

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

ACADEMIC BOARD

RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meetings held on 16 February 2012

Present: Professor Jane Powell (in the Chair), Professor Les Back, Dr Dejan Djokic, Professor Rosalyn George, Dr Elisabeth Hill, Dr Andrea Phillips, Ms Julie Taylor, Ms Lynda Agili (Secretary)

Apologies: Professor Len Platt, Professor Nick Couldry,

OPEN BUSINESS

1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noted:

(i) On Tuesday 21st February 2012 Phillippa Shelton of the UK Research Office (UKRO) in Brussels will be presenting the current EU funding landscape and specifically the changes from Framework Programme (FP7) to HORIZON 2020

(ii) Research Grant Applications and Awards

- a. Mr Tim Crawford (Computing) has been awarded an AHRC grant of £96,000 to continue his project "ECOLM III: Opening historical music resources to the world"
- b. Dr Tom Perchard (Music) has been awarded an AHRC Fellowship of £64,854 to undertake research on "Jazz in France 1934-75"
- c. The collaborative outline application to the ESRC Connected Communities call led by Professor Nick Couldry from Media & Comms, is one of two shortlisted by the ESRC for development into a full proposal for up to £2.5 million.
- d. Dr Alice Jones from Psychology has been shortlisted by the ESRC, from a highly competitive field, to submit a full proposal to the Future Research Leaders competition.

(iii) Dual support system

that the HEFCE grant letter from BIS has confirmed that university research will continue to be supported by a combination of competitive grants administered by RCUK and QR funding tied to RAE/REF outcomes.

2 MINUTES

Resolved:

to approve the Minutes of the Research and Enterprise Committee held on 26 October 2011

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

that the Centre of the Body which was approved by Academic Board in December 2011 has already attracted considerable interest both internally and externally, with the Wellcome Trust encouraging an application for funding support..

4 RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK (REF) PREPARATION - DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE AND FINAL PANEL GUIDANCE

Received:

- (a) draft version of a proposed Code of Practice (A; 12-48)
- (b) an update report on dry run preparations (B; 12-49) and oral reports from the Impact Case Study Working Group, Impact Strategy Subgroup, and Researcher Development Group
- (c) a paper outlining significant changes to the Panel Criteria and Working Methods (C; 12-50) arising from the final guidance document which can be accessed at http://hefce.ac.uk/research/ref/pubs/2011/03_11/

Noted:

(a) Code of Practice and the Dry Run

- (i) that the proposed Code of Practice (CoP) for selection of staff for REF submission had been endorsed by the College REF Panel. Following consideration by REC it will be discussed at the Warden's Advisory Group and subsequently put to Academic Board for discussion and approval
- (ii) the CoP must be submitted to the REF Equalities and Diversity Advisory Panel for approval, ideally by the first deadline of 27 April 2012, so that it can be ratified prior to our Dry Run in the summer term
- (iii) that the purpose of the CoP is to achieve transparency, fairness and consistency in the process of staff selection. This will be a more challenging process in the REF than it was in RAE 2008 given that in future QR income will be awarded only to activity graded 3* and 4*.
- (iv) that as previously agreed, thresholds for staff selection will vary between departments to reflect their particular circumstances. The draft CoP sets out detailed mechanisms by which this can be achieved within a consistent and transparent overall framework.

- (v) that the REF Dry Run meetings will be chaired by the PW R&E and attended by: the external assessor; the HoD; the chair or another member of the department's research committee; the Head of the Research Office; and another member of the College REF Panel
- (vi) that every external assessor will be asked to evaluate, blind to departmental estimates, a few outputs considered by the department to be clearly 4*, 3*, and 2*. They will in addition be asked to give their opinions on other outputs where there is uncertainty or a divergence of opinion within the department concerned.
- (vii) the REF Panel will subsequently meet to assign estimated grades to every output, taking account of both internal evaluations and the views of external assessors. Initial selection decisions will be based on these output gradings, the number of outputs required for each staff member, and whether or not their inclusion is compatible with the target u-GPA agreed for the submission as a whole. Output grades and selection decisions will be communicated to all eligible staff in writing, and they will then have the opportunity to request independent second opinions on specified outputs.
- (viii) that further details of decision and appeals processes are set out in the CoP which will be disseminated to all staff through a variety of mechanisms including the College website, individual communications, and open meetings.
- (ix) that a dedicated member of HR will provide expertise and support with assessment of personal circumstances which affect selection decisions; information about an individual's circumstances will be treated confidentially, with departments made aware only of any adjustment to the number of outputs required in his/her case. The HR REF officer will additionally lead equality and diversity training for all staff involved in staff selection, and Equality Impact Assessments.
- (x) that as previously discussed at REC, the various working groups which report to REC will provide information, support and/or guidance to departments in relation to particular narrative elements of REF submissions. Drafts of these sections will be made available to Dry Run assessors for contextual information and feedback.

