

<b>GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY</b>		
<b>RESEARCH COMMITTEE</b>		
Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2015		
<b>Present:</b>	Professor A. de Ruyter, Professor C. Donaldson, Professor R. Emmanuel, Professor P. Flowers, Dr L. Gray, Professor B. Hughes, Professor K. Johnston, Professor M. Mannion (Chair), Dr P. Martin, Professor J. Marshall, Professor P. Shukla, Professor B. Steves, Professor B. Stewart	
<b>In attendance:</b>	Mr M Anderson, Mr R. Ruthven, Mr. P. Woods (Secretary)	
<b>Apologies:</b>	Mr S. Brown, Dr. G. Cassidy, Professor S. Hutchinson	
<b>MINUTES</b>		
<b>014.077</b>	<b>Considered</b>	The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2014 (REC14/20/1).
<b>014.077</b>	<b>Resolved</b>	That the minutes be approved as a correct record.
<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>		
<i>Chair's Report (Arising on RCM 014.046)</i>		
<b>014.078</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By Professor Donaldson that he was surprised by the Research Institute announcement and that the Research Institute Directors were no longer members of the Committee. As they are still in post he felt this was perhaps premature.
<b>014.079</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By the Chair that he noted concerns about the Research Institute staff and informed members that there were complications surrounding budgets and the planning round. He hoped to resolve the matter soon.
<i>Pure Development Roadmap (Arising on RCM 014.055)</i>		
<b>014.80</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By Professor Marshall that the upgrade fee was more than expected for 700 staff. All HEIs were in the same position.
<i>International REF Survey (Arising on RCM 014.062)</i>		
<b>014.81</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By the Chair that there had been feedback from HEFCE that an international REF was unlikely to go ahead.
<b>CHAIR'S REPORT</b>		
<b>014.079</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By the Chair that there had been a networking evening at the Scottish Parliament where all HEIs had been present. GCU had been cited by Universities Scotland as one of the 5 best institutions for research impact. He also informed members that there would be a memorial event for Professor Ailsa McKay organised by the WISE research group and

		attended by Alex Salmond and John Swinney.
<b>REF2014 ANALYSIS</b>		
<b>014.80</b>	<b>Considered</b>	An analysis of the University's REF 2014 results (REC14/21/1).
<b>014.81</b>	<b>Reported:</b>	By Professor Marshall that taking into account potential sector inflation there were some good stories to take out of the results. In relation to sector competitors GCU was positioned as the strongest post '92 institution. There had been an overall improvement in both GPA and power ranking and there was greater overlap with the bigger Universities (e.g. Glasgow) than with post'92 HEIs.
<b>014.82</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	That Chair stated that he was generally pleased with the outcome but there was still work to do. Quality had improved overall but the next aim was to improve the volume of quality. The funding outcome was awaited and it was hoped that the University's position would be at least stable. In general he felt there was a platform to improve.  Members discussed methods to improve the overall quality volume. There was a general feeling that there were lessons to be learned from the REF 2014 submission and this could help the University going forward to REF 2020. A key aspect would be to reconcile internal or mock assessments with panel assessments.
<b>014.83</b>	<b>Resolved</b>	That the analysis is noted.
<b>CARNEGIE TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS</b>		
<b>014.84</b>	<b>Considered</b>	A bid allocation process for Carnegie Trust Scholarships (REC14/22/1).
<b>014.85</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By Professor Marshall that the paper proposed a process for any bids. The process would ask for one bid each from ADRs with alignment to Research Strategy themes.
<b>014.86</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	Members asked if the Yunus centre was included. Professor Marshall stated that it would be aligned with the appropriate School.
<b>014.87</b>	<b>Resolved</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the PVCRC would be the final arbiter.</li> <li>2. That the Yunus Centre can submit separately.</li> <li>3. That submissions should be with PVCRC by 6 February.</li> </ol>
<b>PHD STUDENTSHIPS</b>		
<b>014.88</b>	<b>Considered</b>	The 2015 process for awarding PhD Studentships (REC14/24/1).
<b>014.89</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By the Chair that the allocation breakdown would be 6 SHLS; 5 GSBS; 4 SEBE and 2 Yunus. London would be partnered with the Schools. Projects should be in line with strategic themes. The memo would go out shortly to stakeholders and the details would be on the University website.
<b>014.90</b>	<b>Resolved</b>	That the arrangements are noted.
<b>RESEARCHFISH</b>		
<b>014.91</b>	<b>Considered</b>	An update on the RCUK Researchfish outcomes system registration (REC14/23/1).
<b>014.92</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By Professor Marshall that this was a status update for GCU. ESRC figures (7 out of 12) related to five staff members who have left the University. He had written to them to request a correction. Other Research Councils had already corrected similar errors. CSO will also be updating their figures.
<b>014.93</b>	<b>Resolved</b>	That the update is noted.
<b>GRADUATE SCHOOL RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT REPORT (2013-14)</b>		
<b>014.94</b>	<b>Considered</b>	A report on Graduate School development workshops for PG research students and GCU

