



*Minutes* of meeting 04/17 of the University Research Committee held on 28 November 2017 in the RSO Presentation Room 20.106.

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**Present:**

Prof J Raper (*Chair*)

Prof J Beck  
Prof K Clapham  
Prof N Dixon  
Ms S Flint  
Prof C Gibson

Prof P Innis  
Mr O Khalifa  
Mr K Krauter  
Prof R Lewis  
Ms S Martin

Prof P McGuirk  
Prof S Robinson  
Prof W Vialle  
Prof W Price

**Minute Secretary**

Ms J Evans

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**PART A PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

**A1 Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received from Prof T Marchant, Prof D Adams, Prof V Mackie, A/Prof M Randle and Prof R Roberts.

Ms C Carter and Ms L Sherwood attended for discussion of Agenda Item B3.

**A2 Arrangement of the Agenda**

Agenda items A2, A4, B2, B3, B4, B5 and D2 were starred for discussion. The committee accepted the resolutions of all un-starred items.

**A3 Business from the Last Meeting**

**A3.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (6 September 2017 - 03/2017)**

**Resolved (27/17)**

*That the minutes of the University Research Committee meeting held on 6 September 2017 (03/2017) be confirmed as a true record.*

**Action: J Evans**

## A4 Chair's Business

### New Appointments

The Chair advised that recruitment is underway for Head of School, Health and Society; A/Prof of General Practice; A/Prof of Law, and Chief Operating Officer, AIIM.

### Highly Cited Researchers

The Chair congratulated our four UOW academics included as Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researchers, a global list of the most influential, based on citations in Web of Science.

The 2017 Highly Cited Researchers from UOW are:

- Professor Zenobia Jacobs, Distinguished Professor Richard 'Bert' Roberts and Professor Paul Goldberg from the Centre for Archaeological Sciences, SMAH, and
- Professor Yoshio Bando, from ISEM, Australian Institute for Innovative Materials.

The list is based on authors' publication of papers that rank in the top one per cent most cited in their fields over a recent 11 year period.

### Heads of School/ADR Planning Day

The Chair thanked all that attended for their contributions to the Planning Day. Presentations from the day will be circulated soon.

### ERA/REI Update

The ARC has recently made some key changes to the Engagement and Impact Assessment including:

- Universities to receive 3 ratings per 2-digit FOR for Engagement and Impact (1 for engagement, 1 for institutional approach to impact and 1 for impact case studies);
- The ratings for EI are: low, medium and high (replacing limited, emerging and mature);
- Large number of engagement indicators used in the pilot dropped from full assessment;
- Remaining indicators are all based on income, which means greater burden on engagement narratives to capture breadth of engagement activity with small business, community, government and non-government organisations.

Key Dates for ERA/REI are as follows:

- **15 December** is the deadline for REI discipline leaders to nominate topics for impact case studies;
- REI workshops will be held during **December to March**;
- REI Executive Meeting will be held on **18 December** where potential case studies will be discussed and considered;
- The ERA Data System will come into production during **December**;
- A mock assessment of the ERA Submission is scheduled for **late February** and the submission is due **mid-March** (SEER opens **March 19**);

- A mock assessment of the REI Submissions will take place on **29 March** and the submission is due **mid-May** (SEER opens **May 18**).

### **NSW Smart Sensing Network**

The Chair discussed the NSW Smart Sensing Network (NSSN), an initiative of Prof Mary O’Kane built around sensing science and technology and building research capacity and opportunity between research, industry and government. Goals of the NSSN are to:

- Undertake end-user-commissioned research using University strengths in sensors and sensing systems to solve unmet needs across NSW
- Provide framework for collaborative projects within and across NSW Universities, commissioned by end-users from government or industry
- Increase capacity for Universities to create and translate knowledge into high-value impacts

NSSN is supported by the NSW Department of Industry, the University of Sydney and UNSW. The Chair advised that UOW has been invited to join the network with an initial membership of \$60,000 per annum. Whilst it was noted that there has been some reluctance from academics about joining the network, the Chair suggested UOW could miss out on key NSW Government contracts and advised that a one year trial of membership would be appropriate.

### **Visit by Nature Senior Editor**

UOW will be hosting Mr Alberto Moscatelli, Senior Editor of Nature Nanotechnology on Wednesday 6 December. Alberto will present a seminar at AIIM and all are welcome to attend.

## **PART B GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **B1 Research and Innovation Division Report**

The Research and Innovation Division Report was noted.

### **B2 Higher Degree Research (HDR) Student Update**

The Associate Dean Graduate Research advised that:

- The HDR Scholarship meeting will be held on 6 December with 70 RTP Scholarships to be awarded;
- The first Masters of Research Student has submitted their thesis for examination;
- The Dean of Research has been encouraging industry partners and collaborators to respond to correspondence regarding the QS Rankings;
- Scopus recovery is underway to identify missing Scopus papers for EIS, BUS and SOC;
- Training for the Epigeum Supervisor and Student Modules will begin in 2018;
- Two new subjects will also begin in 2018: a Research Planning Subject and an Entrepreneurial Subject through iAccelerate (Spring 2018);
- Learning Development at UOW are currently finalising a MOOC about Research Methods, to possibly begin in February 2018;
- Discussions are currently being held with AINSE regarding potential internships, noting that students working in industry will be an indicator for the REI assessment going forward.

