

Faculty of Humanities
Director of Faculty Operations CoreMunicate
May 2017

This is my first CoreMunicate since starting in post on 1 May. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for making me feel so welcome and helping me settle in. I'd like to include an even bigger thank you to Andrew Walsh for undertaking the role so ably over the last six months in addition to his day job! I've met several of you already in various meetings and have introductory 121s over the next few weeks. These will be invaluable for me to understand your key issues and priorities, and hopefully to help us to deliver the Faculty's plans.

I think CoreMunicate is a great way of getting our message out there throughout the Faculty, but I'll also be asking for ideas on how we can make our communications even better! I look forward to working with you all.

Progress/Updates:

- **Manchester 2020**

As you will now be aware, the University is to commence consultation with the Trade Unions in relation to reductions of up to 75 posts across AMBS and SALC in order to deliver our M2020 strategy, secure future financial sustainability and allow strategic investment in priority areas.

Colleagues in areas affected by these proposed changes are now receiving more detailed information and have attended staff meetings to outline the next steps for them. We understand that this is a difficult and anxious time for these colleagues and the University is taking steps to support those affected. More information and FAQs documents are available on [HumNet](#).

If you would like me to come along to one of your team briefings to discuss M2020 further, please contact me on: vikki.goddard@manchester.ac.uk.

- **Cyber security roadshows**

Ahead of the new two-step login process for all staff being launched in the summer, there are a number of free events taking place across the University to highlight the risks we face and how to work more safely.

Local experts from the Greater Manchester Police Cyber Crime Team, TITAN (the North West Regional Organised Crime Unit) and Professor Daniel Dresner, from the School of Computer Science, will be sharing their insights into the underworld of cybercrime, its victims and first hand advice on staying safe. You will also hear about the University's Cyber Security Programme and the changes being made to how we log in to some services.

Events are being held at venues across campus. You can see more details and [Book your place here.](#) (<https://app.manchester.ac.uk/training/profile.aspx?unitid=7590&parentid=4>)

- **Staff survey: next steps**

Across the University, 72% of staff responded to the Staff Survey 2017 providing their feedback on what it is like to work here. Our Faculty's response rate of 68% was the highest response rate of the three Faculties. Thank you to everyone who has taken part. Your feedback provides us with a really good insight into how staff are feeling right now and it helps senior leaders develop new action plans at each level. The University level results will be communicated to all staff in mid-June, followed by the Faculty, School and Faculty Office level results later in the month. Work will then begin on developing action plans at University, Faculty, School and Faculty Office levels, responding to some of the key areas of concern.

- **Course recognised in the Good Teacher Training Guide 2017**

The University of Manchester Primary Initial Teacher Education course has been ranked as the second highest university in England in the Good Teacher Training Guide 2017. The annual guide ranks teacher training providers based on trainee entry qualifications, Ofsted performance and completion of their training linked to employment. Overall The University of Manchester combined primary and secondary provision came seventh in the league table of universities and was once again the highest performing university in the North of England.

Policy and planning:

- **RCUK General Election purdah guidance for publicising funded research**

As non-departmental public bodies the Research Councils are bound by purdah during a pre-election period. This period commences when parliament is dissolved and ends when a new government is formed (not when the polls close). During this time RCUK is unable to engage in any activities that might in any way influence the outcome of the election and must avoid competition with parliamentary candidates for the attention of the public.

The period of sensitivity is from midnight (the evening) 21 April 2017 until at least 9 June 2017. Purdah will only end when a new government is formed, which may take additional time after polls close in the event of a hung parliament.

Notably during this period we (research organisations) must ensure that we -

- Avoid issuing press releases about new research during this period and or check with communications and marketing staff first;
- Do not attribute research to RCUK unless in response to a specific enquiry as to the source of your funding;
- Do not publish anything that has the potential to influence the outcome of the election;
- Ensure posts to websites and social media platforms are done with due care and attention to the principles above.

If there are any questions during the purdah period please contact the most relevant Council:

- AHRC Press office communications@ahrc.ac.uk
- BBSRC press office press.office@bbsrc.ac.uk
- ESRC Press Office pressoffice@esrc.ac.uk
- EPSRC Press Office pressoffice@epsrc.ac.uk
- MRC Press Office press.office@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk
- NERC Press Office pressoffice@nerc.ac.uk
- STFC Press Office jake.gilmore@stfc.ac.uk
- RCUK Press Office communications@rcuk.ac.uk

People:

- **Roger Hewitt**

I am very sad to announce the sudden death of Roger Hewitt, eLearning Technologist in the Faculty, who died whilst out walking over the bank holiday weekend. Roger had worked for the University for almost 28 years and will be missed. Our thoughts are with his partner, Rhona, at this very sad time. Roger's funeral will take place on Friday 19 May. Anyone wishing to be informed of the arrangements should contact Jenny Knights, HR Partner – jenny.knights@manchester.ac.uk or 58110.

- **Distinguished Achievement Awards**

I was pleased to see that several of our academic and PSS staff have been recognised for their excellent work recently and have been awarded Distinguished Achievement Awards from the University. The Humanities winners are:

- Professor Stephen Hutchings (Researcher)
- Dr Clancy Wilmott (PGR)
- Maria Beatriz Correia Santos (UG)
- Dr Nick Shryane (Teacher)
- Martin Harris Centre of Music and Drama (PSS small team)
- Peter Jacobs, PGT Administrator, SEED PSS

- **Manchester Student Union Teaching Awards 2017**

Shau Chan, BA Econ Programme Administrator, in SoSS, has been shortlisted in the Best Support Staff category in the Manchester Student Union Teaching Awards 2017. These awards enable students to recognise teachers and support staff who have gone the extra mile to enhance their learning.

Vikki Goddard
Director of Faculty Operations