This was the first meeting of the academic year and there were many new people (including a change in the Convener that now is Prof. Bryne Ngwenya – former convener Prof. Iain Gordon is now head of College). Victoria Dishon stepped down as head of IT in CSE and handover items were also discussed. There were two topics discussed that need reporting (and some Library matters that are not relevant here):

1. CSE IT Strategic Plan, a draft was presented and feedback was invited. During the meeting the main criticism was that it was too high level (but it was unclear if a strategy plan should be more detailed in the implementation). I attach the paper with this report. I could not find some concrete suggestions/improvements to make, but we can return feedback till the end of next week, so if CSG has some request/recommendation I would be happy to communicate it.

2. Update on Information Security Programme: (i) The Multifactor Authentication and the Identity and Access Management are progressing. A pilot of MFA to Office 365 will role out towards the end of the year. It will eventually become mandatory and gradually more services will be added. (ii) About the “Information Security Essentials” course there is a general dissatisfaction, so some changes have been approved that involves going to the market to find bespoke material (procurement process is required). The final course will be in P&M, but in the meantime the Learn course remains as it is. (iii) The cyber security operations teams needs to be expanded and there are recruitment process active. (iv) Phishing attacks are the main source of compromised accounts and happens uniformly colleges and staff. Adding MFA in front of email is the measure that will be taken to reduce the effects of compromised credentials.

In the next meeting scheduled to discuss: Strategic Plan (feedback and approval), P&M post-launch, the HPC strategy.