

UET meeting

Tue 12 July 2022, 10:00 - 12:00

Teams/Committee room

Attendees

UET members

John Vinney (Chair), Tim McIntyre-Bhatty, Jim Andrews, Susie Reynell

In attendance

Jane Forster, Sarah Hutchings (Present at: 2),

Julie Northam Anand Pandyan, Einar Thorsen, Lois Farquharon, Mike Silk, Jane Murphy, Tiantian Zhang Ian Jones, Karen Parker, Brian Kaliczynsky, Jana Kuncova, Deborah Wakely, Sarah Hutchings Tom Ormerod, Julia Taylor Ros Ashcroft (Present at: 3), Christina Pizot (Minute taking)

Meeting minutes

1. Minutes and Matters arising from the previous meeting held on 5 July 2022


Approval
Chair

Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved with no further comments or redactions.

Matters arising

None noted

 Minutes_UET meeting_050722.pdf

2. Finance discussion

Susie Reynell

Present: Sarah Hutchings

2.1. Cash flow update

Information
Sarah Hutchings

SH joined the meeting to review our latest cashflow position and noted that there wasn't huge movement this week:

- we have continued to received additional fee income
- Research income forecast for July has been revisited by RDS and has come down slightly
- Capital Expenditure for equipment agreed to be deferred to 2022/23 as discussed last week

TMB enquired with regards to the OfS Capital bid. SH confirmed that further to discussion with the Faculties in terms or prioritisation, the final draft was submitted to UET last Thursday for review and was submitted to the OfS for their 11 July deadline. We should get an outcome response from OfS around September time.

2.2. Bids for approval

Approval
Susie Reynell

-RED ID: 13139 – “Climate, vegetation cover, and land use during the Middle/Late Holocene in western Europe: a comparative perspective”, NERC – Marc Vander Linden

-RED ID: 13151 – “DataLabs: Humanising Data and Digital Methods for Arts & Humanities researchers”, AHRC –Anna Feigenbaum

-RED ID: 13159 – “Do wilder ecosystems have enhanced large-scale ecological processes?”, NERC – Anita Diaz

SR noted that from a financial point view, all these bids were ok in terms of recovery rate and cashflows. On that basis, UET were content to approve all the bids going forward.

 Narrative for UET meeting 12.07.22.pdf

2.2.1. CPD - Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

Approval
Susie Reynell

SH noted that this was funding upfront to be paid on signature of the agreement. Cashflow was positive. UET were content to approve.

 CPD for approval - UET 12.07.22.pdf

3. Strategic discussion

2. RKE support and income

- Julie Northam
- Anand Pandyan, Einar Thorsen, Lois Farquharon, Mike Silk, Jane Murphy, Tiantian Zhang
- Ian Jones
- Karen Parker
- Brian Kaliczynsky
- Jana Kuncova
- Deborah Wakely
- Sarah Hutchings
- Tom Ormerod
- Julia Taylor
- Ros Ashcroft

Apols:

Scott Wright

Fiona Knight

Alastair Morrison - Jana Kunkova attending in his place

Colleen Harding

Keith Phalp

This was the second of our strategic discussion. This was around RKE support and particularly supporting our income. JV noted that one of the themes which came through strongly from our business conversations was the challenge which we have faced in the last few years around meeting our RKE income targets, and the decision that we all made to settle on a certain number over the next three years which was higher than originally envisaged.

JV noted that the conversation today would be at a strategic level and around the question on *'how do we create a culture of successful bidding across the University'*. How do we achieve this as a Leadership team, involving more people and being more successful generally at hitting our income targets for research and knowledge exchange income across BU.

UET were keen to hear the attendees' views and thoughts about the areas we can explore today from a Leadership perspective. Some of the key highlights noted were:

-BK has been doing a piece of work on Research future - talking to over 300 Academics, running workshops to open the dialogue of where the problems areas could be found and how to solve those

-AP noted that targets were stretched and post-awards management would be the area where investment should be focused on

-MS commented that a lot of emphasis was on process. Expectations locally and institutionally needed to be changed in terms of the career framework

-JN agreed that there was too much emphasis on the processes. Important questions were Research Leadership, external engagement strategy and risk appetite and post-awards support was also crucial

-JM highlighted quality and research in relation on how we can improve the environment to support good science and post-awards process

-TZ made the point of supporting culture for Research and how we need to move towards a more positive attitude in supporting bids collectively

-SR comments were about gatekeeping and quality control of those bids. We needed to be able to say 'no' to certain bids and the feedback conversation would be crucial in that respect

-TMB commented that there was something about volume and collaboration which were very important.

-RA noted that building our capacity for project management would help the post-award delivery especially in terms of risks

-ET commented that increasing the bids was key and was a cultural shift. It was also important to monitor the blind spots, the current process was rusty especially in terms of volume

-JA added that we needed to be clear when we were talking about income and profit on our activities

JV summarised that there were many different dimensions to this topic which needed further reflection. Fundamentally, this was about a cultural change especially in terms of our Leadership perspective. From a Board perspective, it was important to meet our RKE income targets and demonstrate to our Trustees that we were capable of meeting our targets. The challenge on all of us was to go away and reflect on the step change which was required to meet our income targets in our all areas.

JFo noted that these were the main themes which came out of the discussion:

-changing the narrative

-focus on post-award for delivery

-quality and gate-keeping

-monitoring and intervening prioritising

-volume and collaboration

 RKE support and income meeting.pdf


Present: Julie Northam Anand Pandyan, Einar Thorsen, Lois Farquharon, Mike Silk, Jane Murphy, Tiantian Zhang Ian Jones, Karen Parker, Brian Kaliczynsky, Jana Kuncova, Deborah Wakely, Sarah Hutchings Tom Ormerod, Julia Taylor Ros Ashcroft

4. Consultation for 2022-23 pay negotiation

Discussion
Karen Parker/Jim Andrews

KP joined the meeting to review the UCU local negotiation letter and the new questionnaire which has come through as part of the dispute resolution process.

UET reviewed both and advised KP that they were in the same position as previously agreed.

 Disputeconsulation_questionnaire_V3.pdf

5. Confidential item

Decision
Jim Andrews

UET reviewed the proposal and were content to approve.

 proposal for UET.pdf

6. Standing item: OfS and Government Reporting

Discussion
Chair

- Reportable events update

No new reports to be noted.

6.1. Delivery assurance update

Note

Noted.


 7.7.22 UET note on delivery assurance final clean.pdf


7. Future Meetings and Items

Note
Chair

- ULT agenda - 20 July
- ULT agenda - 3 August

Both agendas noted.

 EUT meeting - 31 August.pdf

 EULT meeting - 20 July.pdf

8. AOB

Chair

- VfM meetings - SR questioned the value of having regular meetings and JFo suggested having the updates embedded at ULT meetings. UET were content with this approach and SR would speak to Jean Lang before actioning
- JA advised that there was a possible red alert weather warning for next week
- 'Achieve post into each faculty to support continuation' - UET were in support with Mandi Barron as the lead. This would be discussed further with the Faculties at tomorrow's SVE meeting
- JA noted that we had been successful in the Turing Scheme