

**GOLDSMITHS  
University of London**

**ACADEMIC BOARD**

**RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2010**

**Present:** Professor Jane Powell (in the Chair), Professor Les Back, Professor Nick Couldry, Mr Mike Metelits, Ms Julie Taylor, Professor Robert Zimmer, Ms Lynda Agili (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Dr Catherine Alexander, Professor Len Platt, Professor Irit Rogoff, Professor Maria Shevtsova

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

**OPEN BUSINESS**

**1 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Noted:**

**(i) Government's Spending Review**

that the Science Budget has largely preserved the existing balance of dual support; the Research Councils will receive their individual budgets shortly and will finalise and disseminate their revised strategies and operating activities;

**(ii) Applications and Awards for Research Funding**

that due to illness the Finance Research Grants Officer was unable to prepare the summaries of applications and awards, and this item is therefore deferred until the first meeting of the Spring term;

**(iii) UKRO presentation**

that Ms Inga Benna, the European Advisor for Goldsmiths at the UK Research Office (UKRO), attended the meeting and gave an oral summary of future European funding directions. Significant points of relevance to Goldsmiths included:

- (a) an interim evaluation of Framework Programme 7 (FP7) was under way and recommendations from this would shape funding agendas for FP8
- (b) the European Research Council, first established in FP7, was considered to have provided a very successful and innovative strand of funding which looked likely to be continued in the forthcoming FP8 although there might be variation in the format of the awards
- (c) current levels of funding would be likely to be maintained but that greater emphasis would be placed on innovation and interaction with industry; project consortiums which included SMEs would be strongly encouraged

that her detailed overview of current EU funding opportunities could be accessed via our Research Office web site at:

[http://www.gold.ac.uk/media/101214\\_general\\_fp7.ppt](http://www.gold.ac.uk/media/101214_general_fp7.ppt)

#### **(iv) Research Grant News**

- (a) that all three of the European Research Council starting grant applicants from Goldsmiths who had been invited for interview had been successful and awarded substantial funding. This represents a tremendous achievement for the applicants, and also reflects the intensive support provided by Justin Davin-Smith in Research Office

The projects were awarded to

Dr Rebecca Cassidy, Department of Anthropology: 'Gambling in Europe' 1,200,000 Euro

Dr Michael Guggenheim, Department of Sociology: 'Organising Disaster. Civil Protection and the Population' 1,180,000 Euro

Dr Eyal Weizman, Department of Visual Cultures: 'Forensic Architecture: the Space of Law in War' 1,197,704 Euro

- (b) that Professor Mike Michael (Sociology), Professor Bill Gaver (Design) and Dr Jennifer Gabrys (Design) have been awarded £974,000 by ESRC for a cross-disciplinary project: 'Sustainability Invention and Energy Demand Reduction: Co-designing communities and practice'. This is part of the 'Energy Research Programme' looking at how individuals and communities use energy, their understanding of energy use and effective, community management of energy and energy regulation.

## **2 STANDING ORDERS AND CONFLICT OF INTERESTS POLICY**

### **Received and noted:**

the College Standing Orders (A; 10-338) and the College Policy on Conflicts of Interest (B; 10-339)

## **3 TERMS OF REFERENCE, COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP**

### **Received and noted:**

the Terms of Reference, Composition and Membership of the Research and Enterprise Committee (C; 10-460)

## **4 MINUTES**

### **Resolved:**

to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2010

## **5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **Noted:**

#### **(i) Revised system for distributing grant income**

that the revised policy was now in place, allowing departments to choose whether to retain 30% of the grant residuals on fEC grants as previously or to receive a formula-based salary budget to buy out the time of PIs and Co-PIs on the project;

**(ii) Research Ethics and Integrity**

that in the absence of the Chair of REC from the present meeting, discussion of research ethics and integrity procedures across the College would be deferred until next term;

**(iii) Centre for Creative and Social Technologies (CAST)**

that Academic Board and Council had approved the recommendation of Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee to establish the Centre for Creative and Social Technologies;

that Professors Zimmer and Jefferies would be the joint Heads of CAST;

**6 RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK (REF) DEVELOPMENTS**

**Received:**

(a) an updated timetable for College preparation for REF2014; (b) the Executive Summary and Recommendations from the HEFCE report *REF impact pilot exercise: Findings of the expert panels* and (c) the proposed approach to identifying potential Impact Case Studies (D; 10-461)

