



## Research and Scholarship Strategy 2012-2017

**Responsibility for Policy:**

Pro Vice Chancellor Scholarship, Research & Knowledge Transfer  
All LJMU Staff

**Relevant to:**

**Approved by:**

University Research, Scholarship & Knowledge Transfer Committee on 19 March 2012  
Pro Vice Chancellor Scholarship, Research & Knowledge Transfer through Research & Innovation Services.

**Responsibility for Document Review:**

**Date introduced:**

20 March 2012

**Date(s) modified:**

**Next Review Date:**

March 2017

### RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

N/A

### RELATED POLICIES & DOCUMENTS

- LJMU Strategic Plan 2012-2017

# Liverpool John Moores University Research & Scholarship Strategy 2012-17

## 1. Excellence

- a. Improve proportion of research at 3\* and 4\* level in REF2014 (compared to RAE2008).
- b. Maintain and grow selected Research Institutes and Centres operating at the highest level of research excellence whilst encouraging emerging areas of excellence with potential for international impact.
- c. Attract and retain the very best researchers who can make a wider contribution to the scholarly environment of the University.
- d. Raise quality and ambition in both the content and the choice of outlet for publication of outputs and utilise indicators of excellence and provide advice for staff (including full use of internal peer-review) in making publication choices.

## 2. Scholarship

- a. Integrate research with learning and teaching through our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
- b. Coordinate the strategies for research & scholarship and learning & teaching.
- c. Make full use of our researchers and their research activities to inspire and motivate our students, staff and the general public.
- d. Promote joint staff-student research and scholarly output.

## 3. People

- a. Expectations around research & scholarship to form part of the institutional academic staff recruitment and induction processes.
- b. Ensure that the annual PDPR process is effectively utilised for academic staff engaged in research & scholarship.
- c. Launch an annual University Research Studentship scheme.
- d. Promote the publication of high-quality outputs by our postgraduate research students.
- e. Ensure that good pastoral care and supervision is given to our postgraduate research students in order that they successfully conclude their studies within the allocated time.
- f. Continue to develop the LJMU Skills development and training framework

for postgraduate research students and early career researchers, making full use of the opportunities afforded by the Vitae network.

- g. Provide our postgraduate research students with opportunities for networking, showcasing their work and sharing their experiences in research.
- h. Completion of adoption of Concordat principles (Researcher Development Framework) to develop early-career academics and researchers.
- i. Continue to use the LJMU Early Career Researcher Fund to encourage the development of partnerships with some of the best researchers in the World.
- j. Identify staff with the potential to achieve major individual investigator awards and provide them with active support.
- k. Use an annual professorial pay-enhancement scheme to reward excellent performance and provide promotional opportunities for other staff.
- l. Ensure that the University Workload Allocