



Minutes of meeting 04/16 of the University Research Committee held on 13 December 2016 in 6.105, SMART Building.

Present:

Prof J Raper (*Chair*)

Prof D Adams

Prof J Beck

Prof N Castree

Prof K Clapham

Prof M de Rosnay

Prof N Dixon

Dr C Hawksley

A/Prof P Innis

Prof K Kautz

Mr K Krauter

Prof T Marchant

Ms S Martin

Prof P McGuirk

Prof P Perez

Prof R Roberts

Prof A Sims

Prof D Steel

Prof W Vialle

Ms P Snikeris attended for discussion of agenda item B2. Mr B Cornwell and Ms C Carter attended for discussion of agenda item B3.

Secretary:

Ms J Evans, Ms K House

PART A PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

A1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Prof C Gibson, Prof R Warner and Mr O Khalifa.

Dr C Hawksley representing Prof R Warner.

A2 Arrangement of the Agenda

Agenda items A4, B2 and B3 were starred for discussion.

A3 Business from the Last Meeting

A3.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (12 October - 03/2016)

Resolved (24/16)

That the minutes of the University Research Committee meeting held on 12 October 2016 (03/2016) be confirmed as a true record.

Action: J Evans

A4 Chair's Business

Academic Senate/Council Meeting Outcomes

- The revised Research Data Management Policy has been approved by Academic Senate and Council;
- The HDR Thesis Policy has been approved by Academic Senate and will be forwarded to Council for the February 2017 Meeting.

Awards

The Chair congratulated Prof Aidan Sims on being awarded the Australian Mathematical Society Medal. The medal is awarded annually and recognises the fundamental contributions to mathematics by an Australian Mathematician under the age of forty.

Funding Outcomes

The UOW Science Centre was awarded a 'Women in STEM and Entrepreneurship' Grant of \$195K. The grant is for a Festival of STEM featuring stakeholders from across UOW campuses who will deliver an extensive program of STEM-based activities, primarily using women scientists as role models, to 2,500 students to inspire these students, particularly women, to pursue a future in STEM.

Academic Promotion Outcomes

The Chair noted that there are 3 promotions to Senior Professor and 10 to Professor (including 4 women). The outcomes will be announced shortly.

Visiting International Scholar Awards (VISA) 2017

There were 9 VISA Awards provided to 9 applicants from the UK, Italy, Sweden, USA and Poland.

Vice-Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellowships 2017

There were 6 VC's Fellowships awarded for 2017 from 144 applications.

ARC Final Reports

The Chair noted that following a review, the ARC has identified a number of Final Reports as still outstanding. The RSO has contacted those 10 researchers to complete their reports. The RSO Director further confirmed that the ARC now track these outstanding reports in RMS and researchers can be ruled ineligible for further funding if they have not met prior reporting obligations.

Government Reviews

UOW has provided comment on the **Draft National Research Infrastructure Roadmap**. Details are available on the National Innovation and Science Agenda (NISA) website.

The draft **Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research** has been released for consultation. Submissions are required by 28 February and the RSO will call for submissions in early 2017.

Global Challenges Update

A presentation was given to VCAG recently on the Global Challenges Program (see attachment). Some significant achievements include:

- Return on investment of \$5 million is \$16 million
- Engagement with 313 researchers across UOW with 41% of CI's being female, 20% are ECR's, 14% are HDR students and 34% of all projects have at least one external investigator
- A total of 238 media stories generated

The Program will be reviewed in 2017 to decide how it will continue over the next 5 years. Professor Max Lu, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Surrey has agreed to Chair the Review Committee.

In 2017 the Mackinnon Walker Trust will provide funds to the Global Challenges Program to host an international symposium at UOW. Details have not yet been finalised.

PART B GENERAL BUSINESS

B1 Research and Innovation Division Report

The Research and Innovation Division Report was noted.

B2 Revised University Research Committee Terms of Reference

The Committee discussed the proposed changes to the URC Terms of Reference:

1. Establishment of a new URC subcommittee: the Research Integrity Committee (RIC) to replace the existing University Ethics Policy Committee;
2. Update to the Thesis Examination Committee (TEC) membership; and
3. Update to the URC and Resource and Allocations Working Party (RAP) membership to include the Associate Dean (Graduate Research).

Resolved (25/16)

That the University Research Committee endorse the new revised URC Terms of Reference and URC Sub-Committee Terms of Reference and forward to Academic Senate and Council for approval.

Action: S Martin

B3 Research Engagement and Impact Update

The Chair advised that UOW intends to participate in the 2017 *ARC Research Engagement and Impact Pilot* in all 10 FOR Codes (except 07 Agriculture). The RSO has commenced recruitment for a Research Impact Manager to lead UOW's participation in both the EI Pilot and full assessment in 2018. An Executive Committee comprising senior research leaders will also be established to oversee the EI Pilot, with the first meeting to be scheduled in February 2017.

The Pilot will make use of a number of assessment panels to appraise submissions and award ratings. The ARC has invited institutions to recommend researchers and end users for participation on the panels and the RSO is currently in the process of finalising nominations.

The Research Reporting Manager provided the Committee with a summary of the confidential report on UOW results from the ATSE Research Engagement Pilot.

Resolved (26/16)

That the University Research Committee note the Research Engagement and Impact update.

Action: S Martin

PART C MATTERS FOR NOTING

C1 Matters from Thesis Committee

C1.1 Thesis Committee Meeting Executive Summaries

Resolved (27/16)

That the University Research Committee note the Thesis Committee Executive Summaries for the 1 June, 6 July, 3 August, 7 September and 5 October 2016 meetings.

Action: S Flint

PART D NEXT MEETING & OTHER BUSINESS

D1 Next Meeting

Wednesday 22 March 2017 from 9.30am to 11.00am in the RSO Presentation Room 20.109.

D2 Other Business

D2.1 Social Science HREC

A Committee member raised some concerns that the Social Science Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) are commenting on issues that are not ethics related. For example, some ARC grant holders that have already gone through a rigorous peer-review process are being questioned about their methodology. Those involved were encouraged to approach the Chair of the Social Sciences HREC to discuss further.

D2.2 Thank you to Prof Karl Kautz

The Chair noted that Prof Karl Kautz, Associate Dean (Research) for the Business Faculty is attending his last URC meeting and thanked him for his time and contribution as a member.

The meeting closed at 3.00pm.

ACTION ITEMS:

A3.1 J Evans - file previous URC Minutes

B2 S Martin – forward URC Terms of Reference to Academic Senate

C1.1 S Flint - file Thesis Committee Executive Summaries

Signed as a true record



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Chairperson 11/4/16