**B3 Draft Consultation Paper: Review of University Research Centre and Institute Guidelines**

The Chair advised that the Consultation Paper was discussed at VCAG where it was suggested that there be a clearer distinction between a Centre and an Institute, which could include their size or if they are interdisciplinary or not. It was further agreed at VCAG that existing Research Strengths would continue to be funded through faculties according to performance measures. The Director RSO advised that the paper will be revised based on the VCAG comments and reviewed again by the working group. Committee Members should provide any feedback as soon as possible, with a view to having the revised paper available by early December.

**Resolved (28/17)**

*That the University Research Committee note that the 'Consultation Paper: Review of University Research Centre and Institute Guidelines' will be revised based on comments from VCAG and distributed to Committee members for feedback.*

**Action: S Martin**

**B4 Global Challenges Review Update**

The Director, Global Challenges presented an update regarding the recent Global Challenges Review, noting that the Review was very positive. As a result of the Review, there are a number of recommendations around the names of the Challenges, funding levels, how funding is allocated and the leadership structure. The Review Panel made a number of suggestions including:

- Manufacturing Innovation is possibly not as relevant as it was five years ago and should be realigned or renamed;
- Transforming Lives and Regions should not be funded as a standalone challenge;
- There should be a distinction between the Global Challenges Director and Challenge Leaders;
- The possibility of a different funding model to the one currently used that may include matching funding from the faculties;
- Increased collaboration between Global Challenges and the faculties;
- Encouraging larger and more strategic projects for the program;
- The funding of undergraduate student and possibly teaching space.

The Director Global Challenges advised that key items from the Review will be included in a Consultation Paper to be developed and disseminated to the wider university community for feedback in 2018.

**Resolved (29/17)**

*That the University Research Committee note:*

- (i) The Global Challenges Review Update; and*
- (ii) That a Consultation Paper on the Review outcomes will be developed and disseminated to the campus community for feedback in 2018.*

**Action: C Gibson**

**B5 ARC Institutional Gender Report**

The Director RSO presented a number of slides on ARC application and success rates for various grant schemes by gender. The ARC provided 2017 data and the RSO has prepared a more longitudinal data set for the period 2012-2018. It was noted that UOW female academic representation for most ARC grant schemes is quite low. The Committee agreed that the longitudinal data set was useful, and suggested a further breakdown by FOR Code and academic level.

**Resolved (30/17)**

*That the University Research Committee note the ARC Institutional Gender Report.*

**Action: All Committee Members**

**B6 NHMRC Peer Review Consultation Report**

**Resolved (31/17)**

*That the University Research Committee note the NHMRC Peer Review Consultation Paper, as attached to the agenda papers, and provide any feedback to the Research Services Office by 29 November 2017.*

**Action: All Committee Members**

**PART C MATTERS FROM UOW COMMITTEES**

**C1 Matters from Research Integrity Committee**

**C1.1 Research Integrity Committee Minutes**

**Resolved (32/17)**

*That the University Research Committee note the Research Integrity Committee Meeting Minutes for the 27 April and 27 July 2017 Meetings.*

**Action: All Committee Members**

**C2 Matters from Thesis Examination Committee**

**C2.1 Thesis Examination Committee Meeting Summaries for**

**Resolved (33/17)**

*That the University Research Committee note the Thesis Examination Committee Summaries for the 6 September 2017 and 4 October 2017 Meetings.*

**Action: All Committee Members**

**PART D NEXT MEETING & OTHER BUSINESS**

**D1 D1.1 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28 March 2018 at 9.30am in the Council Room, building 36.



**D1.2 Final 2018 URC Meeting Dates**

The Committee noted the final 2018 URC Meeting Dates.

**D2 D2.1 Other Business – HDR scholarships**

The Committee discussed the policy and process for allocating HDR scholarships. The ADR for Engineering and Information Sciences suggested that the distribution of APA/RTP scholarships doesn't align with HDR enrolment numbers. It was noted that that if allocation was based on enrolments only, then this should include all types of scholarships (e.g., matching scholarships etc), not just APAs/RTPs. It was also noted that each faculty has different research needs so awarding scholarships based on enrolment figures is inappropriate. The Chair noted that the University's strategy and policy aims to ensure a comprehensive approach inclusive of all disciplines. It was agreed that a URC working group would be established to review the HDR scholarship policy and processes.

**Resolved (34/17)**

*That the University Research Committee establish a URC Working Group to review the HDR scholarships policy and processes, to be chaired by the Dean of Research.*

**Action: T Marchant, S Flint**

The meeting closed at 4.00pm.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- A3.1 J Evans - file previous URC Minutes**
- B3 S Martin – revised the Consultation Paper and distribute for feedback.**
- B4 C Gibson - develop the Global Challenges Consultation Paper for distribution to the University Community for further consultation.**
- B6 All Committee Members - note the NHMRC Peer Review Consultation Paper and provide feedback to the RSO.**
- C1.1 M Weatherall – file Research Integrity Committee Meeting Minutes**
- C2.1 S Flint - file Thesis Committee Executive Summaries.**
- D2.1 T Marchant, S Flint - implement a review of the HDR Scholarships policy and process.**

Signed as a true record



Chairperson *3/4/18* 2018