the
ACADEMIC COUNCIL

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the fourth meeting of the 2020/21 session held on Tuesday 18th May 2021
at 10am via Microsoft Teams

Present:
Professor Pam Maras (Chair)
Mr Peter Garrod (University Secretary)
Dr Guido Conaldi (FBUS)
Dr Richard Fuchs (FES/NRI)
Dr Ben Hunter (FLAS)
Dr Mary Clare Martin (FEHHS)
Dr Simon Richardson (FES)
Dr Mark Goss-Sampson (FEHHS)
Dr Wim Vandekerckhove (FBUS)
Mrs Trudy Brighton (note taker)
Ms Natalia Urbon (observer)

Apologies:
Professor Jon Davison (University of Birmingham)
Professor Lora Forsythe (FES/NRI)
Dr Edyta McCallum (Medway NHS Foundation Trust)
Professor Tracey Reynolds (FLAS)
Dr Georgios Samakovitis (FLAS)

Min

UREC:

20.34	**TERMS OF REFERENCE – TO NOTE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE UNDER WHICH THE UNIVERSITY AND FACULTY RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEES OPERATE**

The Committee noted the terms of reference under which both university and faculty Research Ethics Committees operate.

20.35	**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2021 and summary of decisions made were agreed as an accurate record.

20.36	**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

36.1   Ethics Training (v min 26.1)

The Committee Secretary recalled that the Committee had agreed at its last meeting that all researchers would be encouraged to complete the online Epigeum research ethics training. Implementation would be phased in initially to give staff sufficient warning to complete the training. From the 2021/22 academic year completion of the training would become mandatory.

The in-house face to face research ethics training provided by Peter Garrod, Mark Goss Sampson and Lucy Fincham would continue as an optional supplement to the online training. Any additional training needs that were particular to the research areas of individual Faculties would fall to the responsibility of the Faculty.

The Committee Secretary reported that he had not had a chance to check with RETI whether all the research proposal applicants being considered at this meeting had undertaken the Epigeum training. However, it would be made clear to them, with the outcome of their applications, that they were expected to do the training. All applicants had completed the University's mandatory data protection and information security training.

Action: Committee Secretary/note-taker

Following a query from the FEHHS FREC representative, it was agreed that RETI would be asked to clarify which categories of academic should be required to undertake research ethics training. It was necessary for research staff but there was some uncertainty around whether academic staff, who were supervising project work of undergraduate students and who did not regard themselves as researchers, should also take the course. At the same time, RETI would be asked whether there was any scope to make access to the Epigeum training easier although it was recognised that this could be a licensing issue.

Action: Committee Secretary

36.2   Approval by Chair's Action

The Committee noted that the following applications which required amendment had been satisfactorily completed and approved by Chair's action:

i.   c.f. min 20.1.5.13 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)
       TITLE OF RESEARCH: A serious game to investigate its effect on inducing stress for decision-making training.

ii.   c.f. min 20.2.5.1 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business)
       TITLE OF RESEARCH: Facilitate the Adoption of Circulate Entrepreneurship in the Tourism and Leisure Sector

iii.   c.f. min 20.2.5.14 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
       TITLE OF RESEARCH: Evaluating an online version of the Resilience Enhancement Programme for Students (REP-S).

iv.   c.f. min 20.3.5.1 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business)
       TITLE OF RESEARCH: The use of recap in designing teaching materials to improve learning and teaching experience

v.   c.f. min 20.3.5.2 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business)
       TITLE OF RESEARCH: Fostering informal social networks in online working

vi.   c.f. min 20.2.5.4 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
       TITLE OF RESEARCH: Breaking the Mould: Aspiring PE teachers from a Bangladeshi background

vii.   c.f. min 20.3.5.6 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
       TITLE OF RESEARCH: SCOL-QoL – a new patient reported outcome measure for assessing long-term, psychosocial outcomes of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis following no interventions, bracing only, or any spinal fusion surgery

viii. c.f. min 20.3.5.7 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
       TITLE OF RESEARCH: Reflective Influence on Threat-Induced Attentional Bias

ix.   c.f. min 20.2.5.8   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: The PoRTal study: Pi<u>l</u>ot <u>R</u>andomised Controlled <u>T</u>rial of the Families Are Forever Service

x.   c.f. min 20.3.5.9   XXXX XXXXXX & XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: A secondary data analysis of pooled data collected for the independent laboratory report assessment of PSCYC1155 research statistics in psychology module

xi.   c.f. min 20.3.5.11   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Understanding the extent of disability hate crime in London: a scoping study with the Metropolitan Police Service

xii.   c.f. min 20.3.5.12   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Exploring the value of peer learning through a law clinic setting focus groups

xiii.   c.f. min 20.3.5.13   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Use of BIM (Building Information Modelling) for Performance-Based Fire engineering analysis

