MINUTES OF MEETING
of the
RESEARCH COMMITTEE
held on
Monday, 3 October 2011
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Turing Room

Present:

Jacques Fleuriot (Chair), Jane Hillston, Jon Oberlander, Michael O’Boyle, Steve Renals, Dave Robertson, Alan Smaill, Sethu Vijayakumar, Chris Williams, Julie Young, Marjorie Dunlop (Secretary)

Attending: Victoria Adams

AGENDA ITEMS

Jon introduced Victoria Adams, Leverhulme Trust Artist in Residence at the School of Informatics.

Item 1 – Discussion on Remit and Membership of Research Committee

Included in the discussion were ways of improving and enabling our research, research intelligence as to what calls are out there, decrease/increase our research focus, an un-pressured ‘horizon scanning’ event that would include young academics, institute reviews as per the feedback from the School governance document, improve the quality and quantity of research proposals, mentor and support members of the research staff to submit proposals, feed into the college level committee (CRC), more analytical information (what we are missing and why; how we compare with other schools, etc), targeting calls, duplication of emails re calls and possibility of having a central point to locate them, reviewing process for proposals (within Informatics who has grants and how much and outwith Informatics are we doing well/better/underperforming), co-opt people as needed, fellowships interviews (internal to School and cross college; decision as to who is going forward from Informatics and who could help out with interviews), need some point of contact with REF-related people (i.e. Bonnie, Alan Bundy and the two czars), need clarification on what 3* and 4* research papers are for the REF, requirements for 100 words on each paper (original, significant and rigorous).

Action
All - let JY know what you want with respect to the blog page and the streamlining of call information

Action
DR to find out about the availability of the information ERI compiles between schools, etc.

Action
JF to invite Bob Fisher (replacing Steve McLaughlin as head of CRC) to the next meeting

Action
JF to ask/invite Colin Adams when there are calls for TSB
Action
JF to speak with JY about Fellowships (Microsoft and EPSRC)

Action
JF to organise (via a wiki) a register of who has sat/sits on panels and which ones

Action
DR to send email asking for feedback on how to improve the quality and quantity of research proposals, what is needed with respect to review and mentoring

Action
JF to ask Stephen and Phil to report to the group (perhaps at a special meeting)

Item 2 – Funding Calls

a) Synergy Grants
There is approximately Euro150M available which will fund about 10-15 grants. The call is in October with the submission deadline in January. It is thought that these grants are a ‘replacement’ for the advanced grants.

b) E-Health Informatics Research Centres
The deadline is 1 November 2011. Stuart Anderson and Claudia Pagliari are the conduits.

There was discussion about the Li Ka Shing Centre.

Item 3 – Researcher Training (Jon Oberlander)

Jon spoke about Senatus researcher training, the early career researcher, public engagement wherein researchers are able to explain their research to the general public and impact statements. Victoria Adams confirmed that she will be writing narratives for display with Pufferfish. The narratives will be based on research that is ongoing in the School. Victoria will also conduct a series of voluntary master classes for writing about research and can help with the writing of the 100 words for the REF.

Action
JO will contact DoIs for input on the format of the Master Classes

Item 4 – New EPSRC policy on access to research outputs

There are two categories: gold (open access journal) and green (normal journal and open access similar to the library repository). There was discussion about the library repository and PURE. The admin staff in the level offices have been trained to upload data.

Action
JF to contact Alan and Stratis
**Item 5 – Any other Business**

It was suggested that it would be very useful to have access to full proposals that have been successful.

**Action**

JY to advise Portofolio Managers

Sethu will attend a consultation meeting (Engineering and ICT) at EPSRC on 17 October 2011.

Sethu is reviewing the centre of excellence in Germany (Munich).

It was suggested that people should add to the database the panels they sit on.

Jacques will write a report for the next Strategy Committee meeting.

**Item 6 – Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Monday, 7 November 2011 at 12:00 pm in the Turing Room.