

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
SCHOOL OF LAW

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Thursday 8th December 2016

Present: Professor Yenkong Ngangjoh Hodu (Chair), Ms Jackie Boardman, Ms Margaret Cunningham, Dr Ian Fishwick, Dr Francesco Giglio, Ms Caroline Henaghan, Mr Bill Hebenton, Ms Laura Littlewood, Dr Alex Mullock, Ms Hannah Wishart

Apologies: Ms Helen Davenport, Ms Edita Pymm, Ms Abi Robinson

Unreserved Business

1. Minutes

Noted Francesco had spoken to some, not all, of the hub leaders regarding interviewing applicants.

2. Matters Arising

Reported

1. The issue of completion rates was discussed in relation to annual reviews. The possibility of highlighting at what stage the student was at and how much longer they had to go, to the reviewers, was raised. It was suggested that students should include a table of contents for their annual review work. This would provide context for the reviewers.
2. The appointment of TA representative was being undertaken.

3. Chair's Report

Reported

1. In respect of the DTC, the School had not been providing any socio-legal methods seminars. Dave Gadd was going to take the lead on organising these.
2. A supervisors' charter had been sent out. Caroline had been involved in this process and had attained feedback from students
3. At a Faculty PGR meeting, it had been suggested that supervisors should respond to PGR students within 48 hours. It was felt that a rule should not be set on this and that care needed to be taken not to micro-manage, but that individuals should be targeted. The possibility of circulating a questionnaire to students on this was discussed. Yenkong was in the process of arranging an Open Forum, with the first one being on 15 December, and this could be discussed there.
4. Five scholarships had been awarded. All but one of the hubs was funded. The one exception was Regulation and Social Justice hub but the candidate had been written to.
5. A better Legal Ethics programme was reported.

Noted Clarity on a timeframe for feedback on the final draft of the thesis was needed.

4. Admissions Report

Reported For January 2017 registration, there were 5 unconditional offers (3 home, 2 overseas; 4 law and 1 criminology), 3 conditional offers. There had been a 20% deferral rate from September 2016.

5. Student Business

None reported

6. PGR Students on the School's Website

Reported The PGR students had requested that their biographies be put on the School website.

Action This should be flagged up to Julia who deals with marketing.

7. Any Other Unreserved Business

Reported The Library's My Research Essentials programme link was moving and would have a link on eProg. Five on-line resources are already available and some workshops would be offered.