		staff engaged in research including key attendance and feedback data (REC14/27/1 – to follow).
014.95	Reported	By Professor Steves that this was the first annual review of development. The headlines were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased number of workshops (for both staff and students)</li> <li>• Effective use of external developers</li> <li>• Participant satisfaction is 95%</li> </ul> Appendix 1 listed the types of workshops delivered. She invited input from members for the development of future workshops.
014.96	Discussion	Research integrity was suggested as an important area to address. It was pointed out that there was a need to distinguish between research integrity for students and for staff, which would be provided via the CREDO programme.
014.97	Resolved	That the report is welcomed.
<b>COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP</b>		
014.98	Considered	The revised Composition and Membership of the Committee (REC14/08/3).
014.99	Reported	By the Secretary that a number of changes had been made since the last meeting to reflect the announcement re Research Institutes and also to add a few new members.
014.100	Resolved	That the changes are approved.
<b>CHANGES TO HIGHER DEGREES REGULATIONS</b>		
014.101	Considered	1. Proposed changes to regulations 5.2, 5.3, 5.5 and 5.7 (REC14/26/1) 2. Proposed changes to Guidelines for PhD by Previous Publication (HD14/41/1)
014.102	Reported	By Professor Steves that 5.2 clarifies the composition of supervisory teams which contain an inexperienced supervisor. Previously 3 supervisors were required with the intention that it would be a development experience for the inexperienced supervisor, but this has not worked out as intended.  5.3 which states that the Director of Studies should normally be from GCU;  5.5 which allows staff undertaking a PhD by Publication to supervise research students;  5.7 is a new regulation setting an upper limit to the number of students that can be supervised by a supervisor thereby meeting the requirements of the QAA Code of Practice.
014.103	Discussion	Members identified the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At 5.3 there should be a statement to say one member of the supervisory team must be a current member of GCU staff.</li> <li>• At 5.2 the word “only2 is not required.</li> </ul>
014.104	Resolved	Subject to the addition of the above statement the changes are approved.
<b>HIGHER DEGREES SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT</b>		
014.105	Considered	The Higher Degrees Subcommittee Annual Report 2013-14 (REC14/13/2).
014.106	Reported	By Dr Gray that there had been a miscalculation in the previous iteration which had not factored in any suspension of studies. Secondly there had been a concerted effort by the Schools during 2013-14 to clear up lingering registrations which were not going to complete. This had been a successful exercise but also meant that the completions were adversely affected for that year.
014.107	Resolved	That the report is approved.

<b>RESEARCH ETHICS SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT</b>		
<b>014.108</b>	<b>Considered</b>	The Research Ethics Subcommittee Annual Report 2013-14 (EC14/4/2).
<b>014.109</b>	<b>Reported</b>	By the Secretary that there had been a couple of mistakes in the numbers columns. These had been updated and there figures were now accurate.
<b>014.110</b>	<b>Resolved</b>	That the report is approved.
<b>REG CONSULTATION RESPONSE</b>		
<b>014.111</b>	<b>Received</b>	The University response to the Scottish Funding Council's REG Consultation (REC14/25/2).
<b>HIGHER DEGREES SUBCOMMITTEE</b>		
<b>014.112</b>	<b>Received</b>	The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2014 (HDC14/40/1).