**SSPSSR research strategy group: key points**

**Chairs communications**:

a). **Divisional internal funding streams still open**: Investment in Research Fund, Covid Recovery Fund. Pump Priming Fund (development of bids now reduced after feedback to £400,000-£500,000).

JW argued colleagues needed the resources to be able to actually use the money, ie. suitable cover. Not an even playing field for colleagues at Medway.

DL addressed this by noting work that is being done to put together a bank of researchers, that R&I team will give training to.

HC a solid PGR community would really help to address this issue, eg. capacity of teaching replacement and research assistance.

IW asked colleagues to tell KL early of any issues and we can set to work on it. IW to talk to Jeanne about how resources are allocated. Hoping to have a more comprehensive plan of action for social work. IW invited JW to have a more extensive chat.

b) **Speed dating event on 16th March**. Themed email lists (from the scoping exercise) are now active.

c) **Doctoral scholarships** – deadlines have been moved to the 18th February. Three scholarships: fully funded for national and international. Stipend equivalent to SeNSS. One is earmarked specifically for UK black/mixed heritage scholar. Three additional philanthropy scholarships as well.

d) **Study leave policy** – concerns over subject areas where there hasn’t been study leave before, how will it be handled with everyone wanting to take leave at the same time? These concerns have been escalated.

DL noted the panel is meeting at the end of February – chaired by Rosemary Hunter. There will be a call for applications for next 1-2 years. Encouraged to think ahead, plan rotas. Parallel discussions with research centres for short term study leave.

**e) Update school grant applications** – Setting a new precedent to share an update on grant applications in the autumn term of each year. Informal update for now – lots of colleagues applying to varied schemes.

**Centre and cluster activities:**

Joy’s centre sent to Divisional committee, and will be going to RIB for approval.

**Tizard (CR)** Lots of consultancy work going on. Good piece of research that’s been funded from Department of Education on the early identification of autism, £350k starting imminently (Vivi). UKRI learning disability and the digital environment (Vivi). Nick, Jill and Sue applications to NIHR.

**(TS)** Before Christmas applied for money for a series of workshops. Four different Queerying the visual, the sensory, freedom, decolonial. Trying to include people with diff stages of their careers. Different ways of thinking.

CP circulate this now to school and possibly Division.

Ellie Jupp three have published books recently so organising a celebration, Ellie, Blaihar and Eddy. Plans for funding - Event on childhood and civicl society and citizenship.

Karen Jones study leave policy has been received v well in PSSRU. Short periods would work better. Multiple funding applications are being submitted. Looks like successful with the 5 year programme £1 million KJ leading.

Tracee Green – Aravinda and Emma Suta still working on the end violence against children bid. Based in Thailand and Combodia. Another bid to extend to south African regions. Working with Jane reeves with sports England looking ainstiutional abuse. Another simulation development. Crossing the lines training to expand into a simulation package. Working with RIS R&I Shane Watters, Marketing to market and promote continuing professional development packages (CPD). Recently developed a new simulation videos. Another submission for child protection training to medical professionals KMMS. Aravinda and Tracee both have first PhD students. Start of strategic plan to increase research output. Agree with JW and HC.

**(EL)** Upcoming event in May with the British Pregnancy Advisory Service, EL will be circulating details soon. Contract has come through from Palgrave for the second edition of *Parenting Culture Studies*.

**Philanthropy (AB)** Launched an ESRC project around children’s philanthropic citizenship. A number of bids have gone in and colleagues working on a couple of book contracts. AB recognised colleagues are struggling with research capacity, but noted the R&I team support has enabled colleagues to pursue research assistance support.

**REF 2021 celebrations (CP)**

Divisional celebrations are to be held on 13th May.

School event to be held on 12th May. CP referred to the working document previously circulated and emphasised no one was expected to commit to this as a set plan as yet.

CP noted the School is coming up to its 25th anniversary. The School event would be to celebrate success in REF, highlight core areas of submission, showcase research contribution and to honour key colleagues who have recently left. Hoping to have Karen Cox on the day and Toni Williams involved to introduce her. The idea is to have a mix of key colleagues in the opening panel to create a collective history of the school. This would be followed by two panels in the middle of the day that are more thematic, and touch on both key areas of REF submissions, as well as colleagues that have recently left. Lastly, a roundtable that would serve to think toward future horizons, involving more recent colleagues. CP noted JZ’s comments (by email) in naming this session ‘globalisation, intersectionality, and social justice’, and to include a range of senior and junior colleagues to show continuity of our research.

TS agreed with JZ’s suggestions and further advocated for the first panel to include an ECR or PhD.

JZ argued that we’d need to finish the day strong, with a sharp perspective, and perhaps a stronger name. JZ also suggested incorporating T&S staff.

KJ noted PSSRU are missing from Panel 2, and they would like to be involved in this session in particular. KL agree with TS on inviting ECRs and further suggested inviting those to speak who don’t normally.

JW suggested having a graphic representation of the work, and the physical manifestations of the REF outputs (eg. posters, books, photographs of the campus and people), to think about the curation of the event. JW further noted a section on the support that goes into research would be good to see.

CR good draft. Three things: celebrate past/future, mark excellent Professors, ECRs. Idea of passing the baton on, in conversation– old and new. If we have a hybrid like this, we lose respecting those that have gone before us to give them their own platform. May feel like lack of recognition.

CP can have a separate event for honouring specific individuals. Think about whether it’s too many things at the same time or whether we can pull together coherently.

DL would like to do separate events for specific individuals. DL talked to TW – how to do something that has a material presence but does not exclude. Didn’t want to exclude on the Division REF. Instead put slides together for use on plasma screens for the whole REF month. Can include photos. Posters? Bookmarks? DL to talk to JW – or anyone else with any ideas.

KJ agree support required for us to conduct research is very important. PSSRU retired Ann Nettern and Jenny Beecham.

JW don’t agree with inclusionary/exclusionary. Key to inclusion is to celebrate the support that’s gone into enable,ing those. Let’s celebrate the outputs but not pretend that they don’t happen alone. Including PS staff. Not need lots of speakers, but more how you present it. Eg. Kali. Celebrate outputs with an honesty.

CP will come back to this group likely via email to incoproate suggestions and update.

Point 5 divisional QR related funding proposal. Summarised by CP. Proposal was presented to DoRs, to committee and circulated amongst everyone. Flag to return a response to Kate. In particular, providers.

HC Writing retreat. Impact dissemination – video infographics, reports etc.

DL Divisional research festival in Medway 7th July, Canterbury 8th July. Internally facing event. Thematic session on social justice.

TG does this include innovation as well? If yes, CCP can be a part of that. DL confirmed yes.

CP Make live the groupings that happened from the scoping exercise.

JW move the inter-generational stuff to the festival? Spread some of the stuff to the other event.

IW encouraging UG to masters – piggy back market to UG community. Understanding of a career in research is about.

Look out for an email on writing café – access recordings, what’s next, and feedback.

AOB

IW approached to collaborate with CeCIL, 7,8 march. Right to food. Set up a networking event on the 7th march. Failed bid to UKRI on some of these issues. Network with colleagues in law and external agencies. Food poverty. Use a base at Kent for any formal official visits.

Next meeting in March. CP thanks everyone.