

Research & Enterprise Committee 20 October 2016

Summary of Proceedings

Then fifty eighth meeting of the Research & Enterprise Committee was held at 1400 on 20 October 2016. Papers for the meeting are available on the Research & Enterprise Committee webpage [here](#). The Research & Enterprise Committee's proceedings are summarized below. Full minutes will be published on the website once they have been approved by the Committee at its next meeting on 19 January 2017.

Research & Enterprise Strategy

- (a) The Committee was presented with the final version of the University's Research & Enterprise Strategy approved by Academic Board on 06 July 2016. Discussion focussed on the implementation of the Strategy and in particular the associated draft Research & Enterprises Services Strategy which would be used as one of the tools to implement the main Strategy. The Research & Enterprises Services Strategy will be based around three key service measures: Smart Support; Excellent Environment; and External Engagement and would provide a focused approach to research through the units and schools which will flow through three distinct themes and in doing so, provide the vehicle for achieving the research measures of success. It was confirmed that further drafting was required to finalise the draft Research & Enterprises Services Strategy and that this would be completed by the end of October 2016.

Institutional Knowledge Exchange Strategy

- (b) The report provided a summary of the formulation of our University's new five year Knowledge Exchange Strategy (KE) that every university in receipt of Higher Education Innovation Funding (HEIF) was required to submit in order to be able to draw down and spend the HEIF funding allocated by formulae. The Committee endorsed the proposed KE Strategy and it was confirmed that it would receive institutional sign-off by the Vice-Chancellor before being submitted to HEFCE on 31 October 2016.

Update Report on the Work of the Short Life Working Group on Research Data Management

- (c) The report updated the Committee on the work of the Short Life Working Group (SLWG) on Research Data Management since the June 2016 meeting. An overview was provided of the work undertaken so far to implement the recommendations relating to Research Data Management Policy, an outline Data Management Plan, guidance materials, and data storage and archiving options as agreed at the last meeting of the Committee. It was confirmed that the membership of the SLWG would be revised to take account of the new arrangements for research leadership in the University as these would have a direct impact on how the recommendations were implemented, particularly at the School level.

Proposal for new research centres:

- (d) Following detailed discussion the proposals presented for the new research centres: the proposals to create the Centre for Applied Obesity Research and the Centre for Creative Practice Research were endorsed by the Committee.

Annual Report on Research & Enterprise Activity

- (e) An overview of the research and enterprise activity which has taken place during academic year 2015-2016 was provided and it included an overview from the University Research Office (URO) followed by individual reports from each Faculty. The report provided a commentary on key strategic developments within our University over the last academic year in support of the generation of academic related enterprise in addition to an overview of the generation of academic enterprise supported by University Enterprise Services (UES). The data indicates that there was an improving research profile with increases in research outputs, actual research income received against expenditure, and student completions. It was confirmed that for the academic year 2015/2016 there had been an increase in the number of applications submitted when compared with the previous two years. The total value of the successful grants for 2015/16 had been £2,855,350.

Annual report from the research institutes

- (f) The Committee received annual reports from two of the University's research institutes: the Leeds Sustainability Institute; and the Retail Institute.

Leeds Sustainability Institute

- (g) The quality of outputs and impact of the group's research has significantly increased. A number of patents have been registered and publications in high ranking journals have been achieved. The group continued to work with other partners across the University, further strengthening the Institutes research position. Other highlights included: a significant increase in the level of international activity; increases in direct working with world leading institutes; recognition of the Building Performance group as leader in the field, particularly with its on building forensics, energy use and energy efficiency; and the EPSRC SMART Monitoring of Nuclear power plants research project which had already brought notable success.

Retail Institute

- (h) During 2015/16 the Institute had evolved from a commercially orientated operation to that of a research institute that had a more balanced commercial and academic portfolio. The Institute had failed to deliver its 2015/16 income target and it had also been determined that it had been over-resourced in its commercial operations. During 2016/17, the Institute would develop its academic work through developing the Membership Service to fit better with Academic activities, publish more academic papers, increase conference attendance and increase the submission of strong bids to research funders.

Committee Reports

- (i) The Committee received reports summarising the work of the Research Degree Sub-Committee and the Research Ethics Sub-Committee.

Stuart Morris (Governance Officer)

Governance & Legal Affairs

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