A meeting of the University Research Committee was held from 9:32 am-11:25 am on Tuesday 4 August 2015 at the Gold Coast Campus (G34.2.02).

MINUTES

PRESENT: 
Professor Ned Pankhurst
Professor Sue Berners-Price
Professor Graham Cuskelly
Professor David Shum
Professor David Lambert
Professor Gerry Docherty
Ms Linda O’Brien
Professor Susanne Becken
Professor Jason Sharman
Professor Greer Johnson
Professor Wendy Moyle
Dr Sean Horan
Dr Neda Todorova
Professor Andrea Bishop
Ms Daina Garklavs
Mr Tony Sheil
Mr Nicholas Mathiou
Ms Julene Finnigan

Secretary: 
Dr Claudia Arango

APOLOGIES: 
Professor Nam-Trung Nguyen

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Prof Nam-Trung Nguyen. The Dean Research AEL apologised for having to leave the meeting at 11:00 am due to a prearranged commitment.

2.0 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No conflicts of interest were declared at the meeting.

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 4/2015 meeting were confirmed.

4.0 CHAIR’S REPORT
4.1 QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2015-16
The Chair briefed the Committee on the government’s budget highlights which are likely to be mainly directed towards the development of closer links between industry and research. There is uncertainty regarding the nature of the partnerships proposed. Griffith will seek advice from the government and commence discussions with the Director-General of the Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts (DSITIA) regarding access to other more discretionary funding.

4.2 UPDATE ON THE UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA DVCR MEETING 24 JULY 2015
The Director Office for Research briefed the Committee on discussions at the DVCR meeting around the revision of *The Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research*, document initially developed jointly by the NHMRC, the ARC and Universities Australia in 2007. This revision includes changes to Part A of the Code while maintaining the same general structure. More significant changes were proposed for Part B of the Code: ‘Breaches of the Code, research misconduct, and the framework for resolving allegations’. Implementation challenges in relation to the new *ARC Research Integrity and Research Misconduct Policy* were also discussed at length, including significant concerns about breaches of the Privacy Act and conflict with Enterprise Agreement conditions. The ARC CEO will consult with the NTEU on the latter concern.

**Action**
The Senior DVC will follow up the discussions with Professor Mike Calford Provost University of Tasmania regarding proposed changes to the Code.

4.3 REVIEW OF THE NEW RESEARCHERS GRANTS SCHEME (NRG)
The review of the NRG scheme will be presented at the next Research Committee meeting (September, 6/2015). The Senior DVC has approved the conduct of the 2016 round given the positive outcomes and leverage achieved so far but the conditions of the scheme will be constrained to ensure funds are appropriately directed.

4.4 LINKAGE PROJECTS NOI SUBMISSIONS
Thirty-eight submissions of Notification of Intent (NoI) for ARC Linkage Projects applications have been received by the Office for Research to date.

**Action**
The Deputy Director Research Services will liaise with the Deans Research regarding success factors for the Linkage scheme and to ensure appropriate peer review and support are provided to applicants.

4.5 APPLICATIONS FOR ARC FUTURE FELLOWSHIPS
The Deputy Director Research Services commented that the strategic statements submitted with Future Fellowship applications were not of sufficient quality with some appearing not to have been reviewed by either the Centre Director or Dean Research. The Senior DVC emphasised that only high quality applications are to be submitted by the University.

**Action**
The Deputy Director Research Services will liaise with relevant Centre Directors and Deans Research regarding the preparation of the strategic statements submitted with Future Fellowship applications.
5.0 DEAN, GGRS REPORT

5.1 UPDATE ON THE BGR MEETING 5/2015
The Dean GGRS spoke to the actions from the BGR meeting on 29 July 2015, relating to updates of the Higher Degree Research Policy and the Academic Misconduct Policy – Higher Degree Research Students.

5.2 CONSULTATION BY THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED ACADEMIES (ACOLA)
The Dean GGRS briefed the Committee on the consultation by the Australian Council of Learned Academies (ACOLA) on the Australia’s Research Training System. The Dean GGRS and the Director Office for Research will draft the Griffith submission in response to the consultation. Members of the Committee are invited to forward any feedback or comments as part of the Griffith submission to the Director Office for Research.

Action
The RC Secretary will circulate the website of the ACOLA consultation to members.

SECTION I: MATTERS FOR DEBATE AND DECISION

6.0 REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL GRANTS SCHEME
The Committee discussed the benefits of the international grants including significant collaborative activities and agreed it was a useful scheme. It was agreed that there is need to emphasise that the submission of final reports by grantees is mandatory and the Deans Research are to be involved in the submissions.

Action
The International Grants scheme will be funded for the next three years. Further review will be undertaken in 2018. The Office for Research will liaise with the Deans Research regarding the approval of funding recommendations in future rounds.

