

GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 September 2013

PRESENT: Professor A. De Ruyter, Professor P. Flowers, Professor D. Harrison, Professor M. Mannion (Chair), Professor J. Marshall, Professor S. McMeekin, Professor B. Steves, Professor J. Tombs, Professor J. Woodburn

APOLOGIES: Professor J. Craft, Professor C. Donaldson, Dr L. Gray, Professor D. Greenhalgh, Professor B. Hughes, Professor D. Smith, Professor V. Webster, Professor J. Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms M. Miller (Library), Mr P. Woods (Secretary)

PREAMBLE

013.001 Reported: By the Chair that item A9 would be moved to A5v and items A7 and B4 would be taken together.

MINUTES

013.002 Considered: The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 31 May 2013 (**REC13/01/1**).

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

MATTERS ARISING

Governance of Research Degrees (*Arising on RCM012.139*)

013.004 Reported: By the Chair that consultation was ongoing and the issue would be revisited at a future meeting.

Research Strategy (*Arising on RCM 012.148*)

013.005 Reported: By Chair that the Executive Board had requested some further work and this would also be brought back to a future meeting.

GCYou (*Arising on RCM012.125*)

013.006 Reported: By Professor Marshall that there was now a section called *Research Hub* for all documentation relating to research.

CHAIR'S REPORT

REF2014

013.007 Reported: By the Chair that the REF Management Group had met last week to consider final selection decisions. Not all issues had been resolved but the Group would be meeting after the URC meeting to conclude the process.

PREPARING THE REF 2014 SUBMISSION

013.007 Considered: A document describing the processes for completing the University REF submission using Pure (**REC13/2/1**).

013.008 Reported: By Professor Marshall that the paper described the mechanics of the submission via the Pure system. Pure synchronised with the REF submission software through the Pure *REF module* and all components of the REF submission would be uploaded to the module, including the narrative texts. AS the paper indicated, there would a lot of validation work to complete before 29 November.

CONSULTATION ON OPEN ACCESS IN POST 2014 REF

013.009 Considered: A consultation document from the Joint UK Funding Councils on Open Access of research publications post REF2014 (**REC13/3/1**).

013.010 Reported: By Professor Marshall that the open letter set out the open access agenda in technical terms. It was a serious issue as assumptions have been made about funding and it could be part of a wider bibliometrics agenda. He suggested that it would be logical to establish a University policy which mandated attachment of outputs to the repository at time of publication.

013.011 Discussion: Members agreed that this was a serious issue for the University and particularly in terms of funding for publication and the potential for inequality ahead of the REF2020. It was recognized that Research Council funds would be limited and members discussed the possibility of including costs in grant applications.

013.012 Resolved: That the Open Access Working Group are asked to consider scenarios arising from the proposals and bring these back to the Committee.

BIOMED CENTRAL OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

013.013 Considered: A report on the use of the University's Biomed Central subscription and consideration of licence renewal (**REC13/9/1**).

013.014 Reported: By Ms Miller that the paper provided details of the use of central University funds for subscription to Biomed Central. The initial subscription had cost £10K and had been renewed once. 12 articles had been published and 5 were in the process of submission. If all 5 were published the account would be in deficit of £107.

013.015 Discussion: Professor Woodburn noted that the peer review mechanisms had not been rigorous enough in determining eligibility to publish. He felt that there had been a poor return on investment and was not in favour of continuing with the subscription. Professor Flowers stated that it had been useful in turning round some late publications for REF 2014 and was one third less expensive than many of the best journals.

- 013.016 Resolved:**
1. That there is a moratorium on open access spend until the Working Group has had an opportunity to do scoping.
 2. That Professors Woodburn and Flowers agree on a position regarding the Biomed subscription and feed this into the Working Group.
 3. That the Working Group consider the possibility of seeking external advice.

HR BADGE OF EXCELLENCE/CREDO/CROS AND PIRLS

013.017 Considered: A summary report on the HR Badge of Excellence submission and related researcher development survey information (**REC13/6/1**).

