

Vice-Principal Research and Life Sciences Interim Director's Report to Senate

- **REF consultation:** VP Research is leading the formulation of our institutional response to the HEFCE consultation on REF, which sets out proposals on implementation to incorporate the principles identified in the Stern Review.
- **REF Status Reviews 2017:** we will shortly be circulating data on grant income, PGRs and staff numbers to Schools and Institutes in preparation for the meetings in April. Schools and Institutes are required to submit internal review scores for outputs and impact case studies, along with a research environment statement by the end of March.
- **Scholarly Communications Licence:** we will be consulting shortly with staff on the possibility of implementing a UK Scholarly Communications Licence at QMUL, which would grant a non-exclusive right to the QMUL to retain and release a copy of journal articles and conference papers authored by academics as a result of their research undertaken at the institution. The aim of this is to make it easier for authors to meet the requirements of funding and other bodies around Open Access. It is intended to submit the proposal to Senate in June.
- **Researchfish:** staff and PGR students funded by RCUK, NIH and a number of medical charities are being asked to report the outcomes of their awards via Researchfish, by March 16th. Reminders will be issued to the relevant researchers on a weekly basis, with daily reminders starting from the 13th March.
- **EUA membership:** QMUL have been approved for membership of the European University Association (EUA); a collection of over 850 European universities, which plays an important role in influencing EU policies on higher education, research and innovation
- **Andrew Thompson visit:** VP Research and VP HSS hosted a successful visit from Andrew Thompson, Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the RCUK Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) champion, on 15th February.
- **PAR:** the VP Research PAR planning submission was submitted recently and included requests for funding for: REF support; developing a collaboration with the London International Development Centre, continuation of the CritiQues research engagement initiative and a 0.5 FTE administrator post for the new ESRC DTP.
- **LS Joint Statement:** a joint statement between QMUL and Barts Health Trust (BHT) was released in January, setting out QMUL's intention to create approximately 40,000 sq meters of labs, offices and meeting space on land purchased from BHT.
- **Planning:** the joint announcement marks a new phase in QMUL's Life Sciences initiative, and work is underway to ensure that we have the right governance structures, planning approaches, partnership development and supporting resource to take full advantage of these expanding opportunities. This includes our own work as well as joint activities with BHT. More detailed information will be made available via forthcoming VP Updates.