The 3/2011 meeting of the Research Committee was held at 9.30-11.30am on Tuesday 12 April 2011, at Mt Gravatt campus, Social Sciences Building, Room 5.01.

MINUTES

PRESENT:
Professor Parlo Singh (Chair)
Professor Richard Bagnall
Professor Graham Cuskeley
Professor David Shum
Associate Professor Michael Blumenstein
Professor Howard Wiseman
Ms JoAnne Sparks
Dr Calvin Smith
Dr Vicki Pattemore
Ms Daina Garklavs
Mr Tony Sheil
Ms Julene Finnigan

APOLOGIES:
Professor Ned Pankhurst
Professor Andy Bennett
Professor Andrew O’Neill
Professor Lyn Griffiths
Professor Lesley Chenoweth

Present by invitation:
Mr Simon Kelly
Mr Arve Soland

Secretary:
Dr Vicki Sherburd

1.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
The minutes of the 2/2011 meeting were confirmed.

2.0 CHAIR’S REPORT

2.1 AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL GRANT ROUND REPORT

The Deputy Director, Research Services reported that Griffith University has submitted 20 per cent fewer ARC Discovery Project applications compared to last year. This is due to the Australian Postdoctoral Fellowships now being a separate ARC scheme – Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA). The other previous Discovery fellowships are now called Discovery Outstanding Researcher Awards (DORAs), which now have a greater focus on the project objectives rather than researchers’ track records.

The DECRA round is now open and Griffith is expecting a significant number of applications. The DECRA guidelines were released by the ARC relatively close to the closing date, giving both OR and applicants limited time to prepare.
The Committee discussed the impact of external review of ARC applications by Professor Bob Breakspere. While it is difficult to correlate success rate with this review process, feedback from early career researchers (ECRs) indicates the importance of review and guidance by experienced reviewers. It was noted that the Office for Research is attempting to source other external reviewers, with a particular focus on any who have strong track records in Humanities and Social Sciences disciplines.

The current round of Future Fellowship applications was also discussed. The Director, Office for Research reported that the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) was committed to submitting only the highest quality applications with a strong chance of success. It was anticipated that Griffith would submit slightly less than 30 applications in the current round following the recent call for expressions of interest.

The Committee requested that the Expression of Interest process commence earlier in future rounds to allow applicants more time to develop better applications.

**Noted**

### 2.2 NATURE PUBLISHING INDEX 2010 RANKING

The Deputy Director, Research Policy reported on Griffith’s ranking in the recently released Nature Publishing Index 2010 Asia-Pacific. The University achieved a top 30 ranking amongst more than 450 research institutions ranked in the Asia-Pacific region and was ranked 7th in Australia. The ranking is based on a corrected count for each published article that is adjusted according to the number of authors from each institution listed on the paper.

The results of the Nature Publishing Index 2010 Asia-Pacific were recently published in the Higher Education Supplement of The Australian newspaper. This report highlighted Griffith’s substantial improvement on the index over last year, which showed strong growth in the number and corrected weight of Nature publications across the SEET and Health Group.

**Noted**

### 3.0 DEAN’S REPORT

#### 3.1 SCHOLARSHIP STRATEGY

**End of Year Scholarship Round Report**

The Dean, GGRS reported on business processes associated with the end-of-year scholarship round for HDR enrolments in 2011. Strategies for improving business processing of scholarship applications, letters of offer and acceptances were discussed. These will be trialled in the mid-year 2011 scholarship round.

The Committee discussed the Living Allowance (APA, GUPRS, Group) Scholarships and Tuition Fee Scholarships (IPRA, DVIPRA, GUIPRA) Scholarships. The Dean highlighted the substantial increase in the number of scholarships that were offered in the 2011 round 1 compared with previous years.

**Mid-Year Scholarship Round Report**

The Dean reported that the mid-year scholarship round has been advertised with information sessions to be offered at Nathan and Gold Coast campuses. In the mid-year round up to 60 scholarships will be on offer, including living allowance and tuition-fee scholarships.

The Committee requested that the Griffith HDR website be brought up-to-date so that it clearly communicates scholarship details and deadlines.
3.2 BOARD OF GRADUATE RESEARCH ACTION SHEET

Online Business Processing System Update

The Committee noted the attached reports.

New HDR Program Proposals

The Dean discussed the issues arising from joint PhD ("cotutelle") proposals – between Griffith and an overseas university – resulting in joint award of a postgraduate degree. Proposals for joint award of PhDs are considered only on a case-by-case basis.

The Dean pointed out that other arrangements such as exchange programs, and recognition of prior learning, can often provide an alternative pathway for collaboration re: HDR studies across higher education institutions.

