Queen Mary
University of London

Senate

Paper Title	Vice-Principal's (Research) Advisory Group **Executive Summary of the meeting held on 3 November 2014**
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to **note** the paper.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	• The purpose of the Advisory Group is to develop and monitor strategies and policies for research in QMUL. • The members of the Group are the Faculty Deans for Research and Director of the Doctoral College. Heads and representatives of relevant Professional Services departments attend the meetings as appropriate.
Questions for Senate to consider	The paper is **provided for information**. This report provides an update on: • the annual review of the Advisory Group's Terms of Reference and Membership (section 2); • discussions on the Research Strategy (section 3); • the new Research Risk Register (section 4); • the Researcher Development Programme (section 5); • the Doctoral College Annual Report for 2013-14 (section 6).
Regulatory/statutory reference points	n/a
Strategy and risk	n/a
Reporting/ consideration route for the paper	**For report** to Senate.
Authors	Mary Childs, ARCS, secretary to the Advisory Group
Sponsor	Professor Bill Spence, Vice-Principal (Research)

SENATE

VICE-PRINCIPAL RESEARCH ADVISORY GROUP EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MEETING HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER 2014

For a full set of notes please contact the Secretary: Mary Childs
m.childs@qmul.ac.uk

The most recent update from the Vice-Principal (Research) is available at
http://www.qmul.ac.uk/vpresearch_nl/vpresearch_Nov14.html

1.   **Summary**

       This report summarises the main areas of discussion of the Research Advisory Group
       to the Vice-Principal (Research) at the meeting held on 3 November 2014.

2.   **Annual Review of Terms of Reference and Membership**

       The Group's revised terms of reference and membership for 2014-15 is annexed at A.

       The VP Research Advisory Group has been reconstituted to focus on research
       strategy and direction. The core members are the Faculty Deans and Deputy Deans
       for Research, and the Director of Research Services and Business Development. The
       Group will also work closely with the VP-International.

       In parallel with this change, a new Professional Services Research Advisory Group
       will start in early 2015, chaired by the Director of Research Services and Business
       Development. The group will co-ordinate the research support provided by
       Professional Services, with widespread attendance from across all PS departments.

       The Research Consultation Group, with around 30 academics from across all areas of
       QMUL, will meet at least quarterly. This group is intended to provide a means of direct
       consultation with researchers in order to address concerns and focus on the issues
       raised by them.

       Two new groups will report to the VP-Research to take forward specific areas of
       activity: the Research Impact Group and the Research Enterprise Group.

3.   **Research Strategy**

       The Group discussed the Indicators of Progress for the Research Strategy, including
       feedback from the Deans for Research Advisory Groups and the Doctoral College.
       Plans are being considered to support achieving the indicator targets and monitoring
       progress.

       The Group also met with Professor Sadler, the VP International, to initiate discussions
       on furthering international research activity, and developing objectives for this area.

4.	**Research Risk Register**

A risk register has been developed to support the Research Strategy. The Research Risk Register will be reviewed by the Advisory Group twice a year.

5.	**Researcher Development Programme**

Janet de Wilde, the Head of Researcher Development in the Centre for Academic Practice and Professional Development, presented a paper on plans for developing the programme for researchers throughout the various stages of a research career, including online resources as well as formal workshops and events. The plans link to, and support, the objectives in the QMUL Strategy and the Research Strategy. The Advisory Group welcomed the initiatives in the paper and will receive updates.

6.	**Doctoral College**

The Doctoral College has published its annual report on activity in 2013-14, including plans for 2014-15, at
http://www.doctoralcollege.qmul.ac.uk/?page_id=457

Vice-Principal's Research Advisory Group

Terms of Reference and Membership, 2014-15

Terms of Reference

To develop and monitor strategies for research, including:

- To develop and monitor the delivery of internal and external KPIs for research at College level, including the Research Excellence Framework

- To make recommendations regarding policy on relations with external funding organisations and collaborators

- To make recommendations regarding the exploitation of research to the benefit of the College and staff

- To develop and monitor research support within the College, including costing and pricing, research grants management, business development, IP and commercialisation activities

- To develop, promote and support interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research in the College, including identifying College level research themes and priorities

- To develop the College's strategic approach to internally and externally funded interdisciplinary College Research Centres and Institutes and to monitor the success of these structures

- To develop and monitor high ethical standards in research in all College research activities

- To monitor allegations of fraud and misconduct in research through an annual report on allegations and outcomes

- To be responsible for the oversight of risk management arrangements and the assessment of risk relating to research activity.

- To be responsible for the oversight of the Queen Mary Doctoral College, including the recruitment, funding and training of doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers, and other strategic matters concerning these groups. The Research Advisory Group shall receive regular reports from the Doctoral College Management Group.

- To consider research ideas and proposals raised through other research forums.

Membership

Core members

Vice-Principal for Research (Chair)
Dean for Research, Humanities and Social Sciences
Deputy Dean for Research, Humanities and Social Sciences
Dean for Research, Medicine and Dentistry
Deputy Dean for Research, Medicine and Dentistry
Dean for Research, Science & Engineering
Deputy Dean for Research, Science & Engineering
Director of the Doctoral College (if not one of the Faculty Deputy Deans for Research)
Director of Research Services and Business Development

In attendance
Executive Officer (Research)
Secretariat: ARCS

Secretary
Mary Childs, ARCS
m.childs@qmul.ac.uk
Ext. 5956

Approved by the Vice-Principal's Research Advisory Group 3 November 2014