

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

ACADEMIC BOARD

RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 May 2013

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

Apologies: Professor Nick Couldry, Dr Andrea Phillips

In attendance: Professor Chris French (for Item 4), Jessica Pavlos (minutes),

OPEN BUSINESS

1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Committee thanked Professors Back and Platt, whose *ex officio* terms on the Committee were coming to an end, and Professor Couldry, who would be leaving the College to take up a position at the London School of Economics.

It was noted that in 2013-14, three Associate Pro Wardens (Creative and Cultural Industries; Research Integrity; Graduate School) would become *ex officio* members of the Committee, and would be an important interface between the Committee and the College's Schools (Culture and Society; Individuals, Systems and Organisations; Arts and Humanities).

The Chair announced that Graeme Reid, Head of Research Funding at the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, would be bringing his team to visit Goldsmiths. It was noted that this was an opportunity to raise not only the College's profile, but also that of excellent arts, humanities and social science research and its contribution to the UK.

The Committee received papers related to recent audits of the Research Office and the College's contract management system. It was noted:

- (i) that as per key recommendations to consider whether the current staffing level in the Research Office was appropriate (R1) and to consider ways in which the Research Office and Research Finance could work together more efficiently (R3), a business case was currently being drawn up for a role which might straddle Research and Finance;
- (ii) that Principal Investigators had expressed difficulties with understanding the monthly accounts related to their grants, and that it was hoped that changes to the Agresso system would address these difficulties;
- (ii) that as per R5, the Committee would discuss the issue of enhancing the sharing of good practice between academic departments in 2013-14, along with the issue of whether Departmental Research Committees should be part of the College's formal committee structure.

2 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2013 be approved.

3 MATTERS ARISING

Noted:

Re Minute 8: that the Consortium for Humanities and the Arts Southeast England (CHASE) had received largely positive reviews for its AHRC Block Grant Partnership bid, and announcements would be made in October 2013. In addition, the Graduate School had been working on a new bid to the EPSRC for a Doctoral Training Centre in Gaming and Computing.

4 UPDATE ON RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK (REF)

Received:

updates on College preparation for REF from ICSWG, ISSG and PEAG **(13-209)**.

(i) Impact Case Study Working Group (ICSWG)

Noted:

- (a) that the Group was moving toward Phase 2 consideration of outputs;
- (b) that there was a lot of effort at Senior Management Team level to speed up new academic appointments;

(ii) Impact Strategy Sub Group (ISSG)

- (c) that the Group had not met since the last meeting of the Committee as its attentions had been focused on the Making a Difference Event;
- (d) that Making a Difference had been a huge success, with very good attendance: over 200 attendees, almost 50% of whom were external, including 16% government organisations, 22% charities, 24% HEIs, and 37% businesses;
- (e) that it was expected that each department would be able to provide a draft of their REF Impact Narrative during June;

(iii) Public Engagement Advisory Group (PEAG)

- (f) that the Group had produced a preliminary mapping of Public Engagement (PE) activity in the College, and wanted to ensure that the College showed it valued PE;
- (g) that the Department of Social, Therapeutic and Community Studies hadn't been represented on the Group but they had an excellent model for Community Engagement.

Resolved:

- (i) that PEAG be made a permanent advisory group and be tasked with delivering some of the Group's recommendations;

- (ii) that Professor French continue to lead PEAG as part of his new role as Associate Pro Warden (Research Integrity);
- (iii) that the PE Vision recommendations were broadly supported by the Committee, with the following changes to specific items:
 - Strengthen existing good practice in PE in research, ~~teaching and learning~~ at Goldsmiths by ensuring it is valued, recognised, supported and rewarded
 - Provide opportunities for all staff and students to engage with the public
 - ~~Work~~ **Develop research** in collaboration with external organisations, including schools, galleries, museums, community groups, local businesses, funding bodies and government agencies

5 ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Received:

an oral report on activities from the Head of Enterprise.

It was noted that the Enterprise Office was at the midpoint of the HEIF 5 Strategy and was making good progress. The previous two years had involved a lot of work on “back-office” activities, including putting systems and processes in place to move forward on various initiatives. Recent activity included:

(i) Review of support for continuing professional development provision

The Office had carried out a review of opportunities and barriers to effective short course development and delivery. It was felt that short courses were a good income generator for the College and thus it was worth investigating whether targeting existing resource toward short courses (or even creating new resources) could facilitate growth in this income stream.

(ii) Consultancy Policy

The Office was developing a costing tool, a web app, and guidance for staff carrying out consultancy, as well an outwardly-facing Consultancy Services Guide. Soon the Office would be arranging workshops for interested staff members.

(iii) Enterprise Fund

The Office had developed a seed fund for small awards (up to £2000) for academic staff to facilitate partnership development. The Fund would be operated without deadlines and with a quick turnaround, and all applicants would need to consult a member of the Enterprise team in order to submit an application.

(iv) Website, communications and partner events plan

The Office had already carried out a great deal of work on its website, which would eventually include a range of case studies and guidance for staff wanting to engage in enterprise activities. Staff were currently working on an event plan to bring more non-academic partners to Goldsmiths to meet with academics, and also putting together an “event toolkit” based on lessons learnt from Making a Difference which would act as a guide to other staff members looking to stage events.

