriately enacted.

49 CENTRE FOR CREATIVE COLLABORATION [CCC]

Received:

a report from the Director of Business Development on recent developments with the CCC (10-234)

Noted:

that the Centre is available for Goldsmiths staff and students to use as a venue for a wide variety of events/exhibitions, and that since Goldsmiths has committed financial support for the first two years it is important that we seek to maximise and evaluate its benefits to the College so that any decision about extending the investment is evidence-based

Resolved:

to establish a CCC Working Group under the leadership of the Director of Business Development, reporting to REC, and developing, promoting, and evaluating a range of college usages of the centre's facilities.

50 DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH INCOME TARGETS

Received and noted:

the targets for departmental research income in 2009/10 and 2010/11 as agreed with Heads of Departments following the recent planning round (10-235)

51 RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE STRATEGY 2010 – 2014

Noted:

that the Research and Enterprise Strategy 2010 – 2014 has been approved and commended by Council, following the recommendation of Academic Board

52 PROPOSAL TO RECONFIGURE RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER COMMITTEE (RKTC) AND THE BUSINESS AND ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE (BASC)

Noted:

that the reconfiguration of RKTC and BASC into a single Research and Enterprise Committee [REC] has been approved by Council, following the recommendation of Academic Board

53 REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF ACADEMIC CENTRES AND UNITS

Noted:

that the revised guidelines for the establishment and operation of Academic Centres and Units has been approved by Council, following the recommendation of Academic Board

54 AHRC DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH VISIT

Received and noted:

the programme for the visit to Goldsmiths by the AHRC Director of Research Professor Shearer West on 4 June 2010 (10-236)

55 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY HORIZON SCANNING

Received and noted:

a report of major research initiatives currently open for application (10-237)

56 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Received and noted:

i. the following periods of paid leave approved by Chair's action:

- (a) Dr. C. Alexander, Dept of Anthropology (27.09.10 – 17.12.10)
- (b) Prof. V. Bell, Dept of Sociology (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
- (c) Dr. Dejan Djokić, Dept of History (27.09.10 – 17.12.10)
- (d) Dr. J. de Fockert, Dept of Psychology (17.01.11 – 24.06.11)
- (e) Dr. M. Greco, Dept of Sociology (27.09.10 – 17.12.10)
- (f) Dr. A. Hessayon, Dept of History (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
- (g) Dr. E. Hill, Dept of Psychology (17.01.11 – 01.04.11 and 26.09.11 – 16.12.11)
- (h) Dr. H. Jones, Dept of History (27.09.10 – 01.04.11)
- (i) Prof. C. Knowles, Dept of Sociology (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
- (j) Dr. Natarajan, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (27.09.10 – 17.12.10)
- (k) Dr. S. Newman, Dept of Politics (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
- (l) Dr. J. Rattray, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (27.09.10 – 17.12.10)
- (m) Prof. V. Seidler, Dept of Sociology (27.09.10 – 17.12.10)
- (n) Prof. A. Simone, Dept of Sociology (27.09.10 – 17.12.10)
- (o) Dr. L. Smillie, Dept of Psychology (27.09.10 – 01.04.11)
- (p) Mr. A. Vakil, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (27.09.10 – 17.12.10)

Resolved:

ii. To approve reports following leave of absence (10-238):

- (a) Prof. L. Adkins, Dept of Sociology
- (b) Prof. C. French, Dept of Psychology
- (c) Ms A. Furse, Dept of Drama
- (d) Prof. A. Ivashkin, Dept of Music
- (e) Dr. M. Simpson, Dept of English and Comparative Literature

57 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Noted:

Membership changes

that Professor Carrie Paechter would be leaving RKTC at the end of her term as Dean of Graduate School in August 2010

that Professor Les Back had been appointed the Dean of Graduate School from September 2010 and would therefore sit on REC as an *ex officio* member during his term of office

that Professor Nick Couldry of the Media and Communications Department would join REC to represent Group D departments

Resolved:

to thank Professor Paechter for her committed and excellent service to RKTC

58 MEETING DATES OF RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE 2010-11

Noted:

that meetings of the Research and Enterprise Committee for 2010-11 will be held twice a term and be organised under the revised committee structure and terms of reference:

Wednesday, 10 November 2010 at 2.00 pm	DTHB 110
Tuesday, 14 December 2010 at 2.00 pm	DTHB 109
Thursday, 24 February 2011 at 2.00 pm	DTHB 110
Wednesday, 16 March 2011 at 2.00 pm	DTHB 110
Thursday, 19 May 2011 at 2.00 pm	DTHB 110
Tuesday, 14 June 2011 at 2.00 pm	DTHB 110

**59 APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FROM RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE
TRANSFER COMMITTEE**

Received:

applications to the Early Career Research [ECR] and Impact of Research [IOR]
competitions (09-227)

Noted:

- (i) that RKTC funds for 2010/11 had been reduced to £35,000. As a consequence the committee would fund only proposals which were evaluated as intrinsically strong and for which there was persuasive evidence that the host department would invest significant practical support. The Committee wished if possible to retain some funds for important research initiatives that might emerge during the course of the year.
- (ii) that the ECR applications had been assessed by all Committee members and ranked by overall average of strength/clarity of research design, future funding potential, and strength of departmental support
- (iii) that a number of the ECR applications did not meet the criteria of developing new research activity but instead requested time and resource to enable the applicant to write up existing research or to bridge gaps in their employment. These applications were deemed ineligible.
- (iv) that some of the IoR applications had requested funds to undertake new research rather than to enhance the impact of pre-existing research. These applications were deemed ineligible. Future impact-based competitions will be subject to the outcomes of the REF Impact Pilot Study
- (v) that reports from previous award holders would be considered before setting criteria for competitions for 2011/12 funds

Resolved:

to award Early Career Research funds to:

Mr. E Bagenal, Design
Folk Design and Fairtrade Knowledge
£3,668

Dr. Y. Chen, Educational Studies
Developing a bilingual pedagogy – A comparative study of challenges and strategies in the Chinese language class across mainstream and community contexts
£4,702

Dr K. Devlin, Computing
A user-friendly interface for accessing digital surrogates
£3,332

Dr M. Gillies, Computing
Interactive and Virtual Performance
£3,920

Dr D. Mullensiefen, Psychology
A Test Battery for Musical Sophistication and Engagement
£4,975

Dr J. Rattray, English and Comparative Literature
Mixed-Up Palettes: The Experimental Writings of Selected Visual Artists of the Spanish Avant-Garde
£2,529

to award Impact of Research funds to

Dr. C. Kenner, Educational Studies
'Bilingual learning and children's educational achievement': a film to be made in collaboration with Channel S and Tower Hamlets Council
£2,000

Dr. N. Puwar, Sociology
Interventions in Remembrance
£2,000

Lynda Agili
Head of Research Office
June 2010