HDR Program Reviews

The Dean highlighted that a new procedure for review of HDR programs has been developed and will soon be submitted to the DVC (Academic) and DVC (Research) for approval.

Noted

4.0 EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER VACANCY

The Committee discussed the SEET Group nomination circulated with the agenda papers and two AEL Group nominations tabled at the meeting.

The Dean (Research) AEL spoke in support of the two nominations of Dr Katherine Main and Dr Ron Levy highlighting the benefits of their experience to the Committee.

The Dean (Research) SEET spoke in support for the ECR nomination of Dr Mark Kennard, highlighting his active research career to date and his understanding of the ECR experience, HDR supervision and the challenges for ECRs of the grant application process.

Action

The Committee agreed to forward the ECR member nominations to the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) for decision.

5.0 SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY-GRIFFITH COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SCHEME

The Director Office for Research reported that a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the two universities in 2010. Details of the proposed collaborative research grants scheme were fleshed out during a visit by senior staff from Simon Fraser to Griffith in February 2011. During the visit a number of senior Griffith researchers gave presentations on their research to Dr Mario Pinto, Vice-President Research, and this led to refinement of the disciplinary areas to be included in the collaborative grants scheme.

Simon Fraser and Griffith will contribute $50,000 each per annum for travel between the two universities to enable researchers to develop collaborative relationships, early stage research
projects and joint applications for external funds. Individual grants are expected to be in the order of $5,000-$10,000, and the first call for applications is expected to be in the second half of 2011. Award of funds will be decided by the DVC(R) (Griffith) and the Vice-President (Research) Simon Fraser from a short list from each university.

The Committee also suggested some minor amendments to the application form.

Noted

6.0 RESEARCH HUB PROJECT UPDATE

The Director Office for Research outlined the background to the Research Hub project and its capacity to make information on researchers and areas of research strength widely available both within the University and in the wider community. Griffith International has a strong interest in this tool as a means of making information on prospective supervisors available to international HDR students. The Research Hub will draw data from central sources including RAD, GRO and other enterprise systems, and will replace Research Experts @ Griffith.

The Research Hub is due to go live by mid-year. Discussions are currently underway with all Deans (Research) to ensure that the tool meets the needs of all of the Academic Groups.

The Committee requested the Project Board to ensure that the Hub is appropriately linked to other Griffith web pages and especially to the GGRS pages.

There was also some discussion about the possible need to set parameters to allow exclusion of staff with no or very limited research activity, possible inclusion of information and statistics on national and international linkages and collaborations, and issues around inclusion of information and contact details for current and/or former HDR students of individual researchers. The Project Manager was asked to provide statistics on external access of Hub pages after implementation.

Noted

7.0 OR RESPONSE TO HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The Director Office for Research advised that in future years the annual HREC report would be accompanied by a response from the Office. The Deputy Director Research Policy provided some detailed explanation of statistics on low volumes of ethics applications from certain elements, given that members had queried these at the previous meeting.

Noted

8.0 MATTERS FOR NOTING

8.1 Research Applications for 3/03/2011 - 31/03/2011
8.2 Grants Awarded for 03/03/2011 - 31/03/2011
8.3 Consultancies Awarded for 03/03/2011 - 31/03/2011
8.4 Human Research Ethics Committee Minutes 01/02/2011
8.5 Animal Ethics Committee Minutes 07/12/2010 and 10/02/2011

Noted

9.0 OTHER BUSINESS
10.0  **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Research Committee will be held at 9.30am-11.30am on Tuesday 17 May, 2011 at Nathan in the Bray Centre N54 Room 2.01.

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

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

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Ms JoAnne Sparks</td>
<td>Member - PVC (INS) nominee</td>
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<td>Professor Lesley Chenoweth</td>
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<td>Dr Vicki Sherburd</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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Persons with rights of audience and debate

Dr Vicki Pattemore              Director, Office for Research
Ms Daina Garvlaks               Deputy Director Research Services, Office for Research
Mr Tony Sheil                   Deputy Director Research Policy, Office for Research
Dr Calvin Smith                 Associate Director, Griffith Institute for Higher Education
Ms Julene Finnigan              Resource Manager, Corporate Resource Management, Planning and Financial Services

Information copies (without attachments unless stated)
Deputy Director, Queensland College of Art (Research & Postgraduates)
Pro-Vice Chancellor (Information Services)
Director, Griffith Enterprise
Manager, Research Ethics
Manager, Research Data
GUPSA
Mr Jim Walden, PFS Nathan
Academic Registrar
Secretary, Academic Committee
Academic Services Officer - Arts
Academic Services Officer - Business
Academic Services Officer - Health
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Ms Suzanne Smith, PFS Nathan
Ms Alison Harris, PFS Nathan
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Mr Shane Carroll, PFS Nathan
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