



Senate

Paper Title	Vice-Principal's (Public Engagement and Student Enterprise) Advisory Group Executive Summary of the meeting held on 27 January 2015
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to note the executive summary
Points for Senate members to note and further information	This paper provides an overview of the issues considered at the Vice-Principal's Public Engagement and Student Enterprise Advisory Group on 27 January 2016.
Questions for Senate to consider	n/a
Regulatory/statutory reference points	n/a
Strategy and risk	n/a
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	For report to Senate.
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SENATE

VICE-PRINCIPAL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND STUDENT ENTERPRISE ADVISORY GROUP

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2016

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 27 January 2016. For a full set of notes please contact the Secretary, Katherine Bevan k.bevan@qmul.ac.uk

2. Members Business.

This was the second meeting of the Group in the 2015/16 academic year. The following items were tabled:

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

One indicator of progress for strategic objective five of the QMUL Strategic Plan was the achievement of the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE) Watermark. At the time of the meeting, the process and timetable for application had only just been clarified and members would be invited to submit responses to the questionnaire. One benefit of undergoing the Watermark application process would be that the action plan developed in conjunction with the NCCPE could be fed into the new Public Engagement strategy prior to its finalisation.

Those who would like support for the public engagement aspect of their bids for the Planning and Accountability Round, were asked to contact the Chair and his Executive Officer.

QConsult Commercial and QConsult Communities were noted as schemes which could contribute to the QM Model initiative, while the QConsult Entrepreneur scheme was described as an initiative that could be scaled up for larger numbers of students subject to the availability of longer term funding.

b) Reports from Faculty Representatives.

Reports were received from each of the Faculties. The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (H&SS) were noted as having particularly enthused their schools through the use of in-school champions. Professor David Berman from the School of Physics and Astronomy had agreed to represent the Faculty of

Science and Engineering (S&E) on the Group.

c) Student Enterprise Update.

Nineteen applications had been made for the most recent round of seed funding for which three types of package were available (£500, £5K and £10K) with the £10K package purposely for prototype development. The first social hack run by Careers and Enterprise would be a weekend event scheduled for 06 March and would take the format of a focused boot camp during which to create business ideas to address key problems faced by Tower Hamlets. Careers and Enterprise had also been nominated for the 2016 Guardian Employability award for the QConsult programme.

d) Centre for Public Engagement update.

The Group received a number of papers reporting on the factors affecting public engagement by researchers. The main report highlighted that there was still a big difference in understanding of what public engagement is in the arts and humanities versus that of science and engineering. However the Group expressed confidence that within QMUL the Faculty of S&E were carrying out just as much activity as within the Faculty of H&SS, just in different ways and also targeted to different audiences.

e) Reports from Professional Services representatives.

- i. An update from Research Services and Business Development was given. It was noted that the May 18 date set for the International Clinical Trials day event may need to be moved due to existing NIHR and Cancer Research events on that day. The Research Grant Management System (RGMS) had been procured. Work was to start on training users and to specify a QMUL-specific set-up. A Professional Services (PS) Advisory Group consisting of PS colleagues who support research had been set up.
- ii. An update was also given from Marketing and Communications. Activities. It was noted that an inaugural meeting of the Communications Working Group had taken place, and that a Reputation Task and Finish Group was to be formed which would examine areas where the reputation could be enhanced.

f) Student Union Business

The Group heard that QMCitizens had been revived and that they were working on a housing campaign leading up to the London Mayoral elections. The "Save Mile End" campaign had been concluded. The volunteering awards would now be held in June rather than in March based on feedback received from students.

3. Items for Discussion

The following items were tabled for discussion:

a) Community Engagement for Life Sciences

The Group heard from Sarah Gifford, the Community Engagement Officer for Life Sciences that there would be a focus on developing and fostering links

with community organisations and residents, building skills and opportunities (e.g. via London Citizens), engaging with communications, and showcasing community engagement.

b) Centre of the Cell

The Group heard from Professor Fran Balkwill, Director of the Centre of the Cell. It was noted that the Centre were very successful both in terms of income and achieving visitor targets, and that a number of new initiatives had begun from proposals embedded within research grant funding applications. The first two educational apps developed by the Centre of the Cell would shortly be completed. Discussions were ongoing as to how the Centre of the Cell could contribute to the QMUL Community Festival, including tours and demonstrations.

c) Terms of Reference (Reporting committees and groups)

The Terms of Reference from some of the reporting committees and groups were received. These would be reviewed again in the next academic year.

4. Reports from committees.

Reports were received from the following committees:

- a) Crime Reduction Partnership Meeting (18 November 2015);
- b) People's Palace Projects (17 November 2015);
- c) Museum and Galleries Management Group (Pathology Museum) (02 November 2015);
- d) Artistic Group (21 May 2016);
- e) Centre of the Cell (06 January 2016);
- f) CERN@School (30 September 2015).

5. Dates of meetings in 2015-16.

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 29th June 2016, 10.30 – 12.00, having been rescheduled from Thursday 12 May 2016, 2.00 – 3.30pm.