



## **Research Governance Committee**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 10:00am

### **Minutes**

Video-conferencing meeting via MS Teams

#### **Present members:**

Professor David Price (Chair); Professor Lynn Ang; Mr Jeremy Barraud; Dr Matthew Blain; Dr Helene Burningham; Mr Andrew Cooper; Dr Ivana Drobnjak; Dr Sarah Edwards; Ms Claire Glen; Professor Michael Heinrich; Professor Phil Jones; Ms Rowena Lamb; Professor Catherine Law; Mr Robert Maughan; Dr Magda Morawska; Dr Nick McNally; Mr Jim Onyemenam; Professor David Shanks; Professor Cheryl Thomas

#### **In attendance:**

Mr Nick McGhee, Senior Assistant Registrar (Casework and Governance)

#### **Apologies:**

Ms Wendy Appleby  
Professor Janet Darbyshire CBE  
Dr Kathryn Walsh  
Professor Ian Zachary

#### **Officer:**

Ms Rachel Port

## **Part I: Preliminary Business**

### **19. Declaration of Interests**

19.1. No interests were declared.

### **20. Research Governance Committee Constitution and Membership Update**

20.1. The Chair welcomed Ms Claire Glen, who took up her appointment as Executive Director of Research and Innovation Services in February 2021, who had joined Research Governance Committee (RGC) as a new ex-officio member.

**21. Minutes**

- 21.1. RGC approved the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 [Minutes 1-18, 2020-21].

**22. Matters Arising**

- 22.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**Part II: Items for Discussion**

**23. Chair's Business**

- 23.1. The Chair reported the following items to RGC:
- a. The new Provost, Dr Michael Spence AC had started at UCL in January 2021. As part of the changes to UCL's management structure that were to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, the Chair's remit as Vice-Provost had expanded to now cover Innovation and Enterprise, Global Engagement as well as Culture.
  - b. Changes were to be made to UCL's management committee structure by creating a new UCL Management Committee to allow for transparency in decision-making.
  - c. It was also intended that both RGC and Innovation and Enterprise Committee be disbanded and that a new Research, Innovation and Global Engagement Committee be formed to mirror the Chair's remit as Vice-Provost. This was still under consideration and no consultation over the proposed committee changes had taken place as yet.
  - d. A decision was awaited over whether expenditure requests related to research ethics would be permitted in light of the current situation.

**24. Research Operations Group – Update Report (Paper 2-13)**

- 24.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**25. Information Security Update (Paper 2-14)**

- 25.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**26. UCL Research Misconduct Procedure – Update Report (Paper 2-15)**

- 26.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**27. KPMG Internal Audit Report: Research Misconduct (Paper 2-16)**

27.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**28. Proposed revisions to the UCL Research Misconduct Procedure (Paper 2-17)**

28.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**29. Research Integrity Update Report**

- 29.1. The Head of Research Integrity gave an oral update on developments in research integrity since the last meeting. The key points made were:
- a. Work was being taken forward on expanding the online 3-hour training session on research integrity for new PhD students. The programme now included a section on animal ethics.
  - b. This training session would be added into the overall Research Integrity Development Programme. The introduction of this new programme had been delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic but it was intended that it be rolled out in Spring 2022 for new PhD students first, and then for new research staff.
  - c. The Head of Research Integrity was also on the Group that was looking into developing a research and culture training package, chaired by the Pro-Vice-Provost Library Services.

**30. New UCL Code of Conduct for Research: Update Report (Paper 2-18)**

30.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**31. Nagoya Protocol: Update Report (Paper 2-19)**

31.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**32. Research Policy Update Report**

32.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**33. Research Ethics Governance (Paper 2-20)**

33.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

### **Part III: Other Business for Approval or Information**

#### **34. Report from UCL Research Ethics and Governance Committees (Papers 1-11, 1-12)**

34.1. RGC received the following reports:

- a. Update report on UCL Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Bodies.
- b. Update report on any matters of interest contained in the minutes submitted to the RGC Secretary since the last meeting.

34.2. RGC noted that the Clinical Research Governance Committee was keen to trial the devolved research governance pilot conducted at the Institute of Neurology across the School of Life and Medical Sciences.

#### **35. Date of Next Meeting**

35.1. The next meeting of RGC would be held on:

- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021<sup>1</sup>, 10:00am.

Ms Rachel Port  
Secretary to Research Governance Committee  
July 2021

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<sup>1</sup> Subsequent to the meeting, the June meeting was rescheduled and would be held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 2:00pm.