Application Ref:	**RESEARCH PROPOSALS**

20.37   Subject to minor amendments, the following applications were approved for submission to the Chair for approval by Chair's Action:

i.   20.4.5.1   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Learning and teaching in blended environment: a tourism and hospitality students' perspective

ii.   20.4.5.2   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Green wellbeing: encouraging student rootedness

iii.   20.4.5.3   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Mapping of the collaboration network involving CONFIRM members

iv.   20.4.5.4   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: The value of virtual internships in developing the future generation of business students

v.   20.4.5.5   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Corruption, culture and covid in the EU and South America

vi.   20.4.5.6   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: The BAME awarding gap: the experience of Public Health portfolio students at the University of Greenwich

vii.   20.4.5.7   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: An investigation into healthcare students' experiences of online learning approaches during the Covid-19 pandemic; perceived facilitators and barriers to learning and academic outcomes

viii. 20.4.5.8 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Views of Covid-19 vaccinations among undergraduate students

ix. 20.4.5.9 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Promoting student belonging through online learning communities; development in partnership with staff and students

x. 20.4.5.10 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Perspectives of graduates and university students from gypsy, traveller, Roma countries in the UK on higher education

xi. 20.4.5.12 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Understanding your experience of Southwark Pensioners Centre: Barriers and facilitators to attendance and participation (pilot study)

xii. 20.4.5.13 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences) (Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Interdisciplinary peer assisted learning between paramedic and midwifery students

xiii. 20.4.5.14 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: RODENTGATE – Future rodent management for pig and poultry health

xiv. 20.4.5.15 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Exploring the effects of narrative – transportation following an immersive experience

xv. 20.4.5.16 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(student)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Casting in the 21st century: towards a theatre and screen of representation

xvi. 20.4.5.18 XXXX XXXXXX (faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Park Life: Communality and transitions from homelessness

xvii. 20.4.5.19 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Exploring cultural diversity in experimental sound

xviii. 20.4.5.20 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Expanding architectural operations

xix. 20.4.5.21 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: People and dancefloors; narrative of drug-taking in Malta

xx. 20.4.5.22 XXXX XXXXXX & XXXX XXXXXX (CRD/Faculty of Engineering & Science)(Members of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Development of novel teaching aids to support inclusive sciences learning in covid and beyond

The following application was approved:

i. 20.4.5.11 XXXX XXXXXX (ILS/Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)(Member of Staff)

TITLE OF RESEARCH: Evaluation of individual experiences of participating in the UKAT personal tutoring recognition scheme as part of a cohort

The following application was rejected:

i.   20.4.5.17   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(Member of Staff)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Immersive user interface experiments

CHAIR'S ACTION

20.38   The Committee ratified the decision of the Chair to approve the following applications on behalf of the Committee:

a) 20.4.6.i.i   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: The boy in the man's mask – the duty of care on football academies (UEFA)

b) 20.4.6.i.ii   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Business)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Exploration of the psycho-social issues faced by young footballers who are and who have been attached to Academies

c) 20.4.6.i.iii   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Provision of research to explore and evaluate international mechanisms that aim to revalue or result in the revaluation of women's work

d) 20.4.6.i.iv   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Risks for domestic abuse perpetration

e) 20.4.6.i.v   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Sonic practices – audiovisual space: recontextualizing sound image media

f) 20.4.6.i.vi   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Working with trauma in adult probation

20.39   The Committee ratified the decision of the Chair to approve the following amendments to previously approved applications:

a) c.f. min 18.4.5.4 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)(student)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: The social and cultural history of yachts and superyachts 1918-2018

- alteration to research methodology arising from changes as a consequence of the Covid-19 lockdown
- inclusion of an online survey as an additional research method

b) c.f. min 19.3.5.11   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Language learning in children and adults

- change of data collection from children – one piece to be online

c) c.f. min 20.2.5.11   XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Delivery of functional family therapy during covid-19 pandemic

- addition of collaboration with Kings College London

d) c.f. min 20.2.5.17 XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Small data mining

- withdrawal of use of University of Greenwich servers for the capture of personal data via app (changed to project partners)

e) c.f. min 20.2.5.21 XXXX XXXXXX and XXXX XXXXXX (Greenwich Learning & Teaching)
TITLE OF RESEARCH: Perspectives on what makes a good 'modern university' curriculum:

- addition of extra research assistant

20.40 EXTERNAL REC APPROVAL

40.1   The Committee noted ethical approval of a collaborative NIHR funded study called SURECAN (ie "*Survivors' Rehabilitation Evaluation after CANcer trial: A multi-centre, pragmatic, randomised controlled trial of comparing enhanced Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (plus) added to usual aftercare, versus aftercare only*") by the NHS Health Research Authority. The project is being led by XXXX XXXXXX, Queen Mary, University of London and involves XXXX XXXXXX (Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences). The ethical approval confirmation was 19/SW/0214.

