UNIVERSITY OF YORK

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2013

Present: The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) (in the Chair)
Professor M Beaney
Professor K Claxton
Professor M Collins
Dr I D’Amico
Professor B Fulton
Professor E Hancock
Professor M Ormrod
Professor J Potts
Dr S Rees-Jones
Professor M Smith
Dr A Sowden
Professor A Webster

In attendance: Director of the Research and Enterprise Office
Research Strategy and Policy Manager
Research Grants and Contracts Manager
Research Strategy and Policy Officer
REF Impact Officer
Head of Information Services

Apologies for absence were received from Professor F Hardman and Professor P Kaye

12-13/52 Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2013 were approved.

12-13/53 Research Awards and Applications to Month 8 (March 2013) (FOIA Exempt)
12-13/54 Comparative Research Income and Postgraduate Research Performance (FOIA Exempt)

12-13/55 Pricing Principles for Research Projects

The Committee considered a report on the context for the current pricing principles for research projects and the degree of flexibility that was already in existence. It was recognised that a more mature approach to charity and price regulated research was needed and that there needed to be a more nuanced approach to the different charitable funders. It was suggested that there was a widely held perception that charity funding should not be sought, due to low overhead rates. It was noted that this was untrue, due to the Charity QR funding stream but that the current funding model did not make this explicit at a departmental level. It was agreed to recommend that Charity QR should be allocated back to departments to encourage applications.

With this addition, it was recommended that the paper be passed to SMG for approval.

ACTION HAW

12-13/56 Summary of the forthcoming REF submission and predicted departmental outcomes (Strictly Confidential and FOIA Exempt)

12-13/57 The overarching quality and preparedness of departmental submissions in relation to REF Environment, Impact Templates and Case Studies. (FOIA Exempt)

12-13/58 Progress report on Research Data Management

The Committee considered a progress report on Research Data Management and noted the issues highlighted, though it did appear that not all departments were as fully engaged with the issues as they should be. The difficulties relating to the ownership of data, particular in relation to funders’ terms and conditions was recognised and noted. In particular, more guidance in the definition of data would need to be given.

The Committee agreed that the progress was satisfactory and that no further data collection was required. However, a more detailed plan of the next stage of implementation would need to be developed.

ACTIO LW
12-13/59 Proposal for a pilot on new arrangements for Interdepartmental Centres

The Committee considered a proposal for a pilot on new arrangements for Interdepartmental Centres and noted that there was concern that the current arrangements were focussing too much on financial matters, rather than developing research. However, it was further noted that the current system had been put in place at the request of HoDs, in order to be able to track an IDCs contribution and that this would not be possible under the proposed scheme. It was agreed to pilot the proposed system for YESI

12-13/60 Annual Report on Research Misconduct

The Committee received for information the Annual Report on Research Misconduct

12-13/61 Date of next meeting

The Committee noted the provisional dates of meetings for 2013/14. All meetings are due to take place on Wednesdays at 2.15pm

9th October 2013
20th November 2013
15th January 2014
19th March 2014
11th June 2014

June 2013
Anna Grey
Research Strategy and Policy Manager