**Noted:**

**Impact Case Studies**

- (i) that the *REF Impact Pilot Exercise report* had made a number of observations and recommendations to HEFCE, including:
- (a) although the assessment of impact was considered a robust measurement for REF it would be developmental and therefore might have a lower weighting than 25% for the 2014 REF, with a clear intention to increase this for future exercises as the method beds down;
  - (b) REF panels should assess the strategic approaches to impact taken by each submitting unit and their institution, via accounts given in the 'environment' section of the submission;
  - (c) in most instances there should be 1 impact case study per 10 FTE submitted;
  - (d) the underpinning research must have been undertaken at institutions up to 15 years prior to the impact, which itself must have taken place within the REF period (i.e. between 2008 and 2013);
  - (e) the highest scoring cases in the pilot were those that provided a coherent narrative with evidence of specific benefits;
  - (f) for verification purposes, case studies should normally include details of contactable key 'users' and/or other independent sources of evidence;
- (ii) that internally, the approach is now to support departments in identifying potential case studies next term so that over the following two years until the submission date (Autumn 2013) effort and resource can be put into maximising and gathering evidence of their impact;
- (iii) that the Business Development Office had ringfenced a £20k Impact Fund to support departments in formulating and developing the impact of their research; details of how to apply for this would be released shortly;

- (iv) that HEFCE had commissioned the LSE Public Policy Group to develop methods for measuring and evaluating the impact of research in the public sphere, and to produce handbooks giving guidance to higher education institutions on how to track and most effectively expand applied impacts;

#### **Departmental 'informal output audits'**

- (v) that departments had all collated a current list of staff research outputs likely to meet the minimum threshold for REF submission (i.e. internationally significant, and post-2008);
- (vi) that the PWRE and Head of RO were this term meeting the Head and DRC Chair of each department to discuss these with a view to (a) gaining a sense of how the picture is developing across the College, (b) identifying where and how departments should focus on supporting and motivating staff to enhance the number and/or quality of outputs over the next two years, and (c) exploring possible mechanisms for guiding strategic decision-making and evaluations within and across disciplines;
- (vii) that next term REC would receive a summary of the audit, indicating for each department the number of staff who already have sufficient outputs to be entered into the REF ('definite'), the number who are well on track ('almost certain'), the number who are 'likely', and the number who are 'uncertain or unlikely';
- (viii) that a more rigorous version of the audit will be repeated in Autumn 2011, requiring departments to engage in more robust processes for evaluating the strength of each output. This will precede and form the basis for a dry run with external assessors in summer 2012;
- (ix) that departments had been requested to identify and approach possible external assessors by the end of next term. It was suggested that some departments might consider dividing the dry run between two or more external assessors, especially if different modes/fields of output relate to very different types of expertise;
- (x) that some departments had already identified possible sources of external advice to guide them on discipline-specific REF strategic issues, but had limited resources to fund them;

#### **Resolved:**

to consider at the next meeting whether and how departments might apply to the College Research Fund for contributions to discipline-specific REF preparation activities

## **7 REVIEW OF RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE STRATEGY**

#### **Received:**

the Research and Enterprise Strategy together with an update on progress against the planned actions listed in Table B, and updated versions of both Tables A and B to show current mechanisms and planned actions for 2010/11 (E; 10-462)

#### **Noted:**

- (i) that in general good progress had been made, and that some actions which had been accomplished had now been removed from Table B and, in some cases, placed in Table A which lists established and ongoing mechanisms;

- (ii) that a number of new plans for 2010/11 had been or should be added to Table B, including in particular (a) a review of Goldsmiths' position on open access publishing, and (b) development of a European Research Strategy to address upcoming research priorities in the EU, increase departments' understanding of European funding mechanisms, and better support academic staff in applying for and managing large EU grants;

**Resolved:**

RO to lead the development of a European Research Strategy; as part of this, an EU research 'showcasing' event should take place to share the experience of staff who have held EU awards and to develop connections between researchers with potential for involvement in future applications

**8 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE PLAN, HEIF AND HE-BCI SURVEY**

**Received:**

the Business Development Office Plan, and an update on progress against internal audit recommendations (I; 10-463)

oral presentations from the Director of the BDO concerning the Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF) and the Higher Education Business and Community Interaction Survey (HE-BCI survey)

