York Graduate Research School
Awards and Funding Sub-Committee

Thursday 6 April 2017, 10am – 11.30am

H/G/17

MINUTES

Present: Professor T Stoneham (Chair; TS)
Professor C Brown (CB)
Dr K Giles (KG)
Mrs A Grey (AG)
Mr D Lean (DL)
Professor D Smith

In attendance: J Stokoe (JS)

Category 1

16-17/26 Apologies

Mrs S Broom, Professor M Festenstein, Mrs S Mountain,

16-17/27 Minutes from last meeting [Encl. 1]

The minutes were approved by the Committee as an accurate record.

16-17/28 Matters arising:

i) Update on AHRC DTP2

TS reported that following a recent recruitment process, no Director was appointed. Instead, TS will be named as the Director for the purpose of the bid, and the recruitment process will be run again once the outcome of the bid is known.

TS reported that it had been agreed that the bid would be for 48 studentships per year. This means 24 would be matched (eight per year, per institution). It had been suggested that departments would provide 1/3 of the matched funding.

TS reported that European HEIs were to be approached to be partners in the bid (these partners would not be eligible for any of the funding).
ii) PGR programme approval process

TS reported that he withdrew the paper that he sent to UEB. Following a discussion with Tracey Lightfoot, TS deemed that this is a small part of a bigger challenge.

iii) Overseas Research Studentship (ORS)

This will be added to the AFSC spend from 2018/9 entry. RSAT will shadow the process for 2017/8.

**TS to contact Paul Armstrong to ensure that YGRS is involved with the selection process for 2017/8.**

*Action: TS*

iv) Length and frequency of meetings

TS proposed that the meetings would be timetabled quarterly (November; February; May; September), and scheduled for 90 minutes. This will be proposed formally in the review of terms of reference at the first meeting of 2017/8.

**JS to ensure bookings for 2017/8 meetings are made accordingly.**

*Action: JS*

v) YUFund/YGRS Masters Scholarships 2017-18 [Encl. 2]

TS informed the committee that FLTGs will be selecting the recipients of these scholarships, and RSAT will make the award.

vi) Leverhulme update

Three proposals have been shortlisted, and the interviews will be on 10 May. Associate Deans will be contacted about being panellists. The shortlisted proposals are:

- New Digital Pasts (PI Mark Jenner, History)
- Humane Environments and Environmental Humanities (PI Sebastien Deterding, TFTV)
- Human-AI Co-Creativity (PI Julian Richards, Archaeology)

It was noted that while the three bids come from the Faculty for Arts and Humanities, they were all cross-faculty projects.

It was noted that all unsuccessful pitches were assigned a Research Development Manager to see if their bid would be suitable for other funding opportunities.

16-17/29 Scholarship Budget Update [Encl. 3]

The Committee reviewed the budget for 2016-7 line by line, and the new items for 2017-8 onwards. The following actions were assigned:

**JS to chase MF re the spend of the set-up costs assigned to the ESRC White Rose DTC.**
TS to ask Nick Skeavington (International Office) to provide a paper, and attend the next AFSC meeting to discuss how better use might be made of the Marshall Scholarship opportunity.

DL also raised that the MA in Social Research was recruiting well with 20 offers accepted (the target for this course was 8 Home students, and 2 overseas students).

DL to update the Committee on the admissions stats for the MA in Social Research at the next meeting.

TS noted that only £6,000 had been spent of the £10,000 budget. It was agreed that there would be another round of funding with a deadline of 15 May.

The terms and conditions of this award will be reviewed for the next academic year to possibly be advertised as a Research Training and Support fund, and to be available to anyone without other RTS opportunity.

TS to ensure GSA promote this opportunity

TS to contact MF to clarify the procedure that Sheffield are taking to appoint a new Director to the ESRC White Rose DTC.

TS reported that STFC had consulted about penalising institutions that had poor submission rates. TS provided a robust response which is reportedly in line with how other institutions responded. STFC’s motivations were to target rule benders.

TS reported that CLAHRC intended to fund Doctoral Training for Advanced Health Practitioners and Nurses. A working group had been formed with the White Rose University Consortium, alongside Sheffield Hallam University, the University of Huddersfield, and the University of Hull.