A meeting of the University Research Committee was held from 9:30 am-11:30 am on Tuesday 13 October 2015 at the Gold Coast Campus (G34_2.02).

MINUTES

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

Secretary:
Dr Claudia Arango

APOLOGIES:
Professor Jason Sharman
Professor Wendy Moyle

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Professor Jason Sharman and Professor Wendy Moyle.

2.0 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No conflicts of interest were declared at the meeting.

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 6/2015 meeting were confirmed.

4.0 CHAIR’S REPORT
4.1 **COMMENT ON CABINET RESHUFFLE**

The Chair commented on the recent changes in the federal government and the resulting uncertainty around the education portfolio mentioning there might be clearer indications when the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook is released in December 2015.

4.2 **UPDATE ON NOI FOR LINKAGE PROJECTS 2016 APPLICATIONS**

It was reported that 40 Nols for 2016 ARC Linkage projects were submitted to the Office for Research of which about 30 are to be submitted to the ARC by 11 November 2015. The Committee commended on the high number of applications from Business and AEL and noted the low number of applications from the Health Group. The Dean Research (Health) commented that the Health Group was working on a strategy to increase its Linkage application rate.

4.3 **UPDATE ON CENTRES EOI PROCESSES**

A summary of the EoIs processed centrally (OR) and those processed by the Centres/institutes was presented to the Committee. The Committee noted the high number of ARC Discovery proposals would likely decrease prior to the internal closing date. The Deputy Director Research Services agreed to write to Deans reminding them to seek advice from any new staff on their plans for applying for ARC and NHMRC grants.

4.4 **OUTCOME OF EoI FOR ARC CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE**

The Committee was updated on the outcome of the 2017 ARC Centres of Excellence Expression of Interest round. The Griffith-led proposal was not successful. Professor Lambert, CI in the proposal, advised that the partner organisations will continue to work together with a view to applying in the next round. Two of the eight EoIs led by other universities, in which Griffith is a partner, are proceeding to the full proposal stage closing on 16 December 2015. The Committee emphasised the importance of maintaining the collaborative links and pursuing other grant schemes with co-investigators in the CoE proposals.

4.5 **RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF THE AUSTRALIAN CODE FOR THE RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH**

The Deputy Director Research Policy updated the Committee on the review process of the Australian Code and the response by IRU which incorporated a great proportion of Griffith’s feedback into a consolidated document. It was indicated that the Griffith Code will be revised once the final version of the Australian Code is available (2016).

5.0 **DEAN, GGRS REPORT**

5.1 **UPDATE ON THE BGR MEETING 7/2015**

The Dean GGRS presented the Action Sheet arising from the BGR meeting on 23 September 2015. Actions included 1) final work by the EICP team on the Online Thesis Submission project; 2) recommendations regarding a “Review of HDR Candidate Financial Support Models” for consideration by Executive Group and 3) clarification of text in the HDR website pertaining to the inclusion of publications within the body of a HDR thesis and the use of Group-specific guidelines for content and formatting of theses that include published papers.
The Committee agreed on the importance of good relationships between supervisors and students once they finish their HDR degree at Griffith as mechanism to encourage publication of their HDR degree outputs.

Action

The Chair requested confirmation from research centre directors of processes for following up on HDR student publications once students graduate and leave the University.

5.2 REPORT ON THE HDR HUB

The Dean, GGRS provided an update on HDR projects that are now being rolled out as part of the wider EICP projects including the HDR Student Portal, the HDR Lifecycle project, online thesis submission and examination and the Supervision Dashboard. The Dean commented on the outstanding work that had been done by the project team led by the Program Manager, Barbara Buckley and Project Manager Michelle Wano.

5.3 UPDATE ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF GGRS

The Dean, GGRS updated the Committee on the progress of the GGRS and the HDR Student Centre amalgamation into a single operational unit under GGRS to be based in the Bray Centre next to the Office for Research. A Director is currently being recruited.

SECTION I: MATTERS FOR DEBATE AND DECISION

6.0 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE “LAW FUTURES CENTRE”

The Research Committee endorsed the draft strategic plan for the “Law Futures Centre” making several suggestions for a revised document to be noted at the next meeting and to be submitted for approval by the Academic Committee.

Action

The Committee asked for a draft operational plan including a budget for the “Law Futures Centre” (currently articulated with the SLRC Annual Report) to be presented at the next meeting in November.

7.0 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE “CENTRE FOR CITIES RESEARCH”

The Research Committee made comments and suggestions to the document introduced by the Dean Research Sciences.

Action

The Committee asked for a revised document to be submitted to the next meeting in November.

A discussion on the revision of the Centre and Institute Policy in early 2016 arose as an action from this and separate discussions by members of the Committee. It was agreed to place this on the work plan for the Research Committee in 2016.

8.0 RESEARCH GRANTS BASED AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS
The Director, Office for Research introduced a discussion paper on the contributions by Griffith researchers to projects led by other organisations to support discussion on the decision and approval processes involved and the visibility of these collaborations.

The Committee agreed on the importance of tracking ethics, Defence Export Control and Autonomous Sanctions compliance of research carried by Griffith staff as collaborators in projects based at other institutions.

**Action**

The Director Office for Research will prepare a short document to be distributed to Research Centre/Institute Directors and Heads of Element, to build understanding and engagement with the two main areas of concern: 1. Compliance obligations (keeping our staff and their reputations safe); and 2. Maintaining visibility of activities in which our researchers are engaged.

**SECTION II: MATTERS REQUIRING RATIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ACTION**

*Nil*

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

9.0 **RESPONSE TO THE WATT REVIEW**

Griffith's response to the consultation from the Department of Education and Training on the review of research policy and funding arrangements submitted on 18 September 2015 was noted.

10.0 **OTHER MATTERS FOR NOTING**

a) Projects awarded for 01/09/2015 – 30/09/2015  
b) Applications submitted 01/09/2015 – 30/09/2015  
c) Consultancies awarded 01/09/2015 – 30/09/2015  
d) HREC Flying Minutes 06/2015  
e) AEC minutes meeting 07/2015

11.0 **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held at 9:30 am on Tuesday 10 November 2015 at the Nathan Campus (N54-2.02).

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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<tr>
<td>Professor Ned Pankhurst</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>ex officio</td>
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<td>Member - Deputy Chair</td>
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<td>Member - INS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor Greer Johnson</td>
<td>Member - AEL</td>
<td>To 31 Dec 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor Jason Sharman</td>
<td>Elected member of the Professoriate</td>
<td>To 31 Dec 2015</td>
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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<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>Mr Tony Sheil</td>
<td>Deputy Director Research Policy, Office for Research</td>
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<tr>
<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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