**Noted:**

- (i) that the strategic aims outlined in the plan remained valid and broadly appropriate, but that the current funding landscape was uncertain. In particular, it is unclear how much HEIF funding Goldsmiths will receive following the Comprehensive Spending Review and HEFCE's subsequent allocation strategy. Goldsmiths allocation this year was £375k; this could reduce significantly, in which case the current BDO plan may require revision;
- (ii) that Goldsmiths' Higher Education Business Community Interaction survey (HE-BCI) for 2009/10 showed an overall slight reduction in income compared to 08/09; this is attributable largely to the reduced availability of financial support from public and commercial sector sources;
- (iii) that a possible HEBCI-relevant growth area across the College would be in Continuing Professional Development (e.g. via short courses), and that there is a new College policy in place to encourage and support this;
- (iv) that local enterprise partnerships [LEPs], the successors to Regional Development Agencies [RDAs] are currently under development and may offer opportunities for Goldsmiths to develop outward-facing collaborations with other HE, public sector, and commercial organisations;
- (v) that most of the recommendations of the Internal Audit had now been undertaken or were timetabled for completion. Those outstanding included co-location with Research Office, for which a case would be made to SMT in early 2011;
- (vi) that BDO currently offers the following internal funding mechanisms to support academic staff activities:
- Impact Fund – to assist development of research impact
  - Investment Fund – to support pilot projects relevant to BDO strategic aims
  - Development Fund – to support the development of knowledge transfer projects

Full details, application procedures and forms will be available via the BDO website in January 2011;

**Resolved:**

to consider at one of next term's meetings how the BDO funding criteria relate to the College's research and enterprise priorities, and to the use of the College Research Fund which is administered by REC

**9 "MANAGING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS" FRAMEWORK**

**Received:**

The original outline of the plan and timetable for developing the framework (J; 10-61)

An oral report from the Strategic Business Development Manager

**Noted:**

- (i) that the Strategic Business Development Manager had engaged with academics across College to achieve a more unified approach to research and consultancy projects with large corporate partners, where until now there have been ad hoc contracts with differing terms and conditions;
- (ii) that robust partnership arrangements were currently being developed with BBC, INTEL and British Telecom. In all three cases a number of Goldsmiths staff held contracts or worked in partnerships with each of the corporations but in each case contractual arrangements differed between divisions within the corporations;
- (iii) that our links with the BBC are developing particularly well: four new projects have recently been developed, and our Media & Comms department is involved in a large scale partnership [FIRM Media City]. Goldsmiths students recently won three of five available awards in the BBC sponsored New Electronic Media (NEM) Art competition;
- (iv) that more structured arrangements with Intel were being established, and that Sociology had recently been awarded a three year project by the Intel External Research Office for work on biosensors;
- (v) that negotiations were under way to revive a MOU with British Telecom;
- (vi) that a key activity for the early part of 2011 would be to map all existing Goldsmiths partnerships and collaborations;
- (vii) that the BDO should consider organising an event to showcase our capabilities to potential strategic partners;

**10 CONSULTANCY POLICY**

**Received:**

the proposed Consultancy Policy (K; 10-464)

**Noted:**

- (i) that the proposed distribution of income from college-based consultancy, with 90% going to the department(s) involved, was intended to incentivise such activity as long as it does not impinge adversely on departments' primary teaching and research missions;

- (ii) that whilst it was intended that much of the negotiation and organisation of consultancies would be carried out within the departments carrying out the work, the BDO would facilitate various aspects of implementation and dissemination of the policy and would provide advice and guidance as necessary and would facilitate staff liaison with the Finance and Human Resources Departments;

**Recommended:**

**that the Consultancy Policy should be forwarded and recommended to Academic Board for approval**

## **11 CONCORDAT IMPLEMENTATION GROUP**

**Noted:**

that this item would be deferred to a Spring Term meeting

## **12 GRADUATE SCHOOL**

**Received:**

An oral report on recent developments from the Dean of Graduate School

A report on the 2010-11 Co-Funded Studentship Scheme (L; 10-465)

**Noted:**

- (i) that the ESRC had delayed announcing which Doctoral Training Centres would be funded until January 2011, in light of the outcomes of the Comprehensive Spending Review;
- (ii) that the Goldsmiths Co-Funded Studentship Scheme which ran last year had been very well received and that 11 studentships had been funded across 8 departments;
- (iii) that the co-funded studentships had been approved by SMT as a one-off initiative to help support REF preparations, but that a working group comprising the Dean of the Graduate School (chair), the PWRE, the Scholarships and Bursaries Officer, the Head of the RO, and the Director of Development, was considering ways to support future studentships;
- (iv) that external research schemes such as the EU People/Marie Curie Initial Training Networks provided funding for studentships and there was also potential for including studentships on AHRC and ESRC grant applications;
- (v) that another potential route for partial funding may be through strategic partnerships with companies such as Intel;
- (vi) that REC considered the provision of college-supported studentships to be a high priority in relation to the Research and Enterprise strategy;
- (vii) that the Media and Communications Department was actively investigating routes for funding doctoral studentships, and that Dr Robert Smith may be able to offer some suggestions to the working group;

