Minutes

Summary
These are the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Committee of 2 May 2012.

Recommended Action
The Committee is asked to confirm the minutes

Colin Higgins
September 2012
MINUTES OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE  
2 May 2012

Present:  
Professor Li Wei [Chair], Dr Tracey Barrett, Dr Rick Cooper, Christoph Dimech, Professor Andrew Jones, Dr John Kraniauskas, Professor Esther Leslie, Professor Alex Poulovassilis,

Apologies:  
Professor John Kelly, Professor Matthew Weait

In attendance:  
Robert Atkinson (Deputy Librarian), Liz Francis (Head, Research Grants & Contracts), Colin Higgins (Research Student Unit), Trevor Pearce (Deputy Academic Registrar), James Parry (for item 35), Julie Radcliffe (School Manager, Science),

31  MINUTES RC31 (2011/12)  
Received:  
31.1 The minutes of the meeting of 19 January 2012.

Agreed:  
31.2 To confirm the minutes with the following amendment:

26.3 “that the School of Science operated a more devolved structure than other schools, and research was generally considered at a departmental, rather than School, level”.

32 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES RC32 (2011/12)  
Received:  
32.1 Details of matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 19 January 2012 not featured elsewhere on the agenda.

Noted:  
32.2 (i) That the definition of “teaching” for the purposes of the recommendations on teaching support for research students had been referred back to the Pro-vice Master (Learning & Teaching) for further consideration;

(ii) the view that research staff who were teaching at the College should also be required to receive training prior to taking up teaching  
ACTION: Trevor Pearce to discuss the inclusion of research staff in the definition of “teaching” with the Pro-Vice Master for Teaching.

(iii) that the Committee congratulated Professor Gabriel Waksmann on becoming Fellow of the Royal Society and Dr Angelica Ronald on her award of the Spearman Medal of the British Psychological Society.

33  REPORT TO THE ACADEMIC BOARD RC33 (2011/12)  
Received and noted:
33.1 The report to Academic Board of the meeting of 19 January 2012, including the recommendations which were endorsed by Academic Board.

34 RESEARCH CENTRE REVIEW RC34 (2011/12)
Received:
34.1 An activity report from research centres of the College.

Noted:
34.2 That the Centre for Nineteenth Century Studies had been very active and had run a number of well attended seminars. The centre also reported that the recent Dickens Day had a positive impact in attracting interested students to the College.

**ACTION:** Future research centre reports should include comments on the capacity building efforts of the centre and on research impact in addition to the current activity reporting.

34.3 That the Centre for Planetary Sciences, Contemporary Poetics Centre and the Centre for the Scientific Preservation of Cultural Heritage were active as detailed in the reports

35 UK RESEARCH INTEGRITY OFFICE RC35 (2011/12)
Received:
35.1 An outline of the services provided under the College’s subscription to the UK Research Integrity Office.

Noted:
35.2 That UKRIO in addition to providing the College with advice on dealing with research misconduct, could also act as a resource for speakers on topics such as research ethics, intellectual property rights and publication and authorship.

**ACTION:** The Committee is to utilise the subscription with UKRIO and contact James Parry with suggestions for talks to staff and students.

36 RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK RC36 (2011/12)
Received:
36.1 An update on developments at the College and national level in relation to the Research Excellence Framework.

Noted:
36.2 (i) That the Code of Practice on the Selection of Staff was in draft and would shortly be circulated for consultation

(ii) that departments had variable practice in relation to the reporting of REF matters to their Executives. It would be helpful to include the REF as a standing item on School Executive Committee agendas.

(iii) that an REF impact day would be held on the 22nd of May 2012 by the REF Working Party in order to review first drafts of impact cases from each Unit of Assessment. The event would include a discussion on draft Impact statements prepared by each unit of assessment.

37 RESEARCH STRATEGY RC37 (2011/12)
Received:
37.1 An interim review of the College Research Strategy that was adopted by the College for the period 2010-2013.
Noted:
37.2 that the Research Strategy included reference to increasing consultancy and knowledge transfer income through the Business Relations Department, however that this Department is now closed. The College should consider, in the next Research Strategy, how best to identify and work towards any targets in relation to knowledge transfer.

38 RESEARCH STUDENT MATTERS RC38 (2011/12)
Received:
38.1 the report to the Research Committee of the meeting of 9 February 2012 of the Research Student Sub-Committee.

Agreed:
38.2 to endorse the recommendation:
   (i) that the College adopt the revised Maternity Leave Policy.

39 RESEARCH STUDENT COMMITTEE REPORTS RC39 (2011/12)
Received and noted:
39.1 the regular reports from the School Research Committees for Spring 2012.

40 EXTERNALLY FUNDED RESEARCH GRANTS AND CONTRACTS RC40i-iv (2011/12)
Received and noted:
40.1 the regular statistical reports regarding research grant application numbers and the value of research grants held by the College.

41 FUTURE MEETINGS
Noted:
41.1 that the 2012/13 meetings of the Committee had been set for 11 October 2012, 17 January 2013 and 2 May 2013.

Signed_____________________________________________________________________
Date______________________________________________________________________