



## Senate

<b>Paper Title</b>	<b>Vice-Principal's (Research) Advisory Group</b>  <b>Executive Summary of the meetings held on 26<sup>th</sup> February and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019</b>
<b>Outcome requested</b>	Senate is asked to <b>note</b> the paper.
<b>Points for Senate members to note and further information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The purpose of the Advisory Group is to develop and monitor strategies and policies for research and research support in Queen Mary.</li> <li>• The Group is chaired by the VP (Research) (role of Chair is currently being covered by Director of Research Services) and membership includes the Deputy Vice-Principals for Research (Enterprise), Research (Impact) and Research Excellence, the Dean for Life Sciences, the Faculty Deans for Research, the Director of the Doctoral College, and the Director of Research Services.</li> <li>• Heads and representatives of relevant Professional Services departments are invited to attend the meetings as appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>Questions for Senate to consider</b>	<p>The paper is <b>provided for information</b>.</p> <p>This report provides an update on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group membership (Section 2);</li> <li>• Strategy research enabling plans (Section 3);</li> <li>• Supporting major grant applications (Section 4);</li> <li>• Overhead recovery and Worktribe development (Section 5)</li> </ul>
<b>Regulatory/statutory reference points</b>	Under the Queen Mary Delegation Framework, the VP (Research) has responsibility for the leadership of cross-University research and research degree matters, including academic standards and the development and delivery of the Queen Mary Research Strategy.
<b>Strategy and risk</b>	n/a
<b>Reporting/consideration route for the paper</b>	<b>For report</b> to Senate.
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<b>Sponsor</b>	Dr Sharon Ellis, Director of Research Services

**SENATE**

**VICE-PRINCIPAL RESEARCH ADVISORY GROUP EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Summary of the meetings held on 26<sup>th</sup> February and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

For a full set of notes please contact Emma Hare [eo-research@Queen.Mary.ac.uk](mailto:eo-research@Queen.Mary.ac.uk)

A Research update 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 26<sup>th</sup> February and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**2. Membership**

The Group agreed changes to the membership of VPRAG in light of the recent addition of the Deputy Vice-Principals and in an effort to reduce the burden of meeting attendance required by the Deputy-Dean roles. Deputy-Deans (for PGR and Impact) have been removed from the regular VPRAG attendees list but may be asked to deputise if Deans for Research, the Doctoral College Director or the DVP Research Impact are unavailable.

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

**3. Queen Mary Strategy and research enabling plan**

The Group reviewed the draft research enabling plan for the Queen Mary Strategy and provided feedback. A proposal on governance arrangements for the new University Research Institutes was brought to the Group following this discussion and it was recommended that a clear policy on the use of PhD fee waivers be developed.

**4. Supporting major grant applications**

The Group discussed ways to support successful bids to major funding opportunities. It was agreed that recruitment of grant writing support was essential to support large, strategic bids and that it would be helpful to map out the next big five call themes on the horizon to enable early identification of potential teams of applicants, as well as ensuring strategic engagement with key funders, and building a series of events to help inform and enthuse researchers of strategic research funding opportunities.

**5. Overhead recovery and Worktribe Development**

The Group received and discussed the KPMG audit report on overhead recovery and discussed ways of using the Worktribe research grant management system to help maximise grant cost recovery. The potential for more bespoke development of the system to facilitate this will be investigated.

## 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 Queen Mary and staff
- To develop and monitor research support within the University, 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 Queen Mary'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

Dean for Research, Medicine and Dentistry

Dean for Research, 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  
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Approved by the Vice-Principal's Research Advisory Group on 26.02.2019