(b) Impact Strategy Sub Group

- (i) that the group had considered the most recent guidelines on the Impact Strategy narrative template (section 3a of REF submissions) and discussed how approaches to this might vary across our disciplines
- (ii) that since the guidance now appears to include public engagement in the definition of impact, the planned Public Engagement Group should also be able to provide valuable input to this section. It was felt that Goldsmiths should develop terminology which is consistent with the College's ethos and helps to embed relevant practices and strategic developments
- (iii) that reflecting the overall impact agenda, within each submission the strategy narrative should not only connect explicitly with the selected case studies but

articulate a broad and more general approach to supporting and enhancing the achievement of potential impact from departmental research.

- (iv) that it is likely that many activities already routinely undertaken by Goldsmiths' academic community are in fact 'impact-generating', and could be identified and defined as such. The Enterprise Office is designing a short survey to be sent to DRC Chairs to identify examples of current practices and activities, and thus to inform future developments.
- (v) that we need to develop a clear strategy for enabling and raising the profile of the wider benefits (impact) emanating from Goldsmiths' research

(c) Impact Case Study Working Group (ICSWG)

- (i) that the ICSWG is overseeing the development of the Impact Case Studies previously shortlisted by departments. Two interns are developing the narratives in association with the academic staff leading each study; they are based in the RO and are mentored by a consultant academic journalist (Martin Ince). It is intended that at least one or two draft case studies will be included in the material submitted to the Dry Run assessor for each department.
- (ii) that the interns will also be working alongside the Communications Team to disseminate some of the case studies through other internal and external channels (e.g. webpages, other media outlets), reformatting them as appropriate.
- (iii) that a College-wide event will be held in the Autumn Term to showcase some of our impact case studies. All staff and members of Council will be invited.

(d) Researcher Development Group (RDG)

- (i) that the RDG will collate and disseminate information relevant to the 'people' and postgraduate student sections of the Research Environment narrative.
- (ii) that these sections relate closely to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers, in relation to which RO will shortly be carrying out a cross-departmental 'mapping and gapping' exercise with a view to developing action plans for enhancing current provision.
- (iii) that the group highlighted the scope for synergistic working by the Graduate School, GLEU, the Staff Development team, and the Research Office to build on existing training courses and make a package of resources more accessible to the College's researcher community.

(e) Changes to the REF Panel Criteria and Working Methods

- (i) that the REF Panel Criteria and Working methods had been subject to a sector wide consultation process and as a result of this a number of changes and clarifications have been made in the document published in January 2012.
- (ii) that all departments should be reminded to read carefully the working methods for their UoA and to take note of changes in the recent Addendum document

Resolved:

that the College REF Advisory Panel will in future be referred to simply as the College REF Panel, and that it will have delegated responsibility for making decisions on selection of staff for the REF.

Recommended:

that the draft Code of Practice should be approved for submission to the REF Equality and Diversity Advisory Panel

5 ALLOCATION OF REC FUNDS 2011/12**Received:**

proposals for the allocation of REC funds during 2011/12 and 2012/13 (12-51)

Noted:

- (i) that REC has been allocated 35k per year as a fund to support College research in 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 with the possibility of carrying forward 7k at the end of each financial year into the subsequent year.
- (ii) that in 2010/11 the competition to award funds for the enhancement of Impact Case Studies had resulted in awards of 7k in total and a further 6k to be confirmed subject to further development of the proposals.
- (iii) that since most of the 'unconfirmed' proposals had in fact not been further developed, substantial funds remained for expenditure prior to 31st July 2012 and/or for carry-forward to 2012-13

Resolved:

- (i) that the various working groups established to support REF would be invited to submit to the summer meeting of REC proposals for resourcing initiatives relevant to developing or enhancing institutional impact strategies, case studies, and researcher development
- (ii) that the research funds could continue to be allocated to support the development of individual impact case studies, using existing forms to be submitted as particular needs arise. Such applications will either be considered at the next REC meeting or circulated electronically where speedy decisions are required.
- (iii) that funds would likewise be available, on the same basis as above, to support (a) launch events for new Units and Centres and (b) other events for engaging the public with Goldsmiths research

6 ENTERPRISE

Received:

a report on the Higher Education Business and Community Interaction Survey 2010-11 (**E; 12-52**) and an update on the Centre for Creative Collaboration

Noted:

(a) HEBCIS

- (i) that HEBCIS is an annual survey of income generated as a result of collaborations with external non-academic partners.
- (ii) that HEBCIS 2010-11 evidences slightly lower levels of income than in 2009-10. This is likely to reflect the current economic climate, with external organizations less able to provide financial support for collaborations with universities, particularly in the sectors relevant to Goldsmiths' disciplines
- (iii) that it is important to ensure that the HEBCIS figures are robust and accurate since they are the basis for determining whether our new HEIF strategies are effective in developing external partnerships, and for attracting future HEIF support.

