

## DoLS POSTDOC COMMITTEE

Tuesday 8th December 2020

13:00 – 15:00

Virtual teams meeting

### Minutes

**Present:** Mark Hintze, Rob Bradley, Alicia Estacio Gomez, Alice Banks and Alex Mas Sandoval.

**1.Minutes of last meetings:** no issues

**2. Equality ,Diversity and Inclusion committee update:** Alice informed the committee that an away day with Post Docs will be held and include presentations from both PhD students and Post docs. The EDI will also improve mailing lists to deliver relevant information, such as teaching.

**3. Health and Safety committee update:** The health and safety committee aim to improve messaging to staff and students, no other updates.

**4. Research/infrastructure committees update:** Rob reported the new internal grant review process was going ahead, however Post docs would not be allowed to review grants within this process. We will try to increase Post doc involvement in this process. The infrastructure committee has yet to meet.

**5.PFDC committee update:** Mark updated the committee on the PFDCs plan to improve the visibility of the Post Doc 10 – where Post Docs can take 10 training days per year to improve their skills. The PFDC meeting also included a discussion on the development of the Concordat – the agreement between funders and employers of research staff to improve the employment and support available for researchers. Several issues around leadership, training, diversity and opportunities for research staff were discussed with Karen Hixman planning to publish a document to all staff shortly.

**6.Planned events for 2021:** The committee discussed the planned events for 2021, these included restarting the pizza and beer talks in January as an online meeting – with the possibility of returning to a physical meeting as and when the Pandemic situation improves sufficiently. Resumption of the coffee morning socials(for the 12th of Jan 2021) was also discussed as a virtual meeting once a month separated by two weeks from the pizza and beer talks. The idea is to use this as a way for post docs to drop in and socialise but also to discuss any issues that the committee can raise further.

The committee also discussed the introduction of a “slow networking” event next year, after the success of the speed networking event last year and the Post doc proof of concept award lead by Rob Bradley. The early idea involves connecting post docs using keywords about their research with fellow researchers to encourage collaboration and communication within the department. We also plan to explore securing funding for another round of the proof of concept fund, due to its success in creating collaboration across the department.

**6. other issues:** The issue of new starters and making sure the committee received their information and start date was raised. A plan to create a DoLS Teams group for the committee and another along side this for all post docs was also discussed, this would allow relevant information to be shared. The final issues discussed involved updating the Post doc handbook and putting relevant information online.

**Next PDC meeting:** This was proposed to take place in February 2021