

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
of the  
RESEARCH COMMITTEE  
held on  
Monday, 1 October 2012  
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  
Turing Room**

**Present:**

Jacques Fleuriot (Chair), Jim Bednar, Liz Elliot, Nigel Goddard, Jane Hillston, Alan Smaill, Tamise Totterdell, Neil McGillivray, Mike O'Boyle, Fiona Clark (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Steve Renals, Dave Robertson, Sethu Vijayakumar, Chris Williams, Marjorie Dunlop, Stuart Anderson

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**ITEM 1 – Approval of Minutes of meeting of previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting of 3 September 2012 were approved.

**ITEM 2 – Matters arising (from meeting of 3 October 2011)**

Discussion on remit and membership of Research Committee

DR to find out about the availability of the information ERI compiles between schools,  
etc; ongoing  
**Action**  
**Passed to LE for Action**

**ITEM 2 - Matters arising (from meeting of 3 September 2012)**

Item 5 - Update on the other informatics pre-proposals for CDTs

There was discussion about the CDT event run by Bob Fisher; Programming Languages CDT; work involved; who does the work; need for a figurehead. It may be appropriate to merge the three CDTs.

**Action**  
DR to speak with MOB, Murray Cole and Alan Smaill  
**Actioned**

**Action**  
JH to speak to Stratis  
**Actioned**

### Item 7 - Research output reporting (Liz Elliot)

EE reported that RCUK wants to know about outputs. This is politically mandatory. PURE is to be used to report (key findings and impact summaries), not ROS.

**Action**  
EE to email DoIs re UK outputs; institute specific breakdown  
**Actioned**

### Item 8 - Discussion of Informatics Publications Repositories

There was discussion about the repositories and what works and doesn't work.

**Action**  
JF to find out why the local portal to submit technical reports is not working; ongoing

**Action**  
JF to find out if the portal can work with PURE; ongoing

### Item 9 - Report on recent Informatics research successes (PAPER A)

Success stories selected were Matthias Henning, Guido Sanguinetti, Michael Rovatsos, Vittorio Ferrari, Jane Hillston, and Stratis Viglas.

**Action**  
EE to forward details to College (via Julie Young)  
**Actioned**

### Item 10 - Any Other Business

There was discussion about various proposals:

- Research leader workshop

**Action**  
All – send names to JF  
**Actioned**

- NII International Internship programme – PhD students funding

**Action**  
Sethu – to JF for circulation to HoIs  
**Actioned**

### **ITEM 3 – Digital Healthcare CDT plans (Stuart Anderson, Paper A)**

SA is currently working on a proposal but was unable to attend the meeting to provide his report. This item is carried forward to the next meeting when more information should be available regarding funding.

**Action**  
SA to provide report at next meeting

#### **ITEM 4 – Update on other CDT plans**

MOB - reported that Murray Cole is willing to lead the bid. MOB is willing to put himself forward as Director if no other volunteers come forward. Heriot Watt has approached ICOSA (Signal Processing) but this has been declined.

SV – not in attendance; plans not clear.

#### **Action**

SV to provide update at next meeting

AS – working on pre-proposal and will report back at the next meeting

#### **Action**

AS to provide update at next meeting

JB – Report on the meeting on the future of the Neuroinformatics DTC (held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2012): Discussions have taken place but no fundamental decisions as yet. Medical Neuroscience aspect is being considered; Neuroscience willing to provide contacts to help arrange funding from MRC. It may be possible to bring together all core DTC people to produce ‘MRC friendly’ proposal. Barbara Webb is a possible candidate for leading a follow-up CDT.

It is expected that EPSRC will impose a limit on the number of proposals put forward therefore internal competition may be required. Bob Fisher has suggested that there will be a college process and we should have a clearer idea by December. “Priorities” document is expected soon.

It was agreed that it was important to engage with the teaching side. Admin support should also be considered in advance. Costings may be needed at some point so it was important to give LE some notice to identify appropriate admin support staff.

#### **ITEM 5 - Teaching and PGR training implications of grant proposals (Paper B)**

Michael Rovatsos, Deputy Director of Teaching, put forward a proposal for discussion by the committee.

He proposes that the approval process for any grant that is submitted through Informatics contains the following information:

- Does the proposal involve any formal teaching or research training components?  
YES/NO
- If the answer is YES, do you have approval from Head of Teaching and/or Head of Graduate School that these elements of the proposal have been appropriately designed and resourced? YES/NO

The aim is to help address potential problems whereby students arrive with an unsupported expectation of participation in a programme of study. If there is a teaching aspect then Board of Studies would have to approve. It was agreed that it would be sensible to raise awareness at the proposal stage although it was likely to have limited effect. It was stressed that Portfolio Managers should not have responsibility for this information.

**Action**

LE to talk to Michael Rovatsos, ERI and Portfolio Managers with a view to including tick boxes on the IRG forms

JH proposed that it would be helpful to offer training to new academic staff to advise ways in which Portfolio Managers can provide assistance.

**Action**

LE to investigate

**ITEM – 6 Short discussion on outcome documents for workshops on “Writing for Researchers” (Paper C)**

JF invited suggestions for utilising the materials produced by this workshop.

NM suggested that the slides may be useful to students. Alex Lascarides, Deputy Director of the Graduate School, is working with Neil Brown to set up a repository for this type of resource.

**Action**

JF to send material to NM to check suitability for this repository

**ITEM 7 – Report on recent Informatics research successes (Paper D)**

It was requested that publication of information relating to the following was put on hold, to be discussed further at the next meeting:

- Christophe Dubach, Early Career Faculty Honour Award (Intel)
- James Cheney, Research Support (AFOSR/EOARD)

**Action**

To be discussed at next meeting

Approval was given for:

- Peggy Series, NARSAD Young Investigator Award (Brain and Behaviour Research Foundations)
- Nigel Goddard, Research in the Wild (EPSRC)

**Action**

EE to forward details to College (via Julie Young)

**ITEM 8 – Any Other Business**

Nothing to report.

**ITEM 9 – Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Monday, 5 November 2012, 12:00 pm in the Turing Room.