(b) Centre for Creative Collaboration (C4CC)

- (i) that Goldsmiths will continue to participate in and make a financial contribution to the C4CC, a University of London initiative to provide a central London location for collaborative research activities.
- (ii) that the other core members of the C4CC are currently Royal Holloway and the Central School of Speech and Drama; QM has also indicated an interest.
- (iii) that the C4CC is hoping to relocate to new premises in Old Street, facilitating potential connections with Digital Shoreditch. The space is flexible and includes meeting/teaching rooms as well as research and performance spaces.
- (iv) The development of the C4CC may be supported by a grant from the European Research Development Fund
- (v) that the Enterprise Office will promote and monitor the benefits of College engagement with the C4CC

7 GRADUATE SCHOOL UPDATE

Received:

an oral report from the Dean of Graduate School

Noted:

- (i) that the Graduate School had just contributed to a Periodic Programme Review (PPR) of postgraduate research across the College. The PPR made a range of

recommendations for enhancing the oversight and development of doctoral research.

- (ii) that the ESRC Doctoral Training Centre collaboration between Goldsmiths and QMUL was proving increasingly successful despite some initial challenges. It runs a range of events which are well attended by students from both institutions;
- (iii) that a recent event run by the student-led Research Group In Continental Philosophy had attracted over 200 students
- (iv) that the Dean of the Graduate School was now working on a collaborative AHRC block grant partnership bid - the Consortium for Humanities and the Arts South East England (CHASE) - led from the University of Sussex. The other members are the Courtauld, the OU, and the Universities of East Anglia, Essex, and Kent. If successful, the partnership will receive 400 doctoral studentships over a five year period, shared between the institutions. All member institutions have agreed to match-fund the studentships in a 1:3 ratio (i.e. for every award Goldsmiths receives, we will fund one further studentship)
- (v) that there is currently a great deal of emphasis being placed on linking studentships with external partners and industry, and the Enterprise Office is therefore likely to become increasingly involved in supporting the Graduate School with this.

8 GRANTS STRATEGY PANEL AND RESEARCH FUNDING STRATEGIES

Received:

a paper proposing the establishment of a new internal Grants Strategy Panel, reporting to REC, with the remit of making recommendations on ways of enhancing the development of large external funding applications (12-53)

Noted:

- (i) that it is essential that the College develops mechanisms for stimulating and enhancing large grant applications given (a) pressure from RCUK and other funders to manage demand by placing restrictions on the entitlement of institutions to submit bids and (b) frequent requirements for tangible and/or financial institutional commitments which have to be carefully considered by SMT.
- (ii) that the proposed Grant Strategy Panel would be chaired by Professor Roger Burrows from the Sociology Department; other members would include senior academic staff from our science and social science departments, and Justin Davin-Smith, Senior Research Development Officer.
- (iii) that once this panel has made recommendations, it may be appropriate to establish a similar panel in relation to Arts and Humanities research funding applications.
- (iv) that consideration should be given by REC to identifying a number of distinctive Goldsmiths research 'themes' to help articulate our research identity and to inform the strategic deployment of central research resources.

Resolved:

to approve the establishment of the Grants Strategy Panel and ask for a progress report to the summer term meeting of REC

9 RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE STRATEGY

Received:

the updated Research and Enterprise Strategy, revised in light of discussion of proposed activities at the REC meeting of 26 October 2011 (11-382R)

Resolved:

to approve the updated Research and Enterprise Strategy

10 RESEARCH ETHICS SUB COMMITTEE

Received and noted:

the minutes of the Research Ethics Sub Committee held on 22 February 2011 (12-54)

11 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY HORIZON SCAN

Received and noted:

a report of major research initiatives currently open for application (12-55)

12 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE CENTRE FOR THE BODY

Noted:

that Academic Board had approved the proposal to establish this Research Centre, a collaboration between the Department of Theatre and Performance and the Department of History, with effect from 1 January 2012.

13 ANNUAL REPORT

Resolved:

to approve Research and Enterprise Committee Annual Report 10-11 (11-498)

14 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Noted:

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

- (a) Dr. A. Cusumano, Dept of Theatre and Performance (19.03.12 – 01.09.12)
- (b) Ms. S. Kelly, Dept of Art (09.02.12 – 25.06.12)
- (c) Dr. M. Simpson, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (23.04.12 – 15.06.12)
- (d) Dr. C. Sweeney, Dept of English and Comparative Literature (26.04.12 – 15.06.12)

Resolved:

ii. To approve the reports following leave of absence: (12-56)

- (a) Mr. T. Dowmunt, Dept of Media and Communications
- (b) Dr. E. Hill, Dept of Psychology
- (c) Mr. S. Knight, Dept of English and Comparative Literature
- (d) Dr. F. Krause, Dept of English and Comparative Literature
- (e) Prof. M. Michael, Dept of Sociology
- (f) Dr. A. Rooke, Dept of Sociology
- (g) Miss G. Saner, Dept of Theatre and Performance

15 MEETING DATES

Noted:

that the next meetings for 2011-12 will be held on:

Thursday, 26 April 2012 at 2.00 pm

Wednesday, 9 May 2012 at 10.00 am

LA, February 2012