

Research, Innovation and Global Engagement Committee

Thursday 18th April 2024, 10:00am

South Wing Council Room with facilities to join the meeting online via MS Teams

Minutes

Present Members:

Professor Geraint Rees (Chair); Professor Ibrahim Abubakar; Dr Paul Ayris; Professor David Bogle; Michael Brown [Minutes 41-45]; Professor Stella Bruzzi; Sarah Chaytor; Professor Sarah Edwards; Professor Carsten Gerner-Beuerle; Megan Gerrie; Professor Jacqui Glass; Claire Glen; Alex Hall; Fran Hartop; Dr Jane Kinghorn; Sarah Lawson; Dr Nick McNally [Minutes 36-40]; Martin Moyle; Ciaran Moynihan; Professor Courtenay Norbury; Professor James Phillips; Nicholas Tyndale; Kirsty Walker; Dr Kathryn Walsh; Professor Andrew Wills; Professor Nick Wood

Apologies:

Professor Lynn Ang; Jeremy Barraud; Andrew Cooper; Sarah Cowls; Rebecca Edwards; June Hedges; Professor Jennifer Hudson; Issy Smith; Professor Cheryl Thomas KC; Professor Nigel Titchener-Hooker; Emma Todd; Kirsty Walker; Professor Simon Walker-Samuel; Professor Peter Zusi

In attendance:

For Minutes 36-45: Professor Sue Hamilton, Vice-Dean Research and Global Engagement, Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences

For Minute 39: Gail Adams, RIS Director of Compliance and Assurance

For Minute 39: Stephanie Allison, Assistant Director, Research Ethics Service

For Minute 41: Clare Foyle, Head of Strategic Delivery Account Management

Officer:

Rachel Port, Governance Manager: Research Integrity

Part I: Preliminary Business

36. Welcome

- 36.1. The Chair welcomed the following new members to their first meeting of Research, Innovation and Global Engagement Committee [RIGEC]: Professor Nick Wood, Chair of Clinical Research Governance Committee; and

Dr Sarah Edwards, Chair of UCL Research Ethics Committee.

37. Minutes

37.1. RIGEC approved the minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2024 [Minutes, 28-35, 2023-24].

37.2. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

38. Matters Arising

38.1. Arising from Minute 31.3.a, the Director of Research Culture and the UCL REF Manager would prepare some guidance for Faculty Vice-Deans (Research) about research culture information that was likely to be required for inclusion in UCL's REF2029 submissions.

38.2. Arising from Minute 32.3.c, the Annual Report on the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers had been shared with Faculty Deans and Faculty Directors of Operations for information.

38.3. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

Part II: Strategic Items for Discussion

39. Chair's Report

39.1. The Chair gave an oral report on relevant developments since the last RIGEC meeting and the following points were made:

- a. The first meeting of UCL's Research and Innovation Security Committee (RISC) had taken place and had generated some very helpful discussion. Both Council and Audit Committee supported the establishment of RISC to help promote Trusted Research and Innovation across the institution. It was suggested that advice around how to make decisions on international collaborations would be helpful.
- b. UCL had been very successful in the recent round of the European Research Council's Advanced Grants scheme with 9 awards, making it the institution with the most awardees in the UK. The Chair expressed his congratulations to colleagues on this remarkable achievement.

40. UCL Research Ethics Update (4-21)

40.1. Professor Sarah Edwards, Chair of UCL REC and Stephanie Allison, Assistant Director, Research Ethics Service gave an update presentation on research ethics at UCL. The following points were made during the presentation:

- a. In terms of UCL's research ethics policy, work was being undertaken to

- d. Whilst the aim was to implement Infonetica for the start of 2024-25 session in order to reduce the administrative burden on the Research Ethics Team and to ensure consistency in approach for researchers, it was not considered to be problematic if it was launched later in the academic year.
- e. It was also aimed to link data protection and risk assessment processes in the online system for applications, and to enable the Infonetica system to link with Worktribe for externally funded projects.
- f. The Chair expressed his thanks to the Research Ethics Service for all their hard work in this key part of UCL's activities and looked forward to the implementation of the online system.

40.3. RIGEC received the UCL Research Ethics Update.

41. Higher Education Innovation Funding (HEIF) Annual Monitoring Statement 2022-23 (4-22)

41.1. Dr Kathryn Walsh, Executive Director of Innovation and Enterprise, introduced the HEIF Annual Monitoring Statement 2022-23. The following points were made during the presentation:

- a. The main aim of the Statement was to d

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