Present:

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

AGENDA ITEMS

Item 1 – Approval of Minutes of meeting of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of 6 February 2012 were adopted without correction.

Item 2 – Matters arising (from meeting of 3 October 2011)

Discussion on remit and membership of Research Committee

Action

DR to find out about the availability of the information ERI compiles between schools, etc; ongoing

Item 2 – Matters arising (from meeting of 7 November 2011)

Discussion and agreement on process for peer reviewing of research proposals (Paper C)

JO has circulated document. CW advised some concerns were raised. It was agreed that the process should be characterised as a code of practice rather than “Policy”. May be referred to if necessary but PI is ultimately responsible. Feedback is encouraged and suggestions would be welcome.

Action

DR to add paper (Code of Practice) to website, JO to provide cover text; ongoing

Discussion and agreement on plans for workshops on writing for researchers (Paper D)

Final workshop is most relevant as it is associated with a publication.

Action

JO to send handouts to JF and provide info on publication; ongoing

Further Action

JO to talk to Victoria Adams and ask her to supply a rubric for each handout

JO to talk to Victoria Adams re further workshop re area of impact
Item 2 – Matters arising (from meeting of 16 January 2012)

Informatics “Research Success” stories
Bob Fisher would like to exchange information through a College research committee. Agreed that JY will gather notable information monthly from PM’s to be relayed to the secretary of the research committee, therefore a recurring administrative task.

Action
JY to gather notable information for future meetings
Actioned

Further Action
DR to mail Academics to talk to Dols re early career/established career and DR to copy JY who will forward to PMs
Actioned

Item 2 – Matters arising (from meeting of 6 February 2012)

College’s Pathways to Impact activity (Carolyn Brock, Impact Manager, ERI)
Carolyn introduced herself and explained her present position. She emphasised that she is a resource for Informatics with applications and talked about generic activities such as best practice, real examples from grants, research materials on the web, engagement with industry, national importance as a primary criterion and pathways to impact statements as a secondary criterion for EPSRC grants. It was indicated that there would be three to four workshops on writing pathways to impact statements. The materials should be ready at end of February/early March and the workshops at the end of April/May. It is important to exploit the (College-level) creative writer in residence.

Action
JO to send guidance document to Carolyn
Actioned

Report on recent Informatics Research Successes (Paper A)
The Committee were asked to review the list of Informatics Research Successes and select a few which should be on the list that will be sent to College. Selected were AspeKT (Colin Adams), JISC (Ewan Klein), Epigene Informatics (G. Schweikert), Machine learning approaches to epigenomic research (G. Schweikert), Network of Excellence (Mob). It was noted that the Austin Tate “Machine learning and adaptation of domain models …” has been approved by EPSRC but that funding beyond the first 3 months is contingent upon an industrial collaboration agreement being signed.

Action
MOB to send information on his success to JY
Actioned

Any other business
a) Wenfei Fan is on the next panel which meets in March.

Action
JF to query Wenfei
Actioned

Further Action
The panel meets the week of 5 March so JF will get an update from Wenfei
a) Michael Rovatsos on behalf of the Informatics, Gudmund Grov (representing Informatics RAs), Jim Bednar (for the DTC), and possibly Charles Sutton are involved with the EPSRC Working Together event on 21 March in Birmingham. Michael will report on Working Together at the 2 April meeting of the Research Committee. The Centre for Systems Biology did not put forward any representative.

**Action**

JF to ask Charles Sutton if he is going and ask Michael Rovatsos to co-ordinate

**Actioned**

**Further Action**

Michael Rovatsos will co-ordinate with Charles Sutton, Jim Bednar and Gudmund Grov and will report at the next meeting of the Research Committee

---

**Item 3 – EPSRC Healthcare Technologies IRC pre-call (Paper A)**

DR reviewed his meeting with Jonathan Seckl and discussion followed about the IRC pre-call and the possibility of Informatics producing precise technical ideas. As the next meeting with Jonathan is on 8 March at 2:30 pm, it was decided that those interested would send DR brief details of their ideas prior to this deadline.

**Action**

Sethu will undertake imaging, decision making and delivery; Chris will undertake monitoring with Sethu; MOB will speak with Mahesh; those interested will look at large data

**Action**

All interested – email ideas to DR prior to 8 March, 2:30 pm

---

**Item 4 – RCUK Research Outcomes system (ROS) Return**

There was discussion as to who still had to enter outputs of Research Councils UK (RCUK) funded projects that have ended since April 2006. JF indicated that Tamise Totterdell will help those who still need to upload outputs. Tamise will require the information prior to the deadline of 23 March. The subsets need to be clearly indicated so there is no confusion with the REF system or any other outputs that are not related to RCUK grants.

**Action**

JF to check as to what constitutes “output”

**Action**

JF to check with Alan Bundy/Stratis Viglas as to status of PURE

---

**Item 5 – Report on recent Informatics research successes (Paper B)**

Successes selected were:

DR, Leonid Libkin/Wenfei Fan and Austin Tate

**Action**

DR will send paragraph to JY

**Action**

JY will get paragraphs from each of Leonid/Wenfei and Austin Tate
Item 6 – Any other business

a) Liam Blackwell
DR stated that Liam Blackwell (EPSRC ICT Lead) will visit Informatics in May. It was suggested that it should be a strategic discussion and could be a possible tie-in with the Edinburgh visit that Kedar Pandya (EPSRC Engineering Lead) plans to make. Additional discussion included collaborations with others (e.g. Engineering), updating the previous strategy document and sending it to Liam prior to the visit. It was decided that interested parties should write half to one page that contains the idea, who is involved, and why it should be important to EPSRC.

Action
DoI to give half/one page to JF by Monday, 26 March
Action
JF to circulate pages to Research Committee prior to next meeting

b) Distinguished Lecture
JF confirmed that the Mathematician Tom Hales would give a Distinguished Lecture on 21 March 2012.

c) Memorandum of Understanding (Japan)
SV indicated that a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the National Institute of Informatics in Japan. There is internal funding for PhDs and PostDocs; each institute can apply for three per year.

Action
SV to circulate the list to the Research Committee

d) Synergy Grant
SV put in a proposal for the Synergy Grant.

Action
JY will find out how many people there were from Informatics

e) RA Engineering Fellowship
Both Informatics candidates have reached the second stage.

Item 7 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Monday, 2 April 2012, 12:00 pm in the Turing Room.