013.018 Reported: By Professor Marshall that the University was in the process of applying for the HR Excellence in Research Award and feedback on the initial application had requested specific evidence of engagement with researchers' development needs. It would be helpful to the REF5 Environment narratives if the process could be completed ahead of the REF submission so it was proposed to refresh the CREDO group to agree the staff development plan.

The related researcher development information was comparative information from the CROS and PIRLS surveys and this information would be fed into the CREDO group.

013.019 Discussion: The Committee discussed staff development for researchers and specifically:

- A separate process to the PDAR system to address research development
- The need to support ECRs through CREDO.
- Identification of research leaders.

013.020: Resolved:

1. That the Research Institute Directors/ADRs nominate a representative for the CREDO group.
2. That the issue be discussed further in the immediate post REF submission period.

PRES SURVEY COMPARATIVE SHORT REPORT

013.021 Considered: PRES Survey Comparative Short Report (**REC13/7/1**).

013.022 Reported: By Professor Steves that the short report contained summary information that may be useful for REF5s. There was a fuller report available from the HE Academy – key issue for GCU was research culture and although this was typical for post '92 institutions it was below average.

013.023 Resolved: That the report is noted.

HIGHER DEGREES SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

013.024 Considered: The annual report of the Higher Degrees Subcommittee (**HDC12/3/1**).

013.025 Reported: By Professor Steves that the report contained summary statistics up to 31 July 2013 split by School. The report showed a small decrease in applications to register for a Higher Degree following a large increase in 2011-12.

Secretary's note: the number of part-time completions 2012-13 was corrected to 75% from 55%.

013.026 Discussion: The Chair noted that the number of rejections was also very high and the reason for rejection was not included. Members agreed that there had been some difficulty in collecting this data from academic staff, although it is requested as part of the selection process.

The Chair also stated that other data would be useful such as numbers of all *matriculated* PGRS and details of supervisor capacity.

013.027 Resolved: That the Graduate School Manager be asked to circulate the data to School Research Administrators to identify any anomalies.

REPOSITORY LAUNCH

013.028 Considered: A proposal for a Pure Portal Repository launch event (**REC13/8/1**).

013.029 Reported: By Ms Miller that there had been some discussion of how to launch the new Pure Portal repository to the University community and the Committee was being asked to consider both the timing and the format of the event.

013.030: Discussion: Members were not in agreement about the format of the event, i.e. whether to have a launch event or to do a video launch. Professor Marshall stated that all technical issues had yet to be resolved and it would be better to defer a University launch until these were resolved.

013.031: That a launch is deferred until all technical issues are resolved.

URC WORKING GROUPS ON RESEARCH IMPACT/SOCIAL MEDIA/OPEN ACCESS

013.032 Considered: Details of membership of three Committee working groups (**REC13/10/1**).

013.033 Reported: By the Secretary that the paper was a recap of the working groups the Committee had agreed to set up and a note of those who had agreed to join the groups. There had been no meetings as yet.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

013.034 Approved: The Terms of Reference of the Committee (**REC11/11/5**).

COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP

013.035 Resolved: That the Composition and Membership of the Committee is reconfigured to include a student member, an early career researcher and a research beneficiary/research user (**REC13/4/1**).

RESEARCH COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

013.036 Resolved: That a revised URC Annual Report 2012-13 is brought back to the next meeting.

HIGHER DEGREES SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

013.036 Received:

1. HDSC minutes 8 May 2013(**HDC12/ 162/1**).
2. HDSC minutes 8 May 2013 (**HDC13/2/1**).

SCHOOL RESEARCH COMMITTEE MINUTES

- 013.036 Received:**
1. GSBS Research Committee minutes 1 May 2013 (**GSBSRC/13**)
 2. SEBE Research Committee minutes 27 March 2013 (**SEBE RC/12/4**)
 3. SEBE Research Committee minutes 29 May 2013 (**SEBE RC/12/33**)
 - 5 SHLS Research Committee minutes 6 December 2012 (**HLSRC12/9/1**)
 - 6 SHLS Research Committee minutes 21 February 2013(**HLSRC12/10/1**)

Pwo/researchcom/agenda/Sep2013