

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

ACADEMIC BOARD

RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meetings held on 30 January 2013

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

Apologies: Professor Len Platt, Dr Andrea Phillips

1 MINUTES

Resolved:

to approve the Minutes of the Research and Enterprise Committee held on 21 November 2012 (enclosed)

2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

HEFCE Open Access Policy in relation to future REFs

HEFCE has announced plans to make open access publication a requirement for outputs to be submitted to future versions of the REF and has launched a consultation concerning various aspects of this policy. Research Office will co-ordinate a College response.

University of London Scholarship Fund

Each academic department will be awarded a proportion of the funding allocated to Goldsmiths from the UoL (in place of the former centrally administered Central Research Fund scheme). This must be used to support early career researchers with the costs of conference attendance, or research-related travel/training. They will be required to provide the Research Office with brief details of the activity it has supported with its allocation so that the overall use of the fund is appropriately documented.

3 UPDATE ON RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK (REF)

Received:

Updates on College preparation for REF and reports from ICSWG, ISSG and PEAG
(13-36)

Noted:

(i) Update on REF preparations

All REF-eligible members of staff received letters last term informing them of their current position regarding submission to REF ('confirmed' or 'no firm decision') following the Phase 1 meeting of the College REF Panel.

The process has run very smoothly to date. Across College, only 23 members of staff requested re-evaluations of outputs. These are being notified to the chairs of Department Research Committees, who will identify an appropriate assessor; this may be either an internal member of staff who has had no involvement in the original evaluation of the output, or someone external to the College. In either case, they will be selected on the basis of having relevant expertise.

Some staff have additionally identified outputs which they believe may be stronger than those originally considered. It will now be for departments leading the relevant submissions to evaluate these new outputs following the same process used in the first wave of evaluations, and drawing on the criteria which emerged from the Dry Run exercise.

Revised datasets showing any adjustments to the output ratings for all eligible staff members will be collated by departments in advance of the Phase 2 REF Panel meeting in early June. The Panel will review the target u-GPAs for every submission, taking into account a range of internal and external factors, and will make recommendations to SMT concerning any adjustments. Once the final targets have been agreed, firm decisions will be made concerning the selection of all staff members who have not already been 'confirmed for entry' and they will be notified in writing of the outcome.

(ii) REF5 Environment Narratives

The College REF Panel will meet to consider draft Environment narratives [RA5] in March. It is envisaged that examples of effective approaches to the various sections of these narratives will be shared internally in order to assist departments in refining these initial drafts.

(iii) Impact Case Study Working Group (IWG)

The impact case study [ICS] workshops being chaired by Professor Crossick is continuing. Across a series of about ten workshops, every ICS under consideration for inclusion in a REF submission will have been discussed, enabling its author to refine it with some assistance from our consultant journalist, Martin Ince.

It is noted that some submissions have more good ICSs than they will require, and that other submissions are having difficulty in identifying strong ICSs. It is possible to utilise ICSs in submissions other than those in which their authors are entered, though the appropriateness of doing this would depend on it having some clear conceptual relevance. The REF Panel will consider the most appropriate allocation of impact case studies between submissions with a view to optimising their overall strength.

(iv) Impact Strategy Sub-Group (ISSG)

The group has been heavily and actively involved in preparations for the Making a

Difference event, organised by the Enterprise Office team [see below]. It will take place on February 12th.

In relation to REF Impact Templates [RA3], the plan is to develop 'skeleton' versions which departments will be able to draw on in developing the narrative for own submissions.

(v) Public Engagement Advisory Group (PEAG)

This group, chaired by Professor French and supported by a part-time, fixed-term researcher, is in the process of mapping public engagement activities and expertise across the College with a view to providing REC with a report and recommendations at the summer term meeting. This information will inform the development of RA3 Impact Templates.

