

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
SCHOOL OF LAW

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Thursday 10th November 2016

Present: Professor Yenkong Ngangjoh Hodu (Chair), Ms Jackie Boardman, Ms Helen Davenport, Dr Ian Fishwick, Dr Francesco Giglio, Ms Caroline Henaghan, Mr Bill Heberton, Ms Laura Littlewood, Dr Alex Mullock, Ms Edita Pymm, Ms Abi Robinson

Apologies: Ms Margaret Cunningham, Ms Hannah Wishart

Unreserved Business

1. Minutes

Confirmed Minutes of the Committee's previous meeting were received and approved.

2. Matters Arising

Reported

1. Bill asked whether the completion rates could be separated out between Law, Criminology and BMJ and if the Criminology completion rates were different. It was discussed whether a different annual review process could improve completion rates.
2. Yenkong still had to contact the Research Hub leaders regarding training.
3. Yenkong had contacted supervisors about the new regulations on internal examiners
4. Francesco had contacted Hub Leaders about interviewing offer holders and this had been agreed.

Action

1. Helen to check about the completion rate differences between Law, Criminology and BMJ.
2. Helen to check with other Schools about the annual review process

3. Chair's Report

Reported

1. The PGR Conference had taken place on 26 October and had gone well. The location was good. The possibility of a cross-discipline keynote speaker was noted.
2. Yenkong had attended a meeting in Faculty. They said that interviews need to be tightened up and that applicants should be asked about whether they had carried out research. Discretion should be used about this, especially for US applicants.

Noted Thanks to Helen for organising the conference.

4. Admissions Report

Reported

1. The PGR Open Day had gone well. There had been small numbers attending, but they had been good applicants – half of whom were on the LLM and half from outside the University.
2. For the January 2017 intake there had been 4 unconditional offers – 3 overseas, 1 home; 3 conditional offers – 2 overseas, 1 home. Six interviews had been scheduled for the scholarships.

Noted Thanks to Laura for the Open Day.

5. Student Business

Reported

1. The students wanted to pass on their thanks for the conference.
2. Helen had contacted IT again regarding upgrading the computers in the PGR rooms.
3. The TAs/GTAs would like to discuss their working conditions.

Noted

The possibility of a student representative for TAs was suggested and Margaret Cunningham should be consulted about this.

6. PGR Support Awards

Reported

The possibility of increasing the allowance for attending a course was discussed and agreed.

Action

The guidelines for the PGR Support Awards to be amended to show the change for courses.

7. Studentships

Reported

Interviews for the studentships were scheduled to take place.

8. Any Other Unreserved Business

None reported