

Vice Principal Research's report to Senate

Research

- Annual Research Reviews: Meetings held with all QMUL Schools and Institutes to discuss research.
- Plans for the next REF circulated to Directors of Research for feedback.
- Value of PGR: paper circulated.
- Value of Research: more general paper in preparation.
- Studentships Fund: central fund for cross-disciplinary/Faculty studentships/DTCs.
- Doctoral College: increased investment approved, together with clarification around remit and reporting.
- Clinical Trials: Completion of T+F Group reviewing these.
- Research integrity and whistleblowing policies to be reviewed by a new T+F Group shortly.
- Research Facilities Fund: £3-4m over next 2-3 years. Decisions soon.
- International: visits to 5 top Australian universities to explore research partnerships at all levels; following up main opportunities.
- Anna Price new Head of Researcher Development in CAPD. New plans plus initiatives to support ECRs - summary circulated to DoRs.
- New policy on overheads approved and instituted; also encourages IT and public engagement resource requests.
- New research grant management system identified for purchase.
- QMI working on implementation of the new IP Policy. Spinouts Actual Experience and Stealthyx secure major new investment.
- Work continues with our BBSRC, NERC DTCs. New ESRC DTC bid with various partners being finalized. Wellcome Trust bid for a clinical training DTC under discussion, plus a Bio-Social proposal to ESRC. News expected soon on the MRC DTC bid. Excellent PhD completion rates across QMUL; PhD supervisor training increasing; PRES survey generally good news.
- Enterprise Advisory Group met recently; has oversight of interactions we have with all forms of industry.
- Cross-Faculty Impact Group also has met very recently. New impact database linked to symplectic/publists under development.
- New guidance on Open Access issued following HEFCE changes.
- Research Data Management Group monitoring research data issues.
- Discussions around our membership of MidPlus, the High Performance Computing network with Warwick and other universities.

Life Sciences

An all-staff update will go out shortly. Some key elements of this report are:

- New Staff in administration, marketing, community engagement, equality and diversity and researcher development.
- Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF): First two LSI Proof of Concept awards of £50,000. Second round of small grants and discipline bridging grants soon.

- Education: Lucinda Hall leading: student numbers and resource needs for LS related programmes, with excellent recruitment onto these. LS MOOC making good progress.
- Research: Tim Warner leading: Research Strategy Day 12th October.
- LSI away day: 26th August.
- QMB success: bio-incubator full; latest report cites creation and safeguarding of 437 full-time jobs (cf 250 GLA target).
- Abernethy Project Working Group: First floor redevelopment with £1.8m MRC award agreed Includes space for East London Genes & Health. £5M Catalyst refurbishment to follow.
- Greater London Authority leading a group of senior representatives of all the main parties who will be involved in the creation of a Life Sciences campus at Whitechapel.