MINUTES OF MEETING
of the
RESEARCH COMMITTEE
held on
Monday, 3 September 2014
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Turing Room

Present:
Mike Fourman (Chair), Murray Cole, Bob Fisher, Stephen Gilmore (for Jane Hillston), Nigel Goddard, Robin Hill (for Markus Guhe), Steve Renals, Tamise Totterdell, Julie Young, Marjorie Dunlop (Secretary)

Apologies: Jane Hillston, Johanna Moore, Michael Rovatsos, Sethu Vijayakumar

AGENDA ITEMS

Item 1 – Approval of Minutes of previous meeting
The Minutes of the meeting of 2 June 2014 were approved.

Item 2 – Matters arising (from meeting of 5 May 2014)

Item 6 – Any other business
a) Annual impact competition
   Action
   JF to speak with Mike Fourman (incoming Director of Research) re competition
   Actioned (see item in Any Other Business)

d) Profile Pages
   These need ongoing work and support.
   Action
   TT to send updated lists of names (those still to submit) to HoIs
   Action
   HoIs to advise their people as to who is still to submit

Item 2 – Matters arising (from meeting of 2 June 2014)

Item 4 – Comments on (draft clarifications of) EPSRC expectations on research data management (Paper B)

a) Expectation III
   Query as to “what is research data?” The assumption is that this is data supporting publications.
   Action
   JF to clarify with RF
   Actioned (see item in Any Other Business)
Item 5 – Update on Technical Report series (Paper C)
There was discussion about the options; it was decided that option 2 was preferable. It was decided that there should be two boards:

- Advisor Board (faculty consisting of DoIs or nominee)
- Editorial Board (PhD students representing all institutes)

Action
JF and TT to write ‘blurb’ to send to DoIs to recruit PhD students
Actioned (see item in Any Other Business)

Item 6 – Report on recent Informatics research successes (Paper D)
There was discussion of options as to Paper D.

Action
NMcG to inform College
Actioned

Action
TT to consult with owners of grants then put all/some in newsletter
Actioned

There was discussion about grant awards (how many grants have been recently submitted; how many have been rejected; which funding bodies)

Action
JF to query Julie Young
Actioned

Item 3 – Discussion of the role of the committee
There was discussion about the role and membership of the committee. Effectively immediately, Julie Young is replacing Neil McGillivray on the Committee.

Item 4 – Applications and funding profile
a) Funding profile
There was discussion about the Informatics funding profile especially a longer term view. ERI provides six and twelve month figures. It was suggested that successes should appear on the web, report 1-2 to College (Lesley to forward to the Principal). It was pointed out that the highest profile is not necessarily the largest amount of money. KM should be made aware of prizes, fellowships, etc. We should make sure that we are presenting our research externally. All success stories will appear on web pages.

Action
TT to speak with Effie McDonald about NG’s grant

Action
TT will request suitable text from people
b) Reporting funding profile
There was discussion about the feasibility of reporting the funding profile of the grants (ie., start date to spend date to end date). This should be feasible in Summer 2015 with Armas but does not appear possible at present.

Action
TT and JY to discuss before next meeting

Action
JY to speak with Janet Ball at ERI

It was suggested that we should respond to consultations by Government and pass opinions upward. Garner statistics for our research grants: provide a digest to HoS rather than detail.

c) Informatics research successes
There was discussion as to which options should be reported to College

Action
JY to inform College

Item 5 – Open access; open data

TT spoke on behalf of KM as to the system used by Informatics. There are a few paid open access papers; it is preferable to use the online version rather than the publisher version. KM are in the process of determining what they have/don’t have; about 1/3 of the papers in the system are journals and conference papers and some are too old. KM is able to retrieve papers for staff personal pages. Informatics’ preference is for ‘green’ publishing. EPSRC requires open data; EC is trialing open data on some H2020.

Action
NG to speak with TT about his paper

There is data space for all academics; Informatics Computing Support is following option 2. IS is performing tests to determine that this level of action will work. This should be resolved before Christmas. It was suggested that eventually storage would have to be paid for. EPSRC has a definition of ‘data’ on its website.

Item 6 – Internships

There was discussion about the hiring of interns. LFCS has a scheme whereby there is money for staff to take on an intern. Equality and diversity employed one intern this year. There is a University policy about hiring interns and it is best to ask Portfolio Managers for assistance as they are familiar with the various hiring requirements.

Action
MF will send email to advise DoIs
Item 7 – Web presence
MF is on the Web Strategy Committee. It was suggested that, if there are any issues from a research point of view, they should be sent to MF. Informatics’ current web pages are on a central research system (a Polopoly system).

Action
MF to have first look, then MF and TT, then possibly DoIs

Item 8 – Any other business

a) Expectation III (EPSRC expectations on research data management)
Bob Fisher reviewed the three pillars:

- Open Science:
  - investigator driven, FET special topics, Human Brain project, graphene;
- Industrial stimulation:
  - ICT type activity, industry driven, company is leader;
- Social Issue group:
  - Energy sustainability, water, digital security, connectedness

Process: calls via PMs to researchers. There is an ERI direct link.

b) Andy Mount is the Dean of Research at College.
Informatics should be engaging more externally, eg., with companies, through consultancies, shared PhD students, etc.

c) Annual impact competition
There was discussion about this competition (how to proceed, who are the competitors, people to involve). There is a £1,000 budget.

Action
MF to discuss structure with BF

Action
Stephen Gilmore to check dates of previous assessments

d) Technical reports

Action
MF to liaise with TT

e) Profile pages (web pages)
Expectation III – open data; open access

f) University wide seminar site
This has been built and managed by IS. There is an automatic feed to the seminars’ list; users can customize their views. It is the primary place to put all seminars; it is visible outside the University.
Item 9 – Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday, 1 October 2014, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in the Turing Room.