Friday 27 July 2018

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Consultations

Commons Science and Technology Committee inquiry into the balance and effectiveness of research and innovation spending (deadline: 14 September 2018)

The University proposes to respond to the invitation to submit evidence to the Commons Science and Technology Committee inquiry into the balance and effectiveness of research and innovation spending being conducted by the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee. Oxford colleagues are warmly invited to contribute ideas to assist the drafting of the University’s submission.

The call for evidence was announced on 20 July 2018. Please provide comments by Friday 14 September to Stephen Conway, Director of Research Services.

> More details
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**Events**

**NIHR: Essential Guide to Grant Applications, 17–19 October 2018**

NIHR RDS South Central is hosting a free to attend three-day masterclass on how to write a grant application on 17–19 October at the University of Southampton. The sessions will cover how to make a research idea clear and compelling, how to write a good case for support and how to demonstrate credible support.

> More details

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**Policy, processes and resources**

**Electronic lab notebooks available to all University of Oxford researchers**

Oxford has signed up to a site licence for LabArchives, a cloud-based electronic lab notebook solution which is now available to all Oxford researchers. Electronic lab notebook systems make it easier to search research records and can hold digital data from instrumentation directly.

> More details

**Revised claim process for COAF open access fees**

Oxford’s block grant from the Charity Open Access Fund (COAF) has now been fully spent for 2017–2018. Researchers funded by the six COAF partners (Arthritis Research UK, Bloodwise, Breast Cancer Now, British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK and Parkinson’s UK) should, until further notice, first contact their funder for permission to take the paid route, then obtain and pay the invoice, and then send the claim to the funder for reimbursement.
UKRI Researchfish® analysis reports

UKRI has provided reports analysing the research outcomes submitted by Research Council-funded Oxford researchers and students through Researchfish®. The reports, for grants and studentships, can be downloaded from the Research Support website.

Research Accounts bulletin

A new issue of the Research Accounts bulletin has been published and is available to download from the Research Support website.

Annual TRAC 2016–17 sector analysis

A Transparent Approach to Costing report published by the Office for Students shows research at higher education institutions was underfunded by £3.9 billion in the academic year 2016–17, compared with a £3.2bn shortfall in 2015–16.

New on Funding Insight: World Cancer Research Fund International, ESRC-Alan Turing Institute Joint Fellowships, and personal data ethics

Recent Funding Insight articles on Research Professional include:
• Anna Diaz-Font, programme manager at World Cancer Research Fund International, on their grants for research into how lifestyle factors influence cancer
• Alison Heppenstall, professor in geocomputation at the University of Leeds, on her successful application for an ESRC-Alan Turing Institute Joint
Fellowship
• a report from EuroScience Open Forum 2018 on personal data ethics beyond the GDPR

REF 2021

Draft REF 2021 guidance and criteria published

Research England have published the draft ‘Guidance on submissions’, ‘Panel criteria and working methods’ and ‘Codes of practice guidance’ for REF 2021.

Several aspects are open for consultation, and the Research Services REF team will be preparing an institutional submission by the deadline of 15 October. We will be in touch with relevant stakeholders across the University shortly to seek their opinions about relevant sections, but we also welcome any comments to refinfo@admin.ox.ac.uk.

> More details

Funder news

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.

EPSRC: new approach to setting strategic priorities
EPSRC has refined how it reviews its portfolio to make the process more continuous and flexible. An open call for evidence has been launched to provide a year-round opportunity for institutions to provide input on research areas.

> More details

**EPSRC: new data on diversity in peer review**

EPSRC has published new data on equality, diversity and inclusion in its peer review process.

> More details

**NIH: application submission/resubmission policy**

The NIH has updated its policy on submission and resubmission of applications for grants and cooperative agreements.

> More details

**NIH: implementation of provisions from new rule on research involving human participants**


> More details

**NIH: interim policy flexibilities for basic science studies involving human participants**

The NIH is delaying enforcement of registration and reporting policies for prospective basic science studies involving human participants until 24 September 2019.
NIH: updated diversity statement

The NIH has issued an updated diversity statement.

NIHR: first open dataset launched

The National Institute for Health Research has published its first licensed open dataset – its funded portfolio of research. This makes NIHR data accessible all in one place, providing a single source of up-to-date, accurate and reusable data.

NIHR: how commissioners use research evidence

The NIHR has published the findings of studies on the use of research evidence by health commissioners, including practical tips for researchers to make their work more accessible and relevant.

Research Councils: annual reports published

The Research Councils have published their annual reports for 2017–18:

- AHRC
- BBSRC
- EPSRC
- ESRC
- MRC
- NERC
- STFC
STFC strategic context and future opportunities

STFC has reviewed its corporate strategy and produced a new document to reflect the changing external environment since the strategy was published in 2010. This is STFC’s initial step in developing a strategic delivery plan.

> More details

Wellcome to use Researchfish® for reporting research outcomes

From February 2019, the Wellcome Trust will ask most science, humanities and social science grantees to use Researchfish® to report research outcomes, replacing the current end-of-grant report.

> More details

Wellcome: gender pay gap data for 2018

The Wellcome Trust has published its gender pay gap statistics for 2018.

> More details

More news from funders on Research Professional

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

The next issue of RS News will be circulated on Friday 24 August. Please email any contributions to research.services@admin.ox.ac.uk by Monday 20 August.