4 ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Received:

the 2011/12 Higher Education Business and Community Interaction Survey 2011-12 **(13-37)**; the Making a Difference Conference programme **(13-38)**; and an oral update on activities from the Head of Enterprise

Noted:

(i) HE-BCI Survey

This annual survey is completed very rigorously by the Enterprise Office since it provides the data on which future HEIF allocations will be calculated, and it has to be sufficiently accurate and robust to stand up to external auditing by HEFCE. The return for 2011-12 was submitted in December

The Committee noted that within this return, the financial value of our engagement with businesses, community organisations and other non-academic partners was calculated to be a total of £5.2 million which demonstrates an increase of nearly £1 million since 2010/11. There has been a significant increase in collaborative research over the last year with more than a third of Goldsmiths' research projects now involving non-academic partners or commercial partners. Contract research income has also shown a healthy rise in 2011-12. Income from Continuing Professional Development/Short Courses has reduced over the past two years and since it provides the second highest source of HE-BCI income this indicates that it is time to take a more strategic approach to future development.

Income from external consultancy has also shown some growth, from 231,000 in 2010-11 to 308,000 last year. This is likely at least in part to reflect the effects of the new consultancy policy, which sought to incentivise, simplify, and provide better administrative support for such activity. Aidan Sheridan in the Enterprise Office has taken on a lead responsibility for implementing and co-ordinating these improvements. Plans for growing income streams over the next year or two include a focus on stimulating and supporting provision of short courses and contract research.

(ii) "Goldsmiths: Making a Difference"

The programme for this event on February 12th has been purposefully developed to

involve and showcase work from every academic department, and to be engaging and relevant to a wide cross-section of external individuals and organisations.

The whole-day conference will include morning and afternoon parallel sessions comprising presentations, discussions, and debates on a range of topics relating to impact, external engagement, and cross-cutting themes. An evening 'question time' style panel will be chaired by the Chair of Council, Estelle Morris; panel members will include Professor Crossick, Hasan Bakshi, Jane Powell, and one or two others. An exhibition will be displayed in the Church, where an evening reception will be held.

Invitations are being sent to a wide range of individuals and organisations, including academic and professional staff of the College, members of Council, local community organisations, external colleagues and collaborators, members of research councils and other funding agencies, and so on. There has been a high level of interest from businesses and community organisations interested in finding out not only about Goldsmiths, but in exploring possible future links.

The Committee noted that preparation for the event had already created a very positive and collaborative spirit across the College.

(iii) Other ongoing and planned activities

The Enterprise Office is currently reviewing and updating the College policies on Intellectual Property, and is working on production of a framework for developing spin-out companies.

It will also be giving a greater emphasis to the College's strategic use of the facilities and resources provided within the Centre for Creative Collaboration

(iv) New appointment in the Enterprise Office

The Committee was delighted to learn that Sean Bye, previously an intern in the Research Office helping with the development of Impact Case Studies for REF, was the successful candidate for (and has now taken up) a new post in the Enterprise Office. This demonstrates not only the effectiveness of providing well-structured internships that cultivate the development of employment-relevant skills and knowledge, but the value of such training opportunities to the College itself.

5 CENTRES AND UNITS REPORTS

Received:

The Triennial Report from the Centre for the Study of Invention and Social Processes [CSISP] **(13-39)**

Noted:

The CSISP triennial report evidences a wide range of valuable activities benefiting not only Goldsmiths but the wider community

The Centre's Advisory Board should include at least one member of another department, reflecting the definition of Centres as cross-departmental entities

Resolved:

to approve the recommendation by the host department [Sociology] that the Centre should continue for a further 3 year period, subject to the representation of another department on its Advisory Board

to send the CSISP report to the Public Engagement Advisory Group to inform them of the range of external engagement undertaken by the centre.

to consider defining general terms of reference for the Advisory Boards of Centres and Units

6 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE CENTRE FOR FEMINIST RESEARCH**Received:**

a proposal to establish the Centre for Feminist Research within the Department of Media and Communications with effect from 1 April 2013 **(13-40)**

Noted:

That the Centre would provide a focus for an important and cross-disciplinary research theme at Goldsmiths

That the Committee welcomed the intention of the Centre to inform and be involved with the development of the College's equality and diversity policies and practices

Recommended:

to approve the establishment of the Centre for Feminist Research within the Department of Media and Communications with effect from 1 April 2013

7 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE CENTRE FOR EMBODIED, EMBEDDED, ENACTIVE, AND ECOLOGICAL APPROACHES TO COGNITIVE SCIENCE**Received:**

a proposal from Professor Mark Bishop to establish the Centre for 4 E's, led from the Department of Computing and involving the Department of Psychology, with effect from 1 April 2013 **(13-41)**

Noted:

The proposal set out in great detail a range of possibilities for generating grant income and for establishing postgraduate programmes. It was felt, however, that the length and complexity of the proposal somewhat obscured its defining research foci and objectives, and it was noted that research Centres cannot in themselves 'run' taught programmes as seemed to be implied here.

