



**Senate**

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| <b>Paper Title</b>   | <b>Vice-Principal's (Public Engagement and Student Enterprise) Advisory Group (VPPESEAG)</b><br><br><b>Executive Summary of the meeting held in January 2018</b>      |
| <b>Outcome requested</b>   | Senate is asked to <b>note</b> the executive summary.   |
| <b>Points for Senate members to note and further information</b> | This paper provides an overview of the matters considered at the Vice-Principal's Public Engagement and Student Enterprise Advisory Group meeting of January 15 2018. |
| <b>Questions for Senate to consider</b>                          | n/a   |
| <b>Regulatory/statutory reference points</b>                     | n/a   |
| <b>Strategy and risk</b>   | n/a   |
| <b>Reporting/consideration route for the paper</b>               | For <b>report</b> to Senate.  |
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| <b>Sponsor</b>   | Professor Peter McOwan<br>Vice-Principal (Public Engagement and Student Enterprise)   |

## SENATE

### VICE-PRINCIPAL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND STUDENT ENTERPRISE ADVISORY GROUP

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Meeting held on 15 January 2018

#### 1. Summary.

This report summarises the main areas of discussion of the Advisory Group to the Vice-Principal (Public Engagement and Student Enterprise) at the meeting held on 15 January 2018. For a full set of notes please contact the Secretary, Katherine Bevan [k.bevan@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:k.bevan@qmul.ac.uk)

#### 2. Members Business.

This was the second (of four) meeting of the Group in the 2017/18 academic year. The following items were tabled:

##### a. Report of the Vice-Principal for Public Engagement and Student Enterprise.

- The new member of the CPE team, Public Engagement Officer Katherine McAlpine, had now started at QMUL.
- Members of the CPE attended the 'Engage' conference in Bristol at the start of December.
- The Chair had spoken at two House of Lords Select Committee meetings on Artificial Intelligence (AI), specifically looking at the development of policy around AI and how to work with the public concerning the wider impact of AI on society. The Chair had also spoken at the recent 'Enterprise Nation' weekend event hosted at QMUL, and attended a number of Tower Hamlets Strategic Boards, and the recent Community Policy meeting.

##### b. Centre for Public Engagement (CPE)

- The Engagement and Enterprise Awards held on an annual basis to recognise activities that had taken place in the previous year, was to be held in February.
- Three new small funding opportunities were being made available - Community Engagement projects, Patient-Public Involvement projects, and for projects linked to training provided by the CPE.
- The CPE were exploring ways in which they could offer more sustainable funding for public engagement projects.
- Work was continuing to support public engagement activities with view to creating REF Impact case studies and assisting their evaluation, including holding training events in how to evaluate projects.
- A visit was planned to the company in Littlehampton who were making the Neuron Pod.
- The annual 'Being Human' Festival of the Humanities had taken place, including a 'coordinated QMUL presence' through the theme 'A Sense of Belongings' which linked to the main 'Lost and Found' theme.

##### c. Community Engagement

- The first QMUL Community Meetup was held in November, to bring together members of the community with QMUL research staff in order to identify and

develop synergies. The positive response from community organisations was unfortunately not matched by QMUL staff attendance.

- Preparation for the Festival of Communities was now underway. The event would be held on the weekend of 12th -13th May. The event would be launched to QMUL and the wider community at the end of January.

#### **d. Student Enterprise**

- A QMUL student had won second place in the cross London colleges enterprise GradVenture competition, winning £1000 with the idea of selling personalised craft beer for weddings and events.
- Sixty students had applied for the three categories of the 'Try It, Grow It, and Build It' awards, of which 11 were successful, and would now be awarded a place on the next InQUBate cohort. The spike in applications was thought to be due to the now larger size of the qEnterprise team, and a wider appetite for such initiatives across the university.

#### **e. Environmental Sustainability**

- QMUL had had been invited by the Mayor of Tower Hamlets to join the Air Quality Partnership Board. Synergies were identified with research activity within the School of Medicine and Dentistry, including the AirWaves project.
- Eighty boxes of books were recycled in December through the Better World Books campaign.

#### **f. Research Impact**

- The decision from HEFCE on the changes in the number of impact case studies required for REF2021 had, as expected, favoured larger institutions. Overall, QMUL would be required to submit more case studies than in the previous REF.

#### **g. Arts and Cultural Strategy**

- The Arts and Culture launch event took place on November 8th and marked the start of the implementation phase of the strategy.
- QMUL was now an associate of the Tate Exchange, and would be taking over the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Boiler House from 1st -6th May. The quality of the proposed programme was highly praised.
- The Group **commended** the Arts and Culture Manager and her colleagues on the progress made in this area.

#### **h. Reports from Faculty Representatives**

Reports were received from each of the three Faculty Representatives.

#### **i. Reports from Professional Services**

Reports were received from Marketing and Communications, and from Research Services and Business Development.

#### **j. Student Union**

- A 'one-off' Green Mary Market would be held on March 13th from 10am-3pm.
- The QMUL Volunteering week would be taking place at the end of January, with two new volunteering groups having applied to be affiliated with the QMSU – one carrying out English Confidence building activities with women in the local community, and the second promoting dental hygiene in local schools.
- The QMSU CEO would be reaching out to the Tower Hamlets Young Mayor regarding areas such as homelessness, skills, and peer mentoring.

### **3. Reports from committees.**

A report was received from the Institute of Research in Schools (IRIS). The Group **commended** the project on the progress made so far.

#### **4. Dates of meetings in 2017-18.**

- Monday 16 April 2018, 14:00-15:30.
- Monday 9 July 2018, 14:00-15:30.

All meetings will be held in the Robert Tong Room, Queens' Building, Mile End. .