

GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 April 2013

PRESENT: Professor J. Craft, Dr R. Emmanuel, Professor C. Donaldson, Professor B. Hughes, Professor P. Flowers, Professor D. Harrison, Professor M. Mannion (Chair), Professor J. Marshall, Professor D. Smith, Professor B. Steves, Professor B. Stewart, Professor J. Tombs,

APOLOGIES: Professor A. De Ruyter, Dr L. Gray, Professor D. Greenhalgh, Professor V. James, Professor A. McKay, Professor S. McMeekin, Professor J. Stewart, Professor J. Wilson, Professor J. Woodburn

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr R. Ruthven (Library), Mr P. Woods (Secretary)

MINUTES

012.80 Considered: The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2012 (**REC12/22/1**).

012.81 Resolved: That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

Open Access in Research (*Arising on RCM012.65*)

012.82 Reported: By Professor Marshall that RCUK had revised the policy but were still committed to open access, as were the funding councils.

012.83 Resolved: That a working group be established to bring forward proposals to the first meeting of 2013-14.

Social Media and Research (*Arising on RCM012.67*)

012.84 Reported: By Professor Marshall that there was a need to seek views and review what other HEIs were doing in order to define good practice.

012.86 Resolved: That a short-life working group, led by Professor Marshall, will assess current usage of social media in supporting research activity at GCU and consider the development of best practice guidance in this area.

Research Impact (*Arising on RCM012.71*)

012.87 Reported: By Professor Marshall that there was need to consider next steps with regard to developing guidelines for the research community.

012.88 Resolved: That further consultation be undertaken with members of staff who have attended sector-wide impact workshops/seminars (related to REF) with a view to developing proposals.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Excellence in Research Day

012.89 Reported: By the Chair that a Excellence in Research Day would be held on 20 June. Various people in the Schools were organising the event, involving their wider networks and Marketing and Communications conference team and DARO were compiling lists of invitees. The day would take the form of an exhibition and the venue would depend on the floor space required – it would be either Saltire or potentially refectory extensions.

012.90 Resolved: That members send any suggestions for invites to Chris Cadogan or Susan Armstrong.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK

012.91 Considered:

1. The updated Equality and Diversity Code of Practice (**REC11/18/5**)
2. Equality and Diversity Training (**REC12/23/1**).
3. GCU Calendar of REF 2014 activity (**RMG/17/1**).

012.92 Reported: By the Chair that meetings had continued with the 9 UoA Leads and broadly most outputs had been reviewed, REF5 narratives were on second or third drafts and most REF3b impact case studies were similarly in updated drafts.

Workshops had been useful in the development of these drafts and further events were planned. The Chair informed members that he would be providing an update to UEB, Court and Senate in June and he expected most of the preparations to be complete by September.

The Chair noted that some staff had still not attended Pure training and some publications were not yet in Pure. It was urgent that that these were resolved.

012.93 Reported: By Professor Marshall that the Code of Practice had been updated to incorporate some minor changes to the individual circumstances form.

The Equality and Diversity Advisor had provided all named staff with the facility to take the online training course and all named were required to complete it.

012.94 Resolved: That the updates are noted.

PHD PORTFOLIO

012.95 Considered: Process for constructing the PhD portfolio (**REC12/25/1**).

012.96 Reported: By the Chair that although the studentship process had operated to the timescales agreed at the last meeting, there had been no progress on the PhD portfolio. He informed members that he would write to the stakeholders to remind them of the requirement to contribute to the development of the portfolio.

012.97 Resolved: That progress be reviewed at the next meeting of the Committee

PURE AND PURE PORTAL UPDATE

012.98 Considered: Publication validation and workflow papers put forward by Library (**REC12/26/1**)

012.99 Reported: By Mr Ruthven that the change from Digital Commons to Pure Portal had required an update to the policies.

012.100 Reported: By Professor Marshall that he noted that staff would be required to agree (via a pop up message) to copyright at the deposit stage.

012.101 Resolved: That the policy be approved.

YUNUS CENTRE FOR SOCIAL BUSINESS AND HEALTH

012.102 Considered: The 5 year strategic plan for the Yunus Centre (**REC12/27/1**).

012.103 Reported: By the Chair that he had asked Professor Donaldson to produce the plan for consideration by the URC and he would be looking for similar plans from the other research centres and the Institutes.

012.104 Reported: By Professor Donaldson that the plan had been developed over two or three months and was similar to other plans within the University in that it described the basics of staff, location and history. The health economics research group formed a mini plan within the overall plan.

012.105 Discussion: Members welcomed the document. There was a discussion about the audience for these plans. The Chair stated that he felt that, as well as the University Research Committee, there were various constituents and a wider University audience to allow for feedback and questions.

Professor Donaldson said that he had found the process of developing the plan useful and had brought more focus to things like resourcing and centre income and other things.

Professor Marshall stated that he found it a useful document and that it fitted well with the draft research strategy that was due for consultation in the next day or so.

Members discussed the usefulness and desirability of sharing strategy documents of research centres or areas with colleagues. It was agreed that a degree of sharing with interested colleagues could only be helpful.

The Chair asked if there should be more about how research impact was captured. Professor Donaldson said that it was embedded in the work of the centre but that more thought was required about how to articulate it. There was a lot of potential for impact stories in the areas of microcredit and health economics research.

012.106 Resolved: That any further comments can be sent to Professor Donaldson.

UNIVERSITY PORTAL (GCYou)

012.107 Considered: A framework for organizing research information in the University portal (**REC12/28/1**).

012.108 Reported: By Professor Marshall that the University portal for internal communication was being rolled out. The Committee had to consider how research information would be structured and made available to a wider (internal) audience.

012.109 Discussion: Members discussed data requirements and hierarchies of data presentation. Key aspects were identified such as giving prominence to all research centres (i.e. CRL, Yunus, Caledonian academy), linkage to support departments and content that encompassed research governance and all REF communications.

012.110 Resolved: That a revised structure be brought back to the next meeting.

RESEARCH PROJECT STATISTICS UPDATE

012.111 Considered: A summary of the research project data to February 2013 (REC12/28/1).

012.112 Reported: By the Chair that the number of applications was broadly similar to last year but success rate was a bit better and the value a little higher. Going forward we would have to try to be a bit more selective and strive to improve external connections. In the modern climate, maintaining the position was a good effort.

012.113 That the summary is noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

012.114 Reported: By Professor Hughes that current University regulations did not allow non-staff to complete a PhD by previous publication. There did not appear to be any reason not to broaden this opportunity to non-staff.

012.115 Resolved: That the regulations be updated and the policy change noted at the next meeting.

Part B – For Formal Approval

Composition and Membership

012.116 Approve: The Composition and Membership of the Committee (**REC12/7/3**).

Part C – For information

Research Excellence Framework 2014

012.117 Receive: REF Management Group minutes from the meetings held on 30 November 2012 (**REFMG/15/1**).

Higher Degrees Subcommittee

012.118 Receive: The confirmed minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2012 (**HDC12/ 1/1**).

School Research Committees

012.119 Receive: The confirmed minutes of GSBS Research Committee meeting held on 26 October 2012 (**GSBSRC/08**).

Research Ethics Subcommittee

012.120 Receive:

1. The confirmed minutes of the Research Ethics Subcommittee meeting held on 28 March 2012 (**EC11/11/1**).
2. The Research Ethics Subcommittee annual report 2011-12 (**EC12/2/1**).