There was a related concern that the title of the Centre, whilst intriguing, was complex and would not be widely comprehensible; it would therefore not contribute effectively to externally facing representations of the College's expertise and research themes. It was suggested that Cognitive Science should be a more prominent element in the title

– for example, the Centre for Cognitive Science: Embodied, Embedded, Enactive and Ecological approaches.

Resolved:

To ask Professor Bishop to submit a more tightly focused proposal, emphasising and more succinctly explaining the research foci of the proposed Centre

To request Prof Bishop to consider a revised title for the Centre

8 GRADUATE SCHOOL

Received:

an oral report from the Dean of Graduate School

Noted:

The Consortium for Humanities and the Arts South East England (CHASE) had now submitted its application for an AHRC Block Grant Partnership.

That the Graduate School had also supported an associated “star” bid being put forward by the Design Department working in partnership with the Open University

That outcomes will be announced in October 2013

9 ALLOCATION OF REC FUNDS 2012/13

Received:

a report of the allocation of REC funds in 2012/13 **(13-42)**

10 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY HORIZON SCANNING

Received:

a report of major funding calls and schemes currently open for application **(13-43)**

11 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Noted:

the following period of paid leave approved by Chair’s action:

Professor K Stables, Dept of Design (24.09.12 – 14.12.12 and 22.04.13 – 14.06.13)

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The College Strategic Plan: KPIs and operational targets relating to Research & Enterprise

Received:

An oral report from the Chair concerning SMT's proposed operational targets relating to research and enterprise activities

Noted:

SMT is in the process of articulating concrete and measurable key performance indicators which will be sensitive and appropriate indices of the progress being made in relation to the College's new Strategic Aims. In this context it is seeking advice and comments from Committees responsible for activities relating to each KPI.

The Committee considered draft KPIs which relate to its areas of responsibility, and suggested amendments to some. Those of particular relevance to the Research and Enterprise Committee are listed below, subdivided into top level 'strategic KPIs' (which will be listed in the published Strategic Plan) and 'operational targets' which are intended to underpin or complement the strategic KPIs.

Resolved:

To endorse the following strategic KPI's and operational targets

Strategic Aim: Build on our record of world-leading and high impact research

- In the REF, place within the top quartile overall in relation to the proportion of research deemed internationally significant or world-leading, and place within the top 5 in at least two units of assessment.
- Increase research grant income by an average of 5% p.a. over the next 5 years
- Place within the QS World Ranking's top 100 for Arts and Humanities

Strategic Aim: Increase and enrich postgraduate research

- 75% of PhD students to have completed within 7 years of full time equivalent registration

Operational Targets

- Increase the total number of externally or institutionally funded doctoral studentships across the range of College disciplines by an average of at least 2 p.a. relative to the 2010/11 baseline
- Achieve a reduction of at least 25% in PGR withdrawal/attrition rates after the first year by the end of the 2014/15 academic year
- 25% of all PhD students to complete within 4 years full time registration equivalent; 50% within 7 years
- 80% of funded PhD students (AHRC / ESRC) to complete within 4 years full-time registration equivalent.
- Increase the overall PhD completion rate by an average of 20% p.a., until a 90% completion rate is achieved.

Strategic Aim: Increase collaborative research, knowledge exchange and consultancy

Operational targets

- Increase the annual income from collaborative research projects by an average of 3% p.a.
- Increase the annual income generated through knowledge exchange, as indexed by the HEBCIS total, by an average of 3% p.a."
- Increase the annual income from consultancy activity by an average of 5% p.a.

Strategic Aim: Develop partnerships with London-based organisations

Operational targets

- audit and categorise current partnerships / collaborations with London-based organisations as a basis for future monitoring and growth in the density of these networks.
- have at least one established and thriving partnership with a London-based organisation in each academic department by 2015

13 MEETING DATES

Noted:

that the next meeting for 2012-13 would be held on:

Wednesday, 8 May 2013 at 2.00 pm, Room 110 DTHB

LA, May 2013