A meeting of the Research Committee was held from 9.30-11:15 am on Tuesday 11 November 2014 via videoconferencing between G34_2.12 at the Gold Coast Campus and N54_2.07 at the Nathan Campus.

MINUTES

PRESENT:
Professor Ned Pankhurst
Professor David Lambert
Professor Gerry Docherty
Professor David Shum
Professor Graham Cuskelley
Professor Marie Cooke
Professor Susanne Becken
Ms Linda O’Brien
Dr Alison Carey
Dr Vicki Pattemore
Ms Daina Garklavs
Mr Tony Sheil
Ms Julene Finnigan
Dr Jens Tampe (on behalf of Mr Nicholas Mathiou)

APOLOGIES:
Professor Jason Sharman
Professor Sue Berners-Price
Professor Greer Johnson
Professor Nam-Trung Nguyen
Mr Nicholas Mathiou

Secretary:
Dr Claudia Arango

1.0 APOLOGIES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Apologies were received from Professor Jason Sharman, Professor Sue Berners-Price, Professor Greer Johnson, Professor Nam-Trung Nguyen and Mr Nicholas Mathiou.

2.0 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No conflicts of interests were declared at the meeting.

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 7/2014 meeting were confirmed.

4.0 CHAIR’S REPORT

4.1 NHMRC 2014 FUNDING OUTCOMES
The Committee noted that the University had achieved its best ever success in the NHMRC scheme with ten grants awarded and a success rate of 16.4%, which was higher than last year's result of 10% and for the first time was above the national average (14.9%).

4.2 UPDATE NOI SUBMISSIONS FOR 2015 ARC LINKAGE FUNDING

Griffith will submit thirty applications to the ARC Linkage Projects round closing on 12 November 2014. Potential applicants were required to submit a Notification of Interest (NOI) to the Office for Research prior to submission to the ARC as part of a quality improvement process.

The quality of applications received suggested that better quality control, closer mentoring, earlier preparation of drafts and more effective peer review at the Centre and Group levels are still needed.

4.3 ARC 2014 FUNDING OUTCOMES

The Chair reported on the results of the ARC 2014 funding round for Discovery projects, Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards (DECRA) and Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) announced on 5 November 2014.

The Committee discussed strategies to improve success rates in future rounds, including a stronger focus on individual track records, more carefully argued descriptions of collaborations with external researchers and what will be achieved by them, and better quality research environment statements that are more directly tailored to specific projects and applicants. Some Research Centres and Institutes still need to improve the quality of mentoring and peer review processes.

Action

The Deans Research will reinforce with Centre and Institute Directors the need to develop strategies for improving ARC applications.

The Deputy Director Research Services will provide historical data on success rates for each individual scheme to Committee members.

4.4 ERA 2015 UPDATE

The Deputy Director Research Policy provided a brief update on progress in preparing the ERA 2015 submission. The ERA Reference Group will meet on 12 November and 16 December 2014 to review the submission data.

Noted

5.0 DEAN, GGRS REPORT

5.1 BOARD OF GRADUATE RESEARCH ACTION SHEET MEETING 6/2014

In absence of the Dean GGRS, the outcomes of the Board of Graduate Research (BGR) meetings between August and October 2014 were noted.

Noted

5.2 AUTONOMOUS SANCTIONS UPDATE

In absence of the Dean GGRS, the Chair briefly mentioned that the development of the implementation plan including Group level workshops is underway.

Noted
SECTION I: MATTERS FOR DEBATE AND DECISION

6.0 GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (GURIP) 2015 GRANTS: REPORT AND OUTCOMES

The Office for Research presented a report on the 2015 GURIP grants round. The Chair indicated there was evidence of more coherent cross-discipline collaboration on applications. The amount granted to each project is yet to be confirmed due to grantees being asked to seek updated quotes for equipment following recent changes in currency exchange rates.

Action

The Office for Research will update the GURIP guidelines for the 2016 round to take account of changes in the assessment process, University purchasing policies for equipment over $100,000, and reinforcement of the requirement to ensure that equipment space and installation needs are taken into account at the application stage.

7.0 ACTION PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE WORKING PARTY

The Research Committee approved the recommendations of the Research Infrastructure Working Party Report at the 7/14 meeting and agreed that an Action Plan indicating how the recommendations are to be implemented be developed for consideration by the Committee.

A draft of the Action Plan for implementation of the recommendations was presented noting that timelines for some actions would need to be flexible and would be scheduled for late 2015.

Action

The Deputy Director Research Services will: 1) prepare the Infrastructure Working Party report and Action Plan to be presented at the next Executive Group meeting and 2) present a report on the implementation of the Action Plan at the June 2015 Research Committee meeting.

The Research Committee will monitor any overlap between the Electronic Infrastructure Capital Plan (EICP) and funding of research infrastructure.

SECTION II: MATTERS REQUIRING RATIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ACTION

Nil

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

8.0 PROGRESS UPDATE EICP-FUNDED PROJECTS

The PVC (INS) presented a report on the progress of EICP-funded projects that support research at Griffith University.

Action

The Chair requested the CCR Online Approval Form project receive high priority.

The Committee agreed to invite Mr David Gunsberg, Director of Planning and Projects Office (INS) to attend a future Research Committee meeting to assist him in developing an appropriate format and content for future EICP progress reports.
9.0 OTHER MATTERS FOR NOTING

a) Grants awarded for 1/09/14 - 31/10/14
b) Applications submitted for 1/09/14 - 31/10/14
c) Consultancies awarded 1/09/14 - 31/10/14
d) AEC minutes meeting 7/2014 and 8/2014
e) UBC minutes 02/2014
f) HREC minutes 06/2014 and 07/2014

10.0 FUTURE MEETINGS

The Chair proposed to schedule two meetings via videoconferencing in 2015.

The 2015 dates and venues for Research Committee meetings will be advised as they are made available by Academic Services.

Confirmed:  

(Chair)

Date:  


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### Committee Members

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Appointment Type</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professor Ned Pankhurst</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>ex officio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor Sue Berners-Price</td>
<td>Member - Deputy Chair</td>
<td>ex officio</td>
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<td>Professor David Shum</td>
<td>Member - Health</td>
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<td>Professor David Lambert</td>
<td>Member - Sciences</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 Susanne Becken</td>
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<td>Professor Marie Cooke</td>
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<td>Ms Linda O'Brien</td>
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<td>ex officio</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 Alison Carey</td>
<td>Early Career Researcher</td>
<td>To 31 Dec 2015</td>
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### Persons with rights of audience and debate

- Dr Vicki Pattemore, Director, Office for Research
- Mr Nicholas Mathiou, Director, Griffith Enterprise
- Ms Daina Garklavs, Deputy Director Research Services, Office for Research
- Mr Tony Sheil, Deputy Director Research Policy, Office for Research
- Ms Julene Finnigan, Resource Manager, Corporate Resource Management, Planning and Financial Services
- Dr Claudia Arango, Policy Officer Research Excellence, Office for Research (Secretary)

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