7.0 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE GRIFFITH CRIMINOLOGY INSTITUTE
The Strategic Plan for the GCI presented by the Dean Research AEL was endorsed by the Research Committee for the Academic Committee’s approval.

8.0 EXPANDED FOUR-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE QUEENSLAND CONSERVATORIUM RESEARCH CENTRE
The expanded 2015-2019 Strategic Plan for the Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre was approved by the Research Committee. The Chair commented on the excellent quality of the document submitted.

9.0 DEEMING STAFF RESEARCH ACTIVE
The Dean Research Griffith Business School raised the issue of consistency of approach during the current ASRP round for deeming academic staff research active under the provisions of the Research Active Standards. The Committee discussed the perceptions of the academic staff in relation to the policy and agreed that academic staff should not see RA as a ‘tick the box’
requirement. The Committee agreed that the message embedded in the Research Active Standards is that individual research performance consists of quality and quantity and this message is to be reiterated within the ASRP process.

Action
The Senior DVC will seek further feedback from the Deans Research and the Academic Provost regarding a refocus of the ASRP.

The Dean Research AEL left the room at 10:58 am to attend a prearranged commitment.

10.0 REVISED ACADEMIC GROUP RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS AND PROPOSED STRUCTURE FOR CORE RESEARCH FACILITIES

The Committee approved the revised Group Research Infrastructure Plans. The Deans Research Griffith Sciences and Health, in consultation with the Deputy Director Research Services, adjusted the Plans to align with a proposed model of centralised management of core facilities at Griffith.

The Senior DVC and the Deputy Director Research Services are investigating a feasible centralised management of core facilities based on the model implemented at Monash University. Current facilities proposed as case studies to test the implementation of the core facilities proposal are ‘Compounds Australia’, ‘Griffith Sequencing Facility’ and the animal houses.

The Committee agreed on the positive impact of a core facilities model would have on the way research is carried out at Griffith and as leverage when applying for funds. The Chair mentioned that Griffith access to the Australian National Fabrication Facility (ANFF) through the QMNC, their Queensland node, is also to be recognised as leverage.

The Chair commented on the progress made since the Research Infrastructure Working Party was established (September, 6/2013) and thanked all those involved in the process of developing the University Research Infrastructure Plan.

Action
The Senior DVC will submit recommendations for the implementation of the core facilities to Executive Group in early September followed by the Research Committee.

SECTION I: MATTERS FOR DEBATE AND DECISION

SECTION II: MATTERS REQUIRING RATIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ACTION

Nil

SECTION III: MATTERS FOR NOTING AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS

11.0 UPDATE ON THE ‘GRIFFITH EXPERTS’ PROJECT

The PVC INS updated the Committee on the Scholar’s Hub project, now formally re-named ‘Griffith Experts’. The project is currently going through the security testing phase. A demonstration of the tool will be presented at the next meeting.

12.0 UPDATE ON THE RIMS PROJECT
The Director Office for Research updated the members on the progress of the RIMS project which will deliver the Ethics module first followed by the Publications and the Grants modules.

13.0 OTHER MATTERS FOR NOTING

a) Projects awarded for 01/06/15 - 31/06/15
b) Applications submitted for 01/06/15 - 31/06/15
c) Consultancies awarded for 01/06/15 - 31/06/15
d) AEC minutes meetings 05/2015
e) UBC minutes 01/2015

14.0 OTHER BUSINESS

14.1 RESTRUCTURE OF GGRS AND HDR STUDENT CENTRE

The Chair announced that based on an internal audit and external review, Executive Group approved a proposal to amalgamate GGRS and the HDR Student Centre into a single operational unit reporting to the Dean GGRS. A new Director will be appointed to lead the administrative activities and staff of the new Griffith Graduate Research School.

15.0 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 9:30 am on Tuesday 15 September 2015 at the Mt Gravatt Campus (M10_5.02).

Confirmed: ........................................

(Chair)

Date: ........................................
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Committee Members

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Appointment Type</th>
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<td>Professor Ned Pankhurst</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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<td>Member - Sciences</td>
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<td>Professor Jason Sharman</td>
<td>Elected member of the Professoriate</td>
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<td>Dr Neda Todorova</td>
<td>Early Career Researcher</td>
<td>To 31 Dec 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Sean Horan</td>
<td>Early Career Researcher</td>
<td>To 31 Dec 2016</td>
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Persons with rights of audience and debate

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<tr>
<td>Professor Andrea Bishop</td>
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<td>Mr Nicholas Mathiou</td>
<td>Director, Griffith Enterprise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Daina Garklavs</td>
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<td>Ms Julene Finnigan</td>
<td>Resource Manager, Business Partners, Finance</td>
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<td>Dr Claudia Arango</td>
<td>Policy Officer Research Excellence, Office for Research (Secretary)</td>
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