(v) Centre for Creative Collaboration (C4CC)

The new Associate Pro Warden (Creative and Cultural Industries), Professor Janis Jefferies, would be working to ensure that staff and students were aware of how they could benefit from C4CC's excellent facilities. It was noted that C4CC would soon be launching a voucher scheme with partners Goldsmiths, King's College London, Kingston University, Queen Mary, University of London, the Royal Central School for Speech and Drama, and Tate. The London Creative and Digital Fusion Collaborative Awards scheme would grant vouchers worth between £5000 and £10000 for SMEs to purchase access to academics and their research, student resource or cutting-edge facilities as part of a collaboration with the HEI.

(vi) Company formation

The Office had been working with a consultant to produce documentation and best practice relating to company formation. A number of relevant academics had attended a focus group/workshop on the topic, which had been very successful, and it was expected that final guidance would be ready within the next month.

(vii) New grants

It was also noted that the College had very recently been awarded its first ESRC Knowledge Exchange Opportunities grant, which involved collaboration with a number of non-academic partners including Intel.

6 CENTRES AND UNITS REPORTS

Received:

triennial reports from Research Centres and Units and Departmental Annual Report Summaries **(13-210)**.

Resolved:

that substantive discussion on Centres and Units, including a discussion about the role of advisory boards in Centres and Units, would be discussed at the next meeting.

7 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT

Received:

a proposal to establish the Centre for Community Research and Engagement within the Department of Social, Therapeutic and Community Studies with effect from 1 September 2013 **(13-211)**.

Noted:

- (i) that it was important that internal competition with the Centre for Urban and Community Research be avoided, and that including Dr Alison Rooke as a member of the Centre would assist with this, as would ensuring the Department of Sociology was adequately represented on the Advisory Board (Professor Bev Skeggs was currently listed as being on the Advisory Board but it was unclear whether that was an *ex officio* post to be held by the Head of the Department of Sociology);

- (ii) that the Committee would seek clarification on how this Centre was related to the Centre for Lifelong Learning and Community Engagement;
- (iii) that it was important that external members were included on the Centre's Advisory Board.

Resolved:

- (i) that the Centre for Community Research and Engagement be established;
- (ii) that the Committee contribute £1500 (matched to the departmental contribution) to the launch event, subject to receipt of an itemised budget.

8 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE CENTRE FOR RADICAL COGNITIVE SCIENCE: EMBODIED; EMBEDDED; ENACTIVE & ECOLOGICAL APPROACHES

Received:

a proposal to establish the Centre for Radical Cognitive Science: embodied; embedded; enactive & ecological approaches within the Department of Computing with effect from 1 September 2013 **(13-212)**

Noted:

- (i) that, as requested (see *Min 7, 30 January 2013*), the title of the Centre had been revised;
- (ii) that the Committee was pleased to see the improved Objectives of the Centre and the benefits of international collaboration with the University of Illinois;
- (iii) that the Committee still felt the research foci of the Centre were confusing and would like to see a clear abstract, particularly for presentation to external stakeholders (for instance, on the College website).

Resolved:

- (i) that the Centre for Radical Cognitive Science: embodied; embedded; enactive & ecological approaches be established;
- (ii) that the Committee contribute £1500 (matched to the departmental contribution) to the launch event, subject to receipt of an itemised budget.

9 APPLICATIONS FOR IMPACT ENHANCEMENT FUNDING

Received:

the following applications for Impact Enhancement Funding **(13-213)**:

Music and Musicianship in Afghanistan and the Afghan Diaspora
Emeritus Professor John Baily, Music Department

Sociology and Communication in Finance: the Impact of the London Stock Exchange on UK Industry and Industrial Policy
Professor Aeron Davies, Media and Communications Department

Resolved:

- (i) that Professor Baily's application be approved;
- (ii) that Professor Davies' application be approved, subject to the receipt of a clear indication of how the award would benefit the case study.

10 OPEN ACCESS PUBLICATION FOR RCUK-RELATED PAPERS

Received:

a communications plan for informing departments and grant holders about the funding available for Gold Open Access publishing for publications arising from RCUK grants **(13-214)**.

The Committee noted that RCUK policy required that any article and paper publications resulting from RCUK-funded research were made open access after 1 April 2013. It was noted that departments would have access to funds to ensure all relevant publications could be made open access.

11 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY HORIZON SCANNING

Received:

a report of major research initiatives currently open for application.

12 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Noted:

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

- (a) Prof. L. Boldrini, Dept of ECL (22.04.13 – 14.06.13)
- (b) Dr. A. Cooper, Dept of Psychology (01.01.14 – 01.09.14)
- (c) Dr. I. Hurst, Dept of ECL (22.04.13 – 14.06.13)
- (d) Dr. J. Rattray, Dept of ECL (01.01.13 – 01.03.13)

Received:

a report following leave of absence: **(H; 13-216)**

- (a) Prof. E. Gregory, Dept. of Educational Studies

13 NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting for 2012-13 would be scheduled for after the REF panel selection meeting.

RESERVED BUSINESS

14 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Received:

the REF Dry Run Equality Impact Assessment **(13-44)**.

The Committee noted a number of trends in the Impact Assessment, including that at lower age bands there was a better chance of a firm decision and that males were slightly more likely to have a firm decision at this time. Further reflection and evaluation of these statistics would occur after Phase 2, in particular to identify whether any of these trends reflected actual effects.

Resolved:

that the REF panel be made aware of these statistics.