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Consultations
Consultation on the second Research Excellence Framework

The University’s response to the funding bodies’ consultation was submitted on 17 March 2017 and can be found on the consultations pages.

HEFCE colleagues advised that they received 370 submissions.

Workshops, training and information sessions

MRC funding event, 25 May 2017

An MRC funding event organised by NIHR and the Nuffield Department of Population Health will take place on Thursday 25 May from 10am at the Richard Doll Lecture Theatre, Old Road Campus. The event will include presentations from the MRC and current award holders and one-to-one sessions.

For more information and to book contact Phillip Saunders.

Preparing a research proposal for NIHR PGfAR and RfPB programmes, 14 June 2017

The NIHR is holding a free session on preparing research proposals for its programme grants for applied research (PGfAR) and research for patient benefit (RfPB) on Wednesday 14 June (10am–4.45pm) at the Richard Doll Lecture Theatre, Old Road Campus.

To book a place contact Phillip Saunders.

NIHR academic fellowship application day, 12 July 2017

The NIHR is running a free session on applying to its academic fellowships on Wednesday 12 July (10am–4.15pm) at the Richard Doll Lecture Theatre, Old Road Campus.

To book a place contact Phillip Saunders.

Open Access

FP7 Post-Grant Open Access Pilot ends 30 April 2017

Open Access publications arising from finished FP7 projects where an institution was the project coordinator or a partner have been eligible for funding from the EC/OpenAIRE FP7 post-grant Open Access Pilot. The pilot will close on 30 April 2017. Manuscripts accepted after that date will not be eligible for funding.

For more information see the Open Access website.

Other news

New on Funding Insight: Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Institute of Physics’ Virdee Grant and the British Foundation for the Study of Arabia

Recent Funding Insight articles on Research Professional include:

Joseph Rowntree Foundation – what makes for a good research funding proposal

The Institute of Physics’ Virdee Grant focuses on capacity-building in sub-Saharan Africa and could be handy add-on or match funding for a wide range of projects

The British Foundation for the Study of Arabia is on the hunt for top applicants to help build its research reputation

Business in Oxford - free tickets

Complimentary tickets are available for Business in Oxford on 11 May at the Osney Mead King’s Centre. The University has 45 minutes of presentations and a stand on the theme of business growth with a creative
approach in an international community.

If you are interested in tickets for either University staff or external partners, please contact Matt Smart.

EU Transparency Register and Code of Conduct

In order to promote transparency in EU decision-making processes, an interinstitutional agreement of 2014 made it a requirement that all organisations who seek to influence policy-making in EU institutions are on the Transparency Register and follow an associated code of conduct. The University is a registrant, and therefore all University staff are required to follow the code of conduct in any dealings with the EU Parliament, Commission, Council and other institutions, bodies, offices and agencies.

For more information see the Council Secretariat website.

Giving editor rights in NIH’s ASSIST grant application submission portal

When using the ASSIST portal to apply for NIH grants, PIs now have the ability to give user/delegate access to co-applicants and departmental administrators. To be set up with this facility please contact your Research Services office and request ASSIST ‘Access Maintenance’ privileges.

Administrators will need an eRA Commons account with an ‘Admin Assistant (ASST)’ role to be given delegate access by the PI.

To arrange this please contact Joanne Freeman.

Symplectic Elements: Impact Module trial

Over May and June Research Services, in collaboration with the academic divisions, will be trialling a new module of Symplectic Elements that records research impact, to assess if this tool is fit-for-purpose to support the next REF.

The Impact Module primarily provides a place for recording and storing the evidence of impact, and its relationship to outputs, researchers and research units. It could also help record activity related to research that could help in the gathering of facts for future case studies.

Following the trial a report and recommendation will be made to the Research Information Management and Technology Subcommittee and the REF Project Board.

Revised European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity

A revised version of the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity has been published by the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA). The new edition addresses emerging challenges linked to technological developments, open science, citizen science and social media. The code covers:

- fundamental principles of research integrity
- good research practices
- violations of research integrity

For more information see the ALLEA website.

Japanese researchers are invited to join the JSPS London Network

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) wishes to expand the JSPS London network for Japanese researchers based in the UK. Visiting Japanese scholars as well as tenured Japanese academics based at a UK institution are welcome to join. It is free to join and JSPS offer events and funding schemes exclusive to members.

To register go to the JSPS website.
AHRC: Chief Executive appointed

Science Minister Jo Johnson has confirmed that Professor Andrew Thompson has been appointed Chief Executive of AHRC.

More information can be found on the AHRC website.

EC/Horizon 2020 news, Brexit round-up, consultations, events and deadlines: see Oxford Gateway to Europe

For any EC, FP7 and Horizon 2020-related news / consultations, events and deadlines, including factsheets specifically aimed at Oxford researchers and research support staff, please see the Oxford Gateway to Europe website. The website is also regularly updated with the latest about Brexit.

HEFCE: financial health of the HE sector

HEFCE has published a report on the 'Financial health of the higher education sector: 2015-16'.

For more information see the HEFCE website.

NIH: reporting preprints and other interim research products

The NIH has issued guidance on citing preprints and other 'interim research products' in applications, proposals and reports, and on how to claim these as products on NIH awards

For full details see the NIH website.

NIHR: streamlined application system

The NIHR is due to launch a streamlined process for researchers applying for funding. The new two-stage form will be rolled out across NIHR research and training programmes from May 2017.

More information can be found on the NIHR website.

RCUK: feedback requested on Gateway to Research

The RCUK is seeking feedback on recent changes to the Gateway to Research website through a user survey. The closing date for responses is Wednesday 31 May 2017.

For more information see the RCUK website.

RCUK: impact reports 2015/16 published

The Research Councils have published reports detailing the impacts of a collective investment of £3.4bn in 2015/16. The reports can be downloaded from each Research Council website:

- Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC)
- Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)
- Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC)
- Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)
- Medical Research Council (MRC)
- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)
- Science & Technology Facilities Council (STFC)

A set of slides summarising key impacts is also available. For more information see the RCUK website.
RCUK: policy and guidelines on the governance of good research conduct

From 1 April 2017, the RCUK Policy and Guidelines on the Governance of Good Research Conduct have been updated in response to some of the recommendations in the Science Europe report, Research Integrity Practices in Science Member Organisations (July 2016), and for consistency with the policy of the Wellcome Trust.

For more information see the RCUK website.

STFC: call for new committee and panel members

A number of vacancies have arisen on STFC's committees and panels. The closing date for nominations is **31 May 2017**.

For more information see the STFC website.

Wellcome Trust: grant inflation

For all grants awarded from 1 October 2017 onwards, the standard allowance the Wellcome Trust applies for grant inflation will increase from 1.6% to 2.0% per annum. This will not be applied to existing grants.

More news from funders on Research Professional

You can find more news from top research funders on Research Professional.