



Senate

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| Paper Title | Vice-Principal's (Research) Advisory Group Executive Summary of the meeting held on 18 October 2018 |
| Outcome requested | Senate is asked to note the paper. |
| Points for Senate members to note and further information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the Advisory Group is to develop and monitor strategies and policies for research and research support in QMUL. • The members of the Group are the VP (Research) (Chair), the Deputy Vice-Principals for Research (Enterprise) and for Research (Impact), the Dean for Life Sciences Initiative, the Faculty Deans for Research, the Deputy Deans for Research Degrees (one of whom is the Director of the Doctoral College), the Deputy Deans for Research Impact, and the Director of Research Services. • Heads and representatives of relevant Professional Services departments are invited to attend the meetings as appropriate. |
| Questions for Senate to consider | <p>The paper is provided for information.</p> <p>This report provides an update on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • terms of reference and membership (section 2); • Knowledge Exchange Framework (section 3); • REF draft guidance and consultation (section 4). |
| Regulatory/statutory reference points | Under the QMUL Delegation Framework, the VP (Research) has responsibility for the leadership of cross-QMUL research and research degree matters, including academic standards and the development and delivery of the QMUL Research Strategy. |
| Strategy and risk | n/a |
| Reporting/consideration route for the paper | For report to Senate. |
| Authors | Emma Hare, Executive Officer (Research) |
| Sponsor | Professor Bill Spence, Vice-Principal (Research) |

SENATE

VICE-PRINCIPAL RESEARCH ADVISORY GROUP EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summary of the meeting held on 18 October 2018

For a full set of notes please contact Emma Hare eo-research@qmul.ac.uk

An update from the Vice-Principal (Research) is also available on the agenda.

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 18 October 2018.

2. Terms of Reference and Membership

The Group reviewed its terms of reference and approved these for 2018-19 without amendment (excepting membership changes).

New members who have joined the Group this year are:

Deputy Vice-Principal for Research (Enterprise)

Deputy Vice-Principal for Research (Impact)

Dean for Life Sciences Initiative

The terms of reference and membership of the Research Advisory Group are annexed.

3. Knowledge Exchange Framework

The group received an update on the timeline and process for the KEF:

- Several briefing meetings have recently taken place with further ones scheduled for the near future.
- The proposed structure at present for KEF is in two parts, a predominantly metrics-based exercise and a Concordat.
- The Concordat is based on the model of the 'Concordat to support the career development of researchers'. The current draft has seven guiding principles and HEIs will be expected to undertake action planning to facilitate continuous improvement.
- For the KEF metrics analysis, the current proposal is to group institutions into clusters based on breadth of disciplinary subjects, staff FTE (proportions, T&R, R only, T only), student FTE, physical assets (capital spend), and research grant income (scaled by different factors).
- Initial modelling has produced five main 'clusters' of institutions (currently English institutions only). QMUL is provisionally included in a cluster with most of the long-established members of the Russell Group (Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Imperial, Kings, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford, QMUL, Sheffield, Southampton, UCL, Warwick). The four Russell Group members that have not been placed in this group are LSE, Durham, Exeter and York).
- Data feeding into the metrics will be normalised for size and averaged across

three years to avoid 'lumpy data' skewing results. The role of the narrative statement is under discussion but current thinking is this will be a non-assessed element. There will be some focus on trajectory in the metrics rather than just absolute measures.

- The six areas currently suggested for KEF are:
 - Partnerships with the public and third sector
 - Partnerships with business
 - IP & commercialisation
 - Skills, enterprise and entrepreneurship
 - Local growth and regeneration (*acknowledged may not be best measured through metrics*)
 - Community and public engagement (*acknowledged may not be best measured through metrics*)

- The consultation on the metrics, including cluster methodology is expected to be launched in Nov/Dec. There will also be a consultation on the Concordat (coming shortly), and a review of HE-BCI metrics with consultation coming in 2019 (led by HESA).

- There will be no link between funding and KEF on the first iteration.

4. REF draft guidance and consultation

The Group were updated on the submission of the QMUL response to the to the REF consultation on the draft Guidance and Panel Criteria. This was formulated following consultation across the university and approval by QMSE. The final rules for the REF are expected to be announced early in 2019.

Feedback from the Group has been incorporated into the interim Queen Mary REF Code of Practice, which has now been circulated more generally to staff for comments. Following this consultation period, the Code will be updated and submitted to Senate in December. Once the final REF rules are known, the Code will be amended and approved as needed for submission to the national REF team by July 2019.

Vice-Principal's Research Advisory Group

Terms of Reference and Membership, 2018-19

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 institutional level
- 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 QMUL and staff
- To develop and monitor research support within QMUL, including costing and pricing, research grants management, business development, IP and commercialisation activities
- To develop, promote and support interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research, including identifying institutional level research themes and priorities
- To develop QMUL's strategic approach to internally and externally funded interdisciplinary Research Centres and Institutes and to monitor the success of these structures
- To develop and monitor high ethical standards in research in all 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 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)

Deputy Vice-Principal for Research (Enterprise)

Deputy Vice-Principal for Research (Impact)

Director of the Doctoral College (normally one of the Faculty Deputy Deans for Research Programmes)

Dean for Life Sciences Initiative

Dean for Research, Humanities and Social Sciences

Deputy Dean for Research Degree Programmes, Humanities and Social Sciences
Deputy Dean for Research Impact, Humanities and Social Sciences
Dean for Research, Medicine and Dentistry
Deputy Dean for Research Degree Programmes, Medicine and Dentistry
Deputy Dean for Research Impact, Medicine and Dentistry
Dean for Research, Science & Engineering
Deputy Dean for Research Degree Programmes, Science & Engineering
Deputy Dean for Research Impact, Science & Engineering
Director of Research Services

In attendance

Executive Officer (Research)

Heads and representatives of relevant Professional Services departments are invited to attend the meetings as appropriate.

Co-ordinator

Emma Hare

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Approved by the Vice-Principal's Research Advisory Group on 18.10.2018