## **13 ALLOCATION OF REC FUNDS 2011/12**

**Resolved:**

to make use of 2011-12 REC Funds to support development of Impact Case Studies and other REF-preparatory activities

#### **14 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE POPULAR MUSIC RESEARCH UNIT**

**Received:**

a proposal to establish the Popular Music Research Unit with effect from January 2011, as a unit within the Department of Music (M; 10-466)

**Noted:**

- (i) that the Popular Music Research Unit (PMRU) would provide a focus for increasing research and postgraduate recruitment;
- (ii) that further detail on how the PMRU would interact with the Centre for Contemporary Music Cultures (CCMC) should be sent to the Chair to provide reassurance that the creation of the Unit would enhance or complement rather than compete with the Centre's activities;

**Resolved:**

to approve the establishment of the Popular Music Research Unit by Chair's action, subject to the Chair receiving satisfactory details of the relationship envisaged between the PMRU and CCMC

#### **15 CENTRE FOR CREATIVE COLLABORATION**

**Noted:**

that this item was deferred to the Spring Term

#### **16 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Resolved:**

To approve the Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee Annual Report 09-10 (N; 10-467)

#### **17 RESEARCH ETHICS SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Received and noted:**

the minutes of the Research Ethics Sub Committee held on 15 June 2010 (10-559)

#### **18 BUSINESS ADVISORY SUB COMMITTEE (BASC)**

**Received and noted:**

the minutes of the Business Advisory Sub Committee held on 7 July 2010 (10-560)

#### **19 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY HORIZON SCANNING**

**Received and noted:**

a report of major research initiatives currently open for application (O; 10-468)

## 20 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### Noted:

- (i) the following periods of paid leave approved by Chair's action:
- (a) Mr. Ajaykumar, Dept. of Drama (02.10.10 – 17.12.10)
  - (b) Dr. C. Blinder, Dept. of English and Comparative Literature (02.05.11 – 24.06.11)
  - (c) Dr. L. Boldrini, Dept. of English and Comparative Literature (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
  - (d) Dr. R. Crownshaw, Dept. of English and Comparative Literature (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
  - (e) Dr. J. Drever, Dept. of Music (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
  - (f) Dr. R. George, Dept. of Educational Studies (01.09.10 – 31.12.10)
  - (g) Dr. B. Gruffydd Jones, Dept. of Politics (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
  - (h) Dr. D. Hirsh, Dept. of Sociology (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
  - (i) Dr. I. Hurst, Dept. of English and Comparative Literature (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
  - (j) Dr. J. London, Dept. of Drama (01.10.10 – 17.12.10)
  - (k) Dr. G. Menz, Dept. of Politics (01.01.11 – 01.05.11)
  - (l) Dr. O. Okagbue, Dept. of Drama (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
  - (m) Prof. C. Paechter, Dept. of Educational Studies (01.09.10 - 31.08.11)
  - (n) Dr. V. Richmond, Dept. of History (26.09.11 – 23.03.12)
  - (o) Dr. C. Sweeney, Dept. of English and Comparative Literature (17.01.11 – 01.04.11)
- (ii) the following periods of unpaid leave approved by Chair's action:
- (a) Prof. C. Baldick, Dept. of English and Comparative Literature (27.09.10 – 24.06.11)
  - (b) Dr. J. London, Dept. of Drama, (01.01.11 – 30.06.11)

### Resolved:

To approve reports following leave of absence: (P; 10-469)

- (a) Dr J Anim-Addo, Dept. of English and Comparative Literature
- (b) Dr D Graeber, Dept. of Anthropology
- (c) Dr A Kramer, Dept. of English and Comparative Literature
- (d) Prof L Platt, Dept. of Professional and Community Education
- (e) Mr T Rosenberg, Dept. of Design
- (f) Ms A Schmetterling, Dept. of Visual Cultures
- (g) Dr A Traianou, Dept. of Educational Studies
- (h) Dr N Wolf, Dept. of Visual Cultures

## 21 NEXT MEETING

### Noted:

that the next meeting for 2010-11 will be held on:

Thursday, 24 February 2011 at 2.00 pm

*LA, January 2011*