**UCC RSA Committee Meeting**

**Date/Time: Monday 11th January 2016, 4-5pm**

**Location: North Wing Conference room**

Attendees: Mark Jessopp, Gordon Dalton, Andrey Temko, Rosarii Griffin, Andrew Allen, Cathal O’Mahony, James Glynn, Elizabeth Gilchrist, Edel Kelly

Apologies: John O’Toole

**AGENDA**

1. **Report from committees**

*AGM (Mark)*

* AGM Held 10th December 2015. UCCRSA in a good position financially enabling us to conduct a broad range of initiatives. Election of 2016 Committee members held and positions are:

Chair: Mark Jessopp

Vice Chair: Rosarii Griffin

Secretary: Gordon Dalton

Treasurer: Cathal O’Mahony

Membership: John O’Toole

Communications: Andrew Allen

Social & Seminars: Elizabeth Gilchrist / Edel Kelly

Data Analyst: James Glynn

Ordinary Committee Member: Andrey Temko

* MJ to send e-mail to uccrsa list informing of 2016 Committee, AA to update website with committee list (and photo)

*Academic Council (Mark)*

* UCCRSA to nominated 2 Researchers (MJ & AT) for Academic Council. Both were successful and welcomed at last AC meeting (which focussed entirely on student admissions and retention). AT to attend the Jan AC meeting.

*Athena Swan (Mark)*

* UCCs Athena Swan submission was unsuccessful. UCC plan to re-submit in April 2016. Some specific concerns by the review committee with regard to researchers that will need to be addressed such as poor progression of postdocs to senior postdoc grades and different treatment of postdoc staff with regards to recruitment and performance reviews.

*Governing Body (Rosarii)*

* No meeting since last Committee meeting. RG to notify Committee of any relevant agenda items as they are announced.

*SDEC (Gordon/Andrey)*

* Existing SDEC Committee has been disbanded. Unsure whether research staff will be invited on to new committee.

*VP Research meeting update*

* No meeting has been scheduled. Items to include on agenda include: giving UCCRSA a slot in staff induction briefings; lack of progress on including research staff on Committees; progress in addressing HEA pay scale disparity between Universities; How UCCRSA might participate in the researcher forum; establishing researcher involvement within Schools/Departments similar to Bristol University approach.

1. **UCCRSA Activities:**

*Web and media (Andrew)*

* Decided that future UCCRSA event e-mails will go to All Exchange and All Academic users instead of just Researchers and UCCRSA lists to enable other interested people to attend events etc.
* AA to review current website content.

*Membership (John)*

* Membership e-mail sent out and mail drop conducted. GD received numerous batches of membership forms. GD to forward on to JOT to ensure members are updated on lists.

*Seminars (Edel & Elizabeth)*

* suggestions for seminars, social events, invited speakers etc required from all Committee members (see below)
* Draw for €500 research award to be done during a seminar/meet and greet before the end of March.

**3. Any other business:**

* Committee agreed to send IFUT flyer to Researchers distribution list. MJ to draft text to go along with the flyer and send to Committee for approval.
* UCCRSA to arrange meeting with new UCC Registrar, Caroline Fennell, to discuss researcher issues at UCC and how they might be progressed. Committee need to decide on what issues to be raised, our suggestions for addressing issues, and who from Committee will attend (maximum 2-3 people?).
* Future Committee meetings to be held 4-5pm on first Thursday of each month.
* RG received a ‘cold call’ from UCC asking for donations. This was felt to be quite intrusive and mercenary, particularly as UCC do not seem to send updates on UCC successes etc to Alumni. Need to identify who to raise this with (at Governing Body for example?)

Next meeting: Thursday 4th Feb 2016, 4-5pm

Location: TBA