



Senate

Paper Title	VP (Research) Advisory Group
Outcome requested	To note the actions and minutes from the VP (Research) Advisory Group meeting held on 01 October 2019.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	Date of the next meeting will be decided once the new VP Innovation and Research has started. ToR to be discussed at the next meeting.
Questions for Senate to consider	n/a
Regulatory/statutory reference points	n/a
Strategy and risk	n/a
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	Senate only
Authors	Elizabeth Powell, Executive Support Officer.
Sponsor	n/a

ACTION SUMMARY

Section	Action	Person(s)	Due date
1.	SE to circulate what she has received from Zi Parker regarding fee waivers.	SE	Next meeting
2.	Jessica Edwards to come to the Deans for Research Advisory group regarding themes.	JE	Next Deans Advisory Group
3.	Michael Farber to convene another governance group, and take us through where we are against the original plan.	MF	ASAP
4.	SE to check with Jessica Edwards where we are at with the LIDC relationship, how to take forward to engage with this.	SE	Next meeting
5.	SE to work with colleagues and Research Managers to build ideas around a series of events to enthuse researchers on grant applications/offer support on building proposals.	SE	Ongoing
6.	SE asked members of VPRAG to look at the data provided, for further discussion at a later date.	VPRAG	Ongoing
7.	Graeme Brown to bring a paper on Proof of Concept to VPRAG at a later date.	GB	Next meeting?
8.	Rui Pires Martin and Anna Price to write a paper on the gap analysis.	RPM AM	Three weeks from meeting date

VPRAG

1st Oct 2019, 1400-1600 Robert
Tong Notes and Actions

Item	Details	Action	Due Date
1.	<p>Attendees: Sharon Ellis (SE), David Lee (DL), Paul D Allen (PdA), Yang Hao (YH), Panos Deloukas (PD), Adrian Smith (AS), Mauro Perretti (MP), Elizabeth Powell (EP)</p> <p>Apologies from Kavita Datta (KD)</p>		
2.	<p>Note of previous meeting of VPRAG on 30/04/19</p> <p>Fee waivers: obtain data from finance on fee waivers:</p> <p>SE has received data from Zi Parker. It will be picked up as part of the PGR review and will be bought back to the group.</p> <p>ACTION SE to circulate what she has received from Zi Parker</p> <p>GCRF/HEIF Strategy refresh: write paper on revised strategy and circulate to VPRAG:</p> <p>SE noted that a document has been produced. The call for larger grants, up to 50k, will launch in the next two weeks.</p> <p>ACTION Jessica Edwards to come to the Deans for Research Advisory group regarding themes.</p> <p>UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships: Naseema Uddin, Joyce Jones and Aurelija Poviliakė to confirm a date for the cross-faculty workshop with EH:</p> <p>Agreed that this will action should be pushed back until the new VP for Research and innovation starts.</p> <p>Turing Governance Group: obtain original documentation on Turing Fellows from Michael Farber and circulate to VPRAG:</p> <p>SE noted that Janet Mowbray had circulated the Turing Governance document. SE noted that the Turing will be moving from their premises in Kings Cross. Ongoing discussions are taking place about possibly offering them some space at Whitechapel.</p> <p>SE commented that we need to think more about how we can get more from our relationship with the Turing.</p> <p>ACTION ask Michael Farber to convene another governance group, and take us through where we are against the original plan.</p>		

	<p>London International Development Centre (LIDC): KD and MP to work through how to take relationship with LIDC forward and engage:</p> <p>ACTION SE to check with Jessica Edwards where we are at with this.</p> <p>Strategy Enabling: How to close the gap between existing plans and strategy projections (2023/4) – income/overheads: chase finance to take us through the model:</p> <p>SE noted now we have a Programme Director we need to see where the Research enabling plan sits in relation to other enabling plans, and look to close the gap between existing plans and strategy.</p> <p>SE to work with colleagues and Research Managers to build ideas around a series of events to enthuse researchers on grant applications/offer support on building proposals:</p> <p>ACTION to be carried forward</p>		
<p>3.</p>	<p>Matters Arising None</p>		
<p>4.</p>	<p>Plans for Newton applications - Manyi Cristofoli</p> <p>MC discussed her paper circulated prior to the meeting. Manyi provided an assessment of success rates concerning Newton Fund applications, and measures to increase applications and successes.</p> <p>It was agreed that improved horizon scanning was being put in place, with an assessment of the future calls being made and more active conversations with Research Manager, and where applicable, researchers to encourage applications.</p> <p>We agreed to provide more regular updates on success rates to VPRAG and consider how we might offer Professional Service support akin to the EU-Unit for GCRF and Newton Funds.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the PS lead would present at Directors of Research meetings to continue to promote GCRF/Newton, and improve understanding of the scheme.</p> <p>The Chair noted the successful research “sandpit” with Instituto Politecnico Nacional in Mexico City last week, with pump priming funding using GCRF QR being announced next week. Other ideas for pump priming international collaborations were noted at the meeting. The Chair encouraged people to feed in ideas.</p>		

<p>5.</p>	<p>Research Income - Sharon Ellis</p> <p>SE discussed her Research Income papers, provided prior to the meeting. A discussion on research income related to the 2030 Strategy outcomes, QMUL's position benchmarked against other Russell Group Universities took place. VPRAG agreed the regular information they wanted to see to understand income versus Strategy ambitions</p> <p>ACTION SE asked members of VPRAG to look at the data provided, for further discussion at a later date. SE noted that the intention is to have a regular set of management information data - pending resource.</p>		
<p>6.</p>	<p>Proof of Concept - Graeme Brown</p> <p>SE had commissioned a paper on the current provision of Proof of Concept funding, managed by QMI, to encourage commercialisation of research. Unfortunately the paper was not ready, but VPRAG and Graeme Brown discussed the initial ideas and fed back on the content they would like to see examined by the paper. The intention is to re-examine the current amounts of funding made available, consider the amounts made available to each project funded, the management of the scheme itself and importantly, how it can be used to leverage other external funding.</p> <p>ACTION Graeme Brown to bring a paper to VPRAG at a later date.</p>		
<p>7.</p>	<p>The updated Researcher Development Concordat - implications for QMUL - Rui Pires Martin and Anna Price.</p> <p>The Chair noted the publication of the Researcher Development Concordat after much delay, and VPRAG was joined by staff from Academic Development to discuss the changes. VPRAG commissioned a gap analysis against current activities to comply with the spirit and letter of the Concordat, to enable decisions to be presented to SET.</p> <p>ACTION Rui Pires Martin and Anna Price to write a paper on the gap analysis.</p>		
<p>8.</p>	<p>JRMO - Overhead recovery paper - Coleen Colechin</p> <p>VRPAG noted good progress had continued on Overhead Recovery, and that new measures had been implemented through Work Tribe to improve the position further. Finance colleagues needed to complete the benchmarking against other RG institutions and advise on whether overheads could and should be further increased in some areas.</p> <p>JRMO and Finance colleagues were thanked for their work .</p>		

AOB	Date of next meeting to be decided when the new VP Research & Innovation starts.		
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