

Committee	Learning, Teaching, and Research		
Agenda Item	7.1		
Date paper prepared	20/09/2022	Date of committee meeting	21/09/2022
Subject	PhD Creative Practice		
Author	Malcolm Innes		
Action requested	For information		
Purpose of the paper	An update on progress to develop a new PhD Creative Practice		
Brief summary of the paper	<p>Following the successful validation event in June, UHI Research Degrees Committee has recommended approval of the new PhD degree. Approval is for delivery specifically by “Executive Office, UHI Shetland UHI, UHI Moray, Orkney, College UHI, UHI Inverness, UHI West Highland and Perth College UHI” (however, the programme will actually be delivered online and all students will be registered at Shetland UHI).</p> <p>Approval is subject to meeting the conditions and addressing the recommendations of the validation panel.</p>		
Consultation	Consultation with students, graduates, staff, external bodies.		
Resource implications	<p>PhD supervision will be provided by individuals from across the UHI network. This will require distribution of fee income via the MicroRAM.</p> <p>Time for Shetland UHI staff contributing to supervision will be covered by fee income.</p> <p>Shetland UHI’s Centre for Island Creativity will provide overall management of the programme. This will be covered by a % retention of fees.</p> <p>Shetland UHI will be responsible for provision of suitable training for staff to undertake practice led supervision.</p> <p>Recommendations include the suggestion that Shetland UHI should use REG income to provide funded studentships.</p>		

Risk implications	Failure to invest in the academic management of the programme and the training of supervisory staff is likely to affect student outcomes.
Link with strategy	<p>The PhD Creative Practice links directly with Tertiary Education, Research & Knowledge Exchange:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive to students from outside Shetland • Increase number of international students • Improve reputation and awareness • Expand range of FE and HE courses • Develop a research culture • Increase income from research and knowledge exchange • Conduct research activity that is responsive to industry • Promote Shetland as an ideal centre in which to engage in postgraduate activities • Greater links between research and teaching • To uphold Shetland as an exciting place to carry out research, attracting new activity and supporting a critical mass of researchers • To actively involve the community in our research activity and seek for that activity to generate benefit for Shetland • To carry out research to inform public policy on Shetland's economy and industries, and to support local businesses • To expand the range of education and research opportunities that we offer to support sustainable and environmentally conscious industries • To provide opportunities for staff learning and reflection and support for continuing professional development and training. • To actively encourage staff to engage with their external and internal colleagues • To create formal and informal structures that support scholarship for staff and students and promote collaboration. • To work closely with HISA and other student groups to provide engagement, activities and support that suit the requirements of the Shetland UHI learners. • To ensure that our student journey from enquiry to course completion is accessible and inclusive.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	The new programme will follow university policy on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.
Island Community Impact	As part of a separate engagement exercise with customers of the TFU, we identified 5 individuals who are interested in pursuing a PhD in textiles. This will require further work to develop thesis proposals with these people, and to look for funding options. However, over time, this could be a significant increase in the research activity by Shetland based creative practitioners.
Paper status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open – The paper may be circulated to non-members of the committee and published online without restriction. <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted – The paper must not be circulated to non-members or published online until after the committee meeting. <input type="checkbox"/> Confidential - The paper must not be circulated beyond the committee members and should not be published online. [Please note papers may still be subject to Freedom of Information requests – see below].
Freedom of information	Open If closed/ withheld, select date this will become 'open':