

Minutes of ILCC/HCRC Staff Meeting

Wednesday, 30th May 2018, at 1.00pm in room 3.07 (IMR room)

In Attendance

Frank Keller (Chairman), Benjamin Bach (by Skype), Lexi Birch Mayne, Dorota Glowacka, Caroline Hastings, Simon King, Alex Lascarides, John Lee, Adam Lopez, Chris Lucas, Walid Magdy, Korin Richmond, Steve Renals, Kami Vaniea and Maria Wolters.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Uli Germann, Sharon Goldwater, Kenneth Heafield, Robin Hill, Ewan Klein, Helen Pain, Rico Sennrich, Mark Steedman, Henry Thompson, Ivan Titov and Bonnie Webber.

2. Minutes of last meeting

Approved.

Matters Arising

1.1 Item 2.2 from the Minutes of 5th September 2017 relating to the feedback from the postgraduate students in relation to teaching support funding, is still ongoing.

1.2 AL had joined IPAB.

3. Finance and funding – Caroline Hastings

CH reported on the latest successful funding applications and the new deadlines for ESRC grants. CH reported that Helen New will be going on secondment from ILCC portfolio manager role for six months, with effect from 1st June 2018 and staff were to contact CH if they had any questions relating to their grants.

4. CDT in NLP application - Adam Lopez

AL had received no further update from the College. A new deadline has been set for 31 July. FK reported that a 'town meeting' would be held on 13 June in Swindon, and AL or possibly a representative would attend. Update after the meeting: we have been invited to submit a full proposal for a CDT in NLP.

5. Director's Report – Frank Keller

FK reported on the following items from the Strategy Committee:

- Milica Gasic has been offered a senior lectureship in AI+ML and is currently considering the offer.
- Chancellor's fellowship recruitment is in progress. Offers will be made in June.
- A UKRI visit was planned for early July.
- Following the restructuring of commercialization support, the BDE for ILCC is now Keith Edwards.
- Admissions update: both UG and PG applications had increased; target is 270 UG and 320 MSc students.
- The Jon Oberlander commemorative plans included the possibility of naming the new café in the Bayes Centre quad area after him and SICSA organising a yearly memorial lecture. AL will look into whether a bust of Jon can be commissioned.

Action: JL and WM to contact RH regarding a follow up meeting with the working group regarding the commemorative plans for a bust.

Research Committee:

- The date for the new Principal's visit to the Forum (postponed from May) has still to be announced.
- UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship Scheme – entails the offer of a permanent post after Fellowship.
- Jane Hillston is setting up a committee to interview fellowship applicants in the School.
- Robin Hill had been appointed laboratory manager for all the basement labs in the Forum, the lab in Appleton Tower and the new virtual reality lab in the Bayes Centre. It was agreed that Robin's time should be costed on any grants that use the lab infrastructure for now. A more general solution would be to set up a Small Research Facility that includes these labs.

Action: CH to email Susan Hamilton, in PPLS and PM's in other Institutes across the School to inform them that Robin's time should be included in relevant funding applications.

Action: FK to look into setting up a Small Research Facility as a way of charging laboratory facilities on grants and to talk to Martin Wright about this.

FK reported that the central University wants to collaborate with Amsterdam University. There will be a joint workshop in Amsterdam to start things off. It was agreed to participate and take it from there.

FK reported that there had been little response to SG's curriculum survey and reminded staff to return them to SG with any feedback.

6. Recruitment – Frank Keller

Lengthy discussion took place on the 4 priority areas for recruitment.

Cog Sci - post still to be filled (Ewan Klein's replacement).

CL reported that he had developed a job advert for the Cog Sci post. He reported that there were plans to coordinate this with ANC, who want to advertise a post in cognitive neuroscience.

Design Informatics (Jon Oberlander's post) – FK reported that the post was now at College level. Discussion took place on a possible additional post in HCI with CISA and their affiliation to ILCC.

Speech/Spoken Language Technology – KR is developing a case for support for a post in Speech, but had already sketched out a case for support and would circulate this more widely.

Computational Social Science -WM is developing the case for support.

FK reported that it would be good to have cases ready for the next academic year, and maybe even in time for the next Strategy Committee meeting on 7th July. An A4 page of information would be sufficient.

Action: FK to send WM a template sample of what was required.

Action: FK to arrange a meeting with Jane Hillston, Stuart Anderson, Owen Anderson and Chris Speed to discuss Oberlander replacement.

7. PhD admissions update – Chris Lucas

CL reported that offers had been made. 11.4 people had accepted offers in ILCC. CL reported that the graduate school would be 50K less available next year. AL thanked CL and MW for attracting more successful applications. Discussion took place on the funding for next year.

8. Alan Turing Institute update – Maria Wolters

MW reported that the Turing was moving to sponsored projects. She outlined that the remit for applications should be tailored to the Turing remit. She reminded staff to keep an eye open for project ideas that could be included in the Turing remit. MW was happy to forward information on Turing projects to anyone who was interested.

9. DONM – 29th August 2018 at 12.00 in room 4.31/4.33