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Risk Register 11 - Research outputs are sub standard

Causes

Failure to publish sufficient quality papers and upload to PURE. Loss of key staff. Lack of funding. Inadequate resources allocated to research staff. Terms and conditions of employment are not comparable with competitor organisations. Impact of Brexit on access to European projects.

Owner

Research Enterprise and Knowledge Exchange Committee, Director Research Enterprise and Impact, Research Managers, Learning Teaching and Research Sub-Committee

Actions to minimise risk in place:

Seek additional research opportunities including, where possible, higher calibre projects (new research projects secured, and from new funding sources).

Take on more PhD students (New PhD's started & more approved, increase in number of staff co-supervising PhDs).

Support staff and students to increase the quantity and quality of research outputs (project related output targets being met).

Assist staff to progress academically (staff progression supported through PRD process; Information on UHI academic progression given at

Action Plan:

1

Ensure research staff have training in PURE and understand the requirements regarding open access

- Training session included in SUHI training day 17-1-22

All research students to be given PURE training as part of UHI Graduate School induction (Embedded in training for new students)

Action Plan: 2

- Produce internal SUHI processes for the approval of publications for submission
- Policy and Guidance on Production and Release of UHI-S publications approved at RKET

Action Plan:

3

- Develop a research framework that provides staff with opportunities to develop research networks e.g.
 - conference funding (via PRD process – identification of conferences, securing external funding, built into project funding; REF REG funding)
 - encourage engagement with research pools and other committees (research staff members of relevant UHI research clusters; external pools, e.g. MASTS, SISN)
 - share information on sabbaticals (information shared, at least 1 successful application).
- These mechanisms should be linked with the PRD process (done)

Action Plan:

4

- Ensure best practice with respect to REF including:
 - training for staff on how to improve the star rating of publications (Delivered on training day on 17-1-22; REF bitesize ppt shared)
 - training and awareness raising around REF Case studies (included in staff training 17-1-22)

Action Plan: 5

- Encourage staff to participate in the Research Mentoring Programme
 - (Information shared at UHI Staff Research Conference and via Research newsletters)
 - (At least 2 staff from UHI-S are/ have acted as Mentor to research staff from across the partnership).

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Thanks

