

Minutes of ILCC/HCRC Staff Meeting

Friday 9th January 2015, 3.30pm.

Attendance

Steve Renals (Chair), Ewan Klein, Bonnie Webber, Simon King, Matthew Crosby, Ron Petrick, Robin Hill, Kira Mourao, Mirella Lapata, Sharon Goldwater, Myrosia Dzikovska, Henry Thompson, Jon Oberlander, Shay Cohen, Carrie McNamee, Matthew Aylett, Michael Roth, Barry Haddow, Alex Lascarides, Lexi Birch, Bart Craenen, Charles Sutton, Frank Keller and Anda Nicolson

Apologies were received from Maria Wolters, Rob Clark and John Lee.

1. Update on school/institute changes

Data science readership

Candidates are being short listed on 9th January and will be published at a later date. Talks and interviews are going to take place in late February.

Institute budget

The budget is less robust than previous years due to grants ending. It will be more difficult to fund PhD students this year as a result. EPSRC grants provide more generous funding to the institute and the EU grants fund admin staff and Portfolio Managers.

2. Update on PhD applications

HT provided an update on the current applications. There are 25 in progress at the moment and a meeting is scheduled for 12th January to review and prioritise these applications. A further meeting will take place on 14th January to review the strengths and weaknesses of the current applications as strong cases will be needed to secure funding.

There have been 97 applications received so far to CDT Data Science.

Alex Lascarides and Alan Murray are putting together a case to lobby the scholarships office to increase the number of OGS awards.

3. Research proposals and grants

Various submissions have been sent to EPSRC calls.

There is a Marie Curie deadline w/c 12 January 2015.

EU deadlines will fall in April.

Gary Kazantsev from Bloomberg wants to fund a student in Speech Technology. This is a one-off as opposed to a university programme as it relates to a project Bloomberg is currently working on.

4. Topics for future meetings

SR suggested **Data Lab**. This is based at Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen universities and has several million pounds worth of funding from the Scottish Government. We would look to get someone from Data Lab to explain more about them and how we can work with them.

JO mentioned that the SFC is interested in **translational research** and are likely to have Scottish Enterprise support.

University-level data science initiatives are being led by Dave Robertson and Richard Kenway. Data science is a strategic priority for the University and the next ILCC meeting should look at ways for us to extend that commitment to data science. We will look to also find out how we can be involved with the new Alan Turing Institute which will be set up in London.

5. Any other business

BW discussed the **Digital Health Innovation** and that there's a new call for funding including some fully funded MSc grants available. The first tranche of funding goes to existing projects and the second has a deadline of mid-February. BW to send info out.

CL updated on the gap in seminars at the moment. It's been harder than anticipated to get speakers for January. The seminar schedule will begin in late February and is looking good from that point.

6. Date for next meeting

TBC.