



### Research Committee Minutes

A meeting of the Research Committee was held on Monday, 10 October 2022 at 12:00pm  
via Zoom conferencing

Dr Lance Sandle  
Registrar

- Present:** Prof David Roberts, Chair  
Prof Roberto La Ragione, Chair, Veterinary Pathology SAC  
Dr James McCaffrey, Trainee representative  
Prof Angharad Davies, Vice-President for Learning  
Ms Joanne Brinklow, Director of Learning and International
- In attendance:** Ms Louise Mair, Governance & Committee Services Officer (*attending on behalf of Shelaine Kissoon*)
- Apologies:** Prof Sarah Coupland, Vice-President for Communications  
Dr Owen Driskell, Lead of Laboratory Medicine, NIHR Clinical Research Network
- Absent:** Prof Gareth Thomas, Chair of Pathological Society Research Sub-committee  
Dr Guy Pratt, British Society of Haematology

**Rea.12/22 Welcome, declarations of conflict of interests, and apologies for absence**  
The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting. There were no declarations of conflict of interests. Apologies for absence had been noted.

**Rea.13/22 Minutes of the previous meeting**  
The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 11 February were approved as a correct record.

**Rea.14/22 Matters arising from the minutes**  
There had been no matters arising.

**Rea.15/22 Review of action log**  
The action log had been reviewed and the following noted:

#### **Actions under Rea.32/21**

- The Chair to invite Path Soc to the next Committee meeting, to present on their mentoring scheme.  
*The Committee had a discussion around mentoring and felt it was important not to replicate the systems that already exist as most medical schools and universities have mentoring schemes in place. The Chair stated that it would be good to publicise the mentoring schemes that are available, and he agreed to contact The Pathological Society and the Academy of Medical Sciences and collate information on their mentoring scheme and present it at the next Committee meeting. **Action: Chair***
- Due to College IT issues, Ms Brinklow was not able to provide a list of those who received Fellowship by Published Works in the past five years. Ms Brinklow to provide a list for the next meeting.



*The action was linked to the mentoring scheme and the information is no longer required, therefore the Committee agreed to close the action.*

#### **Actions under Rea.33/21**

- Research Fellowships - The Chair mentioned that he would meet with Nigel Pollard to discuss contracting and to review and understand how the RCPATH would administer the Research Fellowships process in terms of website development and advertising.  
*The action was discussed under agenda item 5.*

#### **Action under Rea.34/21**

- NIHR Associate PI scheme  
*The Committee had a brief discussion around promoting the NIHR PI scheme and the Chair felt it would be good for the NIHR to speak at the Trainees Advisory Committee meeting; in addition, he felt it would be useful to publish information about the scheme on the College website and share it with the Specialty Advisory Committees. **Action: Chair to contact the NIHR to seek information on the PI scheme.***

#### **Rea.16/22 Trainee Research Medal Awards 2022**

The Trainee Research Medal Awards for 2022 was launched on the 9th of September and the deadline for applications is the 21st of October. The advert was published on the College website, included in the Presidents Newsletter and circulated to the relevant SACs to share with their networks.

#### **Rea.17/22 Research Fellowships**

The following documents for the Research Fellowships Start-up Grant had been drafted and circulated to the Committee:

- Fellowship Research Grant application form
- Fellowship Research Grant Information document
- Fellowship Research Grant Report form

The Committee reviewed the documents and suggested several changes which had been applied to the documents. The plan is to publicise the Research Fellowship Start-up Grants by December 2022; the Chair to liaise with Shelaine Kisson regarding the advertisement and to ensure it clearly states that there would be only two rounds of grants awarded. Applications will be circulated to the Committee to score and to make a decision on the applications.

The Chair enquired if there would be a possibility of gaining more funding for the Start-up Grant and Prof Davies explained that the College may not be able to gain extra funding to support the grant long term but suggested gaining funds through sponsorship. **Action: Chair to contact Professor Coupland to discuss sponsorship.**

#### **Rea.18/22 Update on Fellowship by Published Works**

The Chair provided a brief update on Fellowship by Published Works and advised that there is a current cycle of applications that he is reviewing together with Prof La Ragione and Prof Thomas. There are 13 final applications and 21 preliminaries. He assured that the applications would be reviewed and scored in time for the next Examinations Committee meeting.

#### **Rea.19/22 Update from other Committees**

##### Veterinary Pathology

No update.

##### Clinical Biochemistry

No update.

**Rea.20/22 Links with other societies**

Pathological Society

No update.

British Society of Haematology

No update.

**Rea.21/22 Any other business**

None.

**Rea.22/22 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is due to take place on 23 January 2023 from 11am to 1pm.