40.2   The Committee noted ethical approval of a minor amendment to a collaborative project (entitled "*Evaluation of learning materials to support key Stage 2 children's friendships*") by the Faculty of Health & Society Research Ethics Committee at the University of Northampton. The project was led by XXXX XXXXXX, University of Northampton and involved XXXX XXXXXX, Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences.

40.3   The Committee noted ethical approval of a QAA collaborative project (entitled *"Inclusivity, assessment outcomes and cross-discipline attainment gaps for student cohorts during the Covid-19 pandemic")* by the School of Health & Life Sciences research sub-committee at Teeside University. The project was led by XXXX XXXXXX, Teeside University and involved XXXX XXXXXX, Greenwich Learning & Teaching. The ethical approval confirmation was 2021 Apr 5766 Chesterton.

40.4   The Committee noted ethical approval of collaborative project 1029 (entitled *"Characterising the role of identity and emotion in face recognition of super-recognisers"* by the Social Sciences Ethics Committee, Heriot-Watt University on 28 March 2021. The project was led by XXXX XXXXXX, Heriot Watt University and involved XXXX XXXXXX, Faculty of Education, Health & Human Sciences.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF FACULTY RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEES (FRECs)

20.41   41.1 The Committee received applications considered and approved by FRECs:

- FES-FREC summary of amendments made on 21 April 2021

41.2 The Committee received minutes of the following FREC meetings:

- BUS-FREC held on 28 April 2021
- FEHHS-FREC held on 27 April 2021
- FES-FREC held on 21 April 2021
- FLAS-FREC held on 24 March 2021

20.42 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

42.1   Issues Raised During Consideration of Research Applications

42.1.1   New Online System for Approvals

While considering the research applications, the Committee identified several issues relevant to the development of the new online approval system for research bids and applications which it wished to be fed back to RETI. These included:

  i.   Enabling all accompanying documentation to UREC project applications to be reached via links on online equivalent of the UREC form
  ii.   The need for the approval process to include confirmation of any contractual arrangements necessary for the project
  iii. The request that UREC Committee Members have the opportunity to pilot test the on-line approval system before going live.

Action: Committee Secretary

42.1.2   Student Consent to Use Personal Data

The Committee noted that student data collected by the University could potentially be available for use as secondary data, in anonymized form, for other research projects. It was desirable that students' permission to use this data for future internal research purposes should be obtained at the outset rather than retrospectively. The University Secretary would ask the Information Compliance Manager to review the relevant student privacy notices.

Action: Committee Secretary

42.1.3   Contractual Arrangements for Research Projects

Arising out of consideration of an application, the Committee agreed that the UREC Application Form should be amended for 2021/22 to include a section requiring the applicant to describe any contractual arrangements with third parties (other than research funders) that were associated with research projects. E.g. where a third party would be contracted to carry out aspects of the project such as data gathering or where a data sharing agreement with a third party would be put in place.

The Committee suggested that RETI should be asked to include guidance for research staff on the consideration of contractual arrangements for research projects on their webpages.

Actions: Committee Secretary

42.2   Order of Agenda for June 2021

The Chair requested the following changes to the format of the agenda:

- consideration of the FREC minutes to move towards the top of the agenda for the next meeting
- a re-ordering of the research applications so that the Faculties rotated at the next and each subsequent meeting.

Action: Note-Taker

42.3   Ethical Approval of Research Projects Undertaken as Part of a Programme

The FEHHS FREC representative noted that the University Research Ethics Policy stated that all research involving vulnerable people required ethical approval from UREC, including UG and PGT projects. In the School of Education, all teacher training courses required students to complete an assessment involving children, and if this policy was followed to the letter, UREC would be over-whelmed with applications. The Committee acknowledged that it was likely that there were other areas across the Faculties where these types of assessments were standard practice. It was agreed that a standing delegation to the Faculty/School research ethics committee to manage

these assessments would be the most appropriate way forward. A proposed form of wording for the standing delegation would be brought back to the Committee for future consideration.

Action: University Secretary

20.43 **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2020-2021**
n.b. all meetings commence at 10am

Tuesday, 29th June 2021 (papers required by Tuesday, 15th June 2021) by Microsoft Teams or QA075

Trudy Brighton
24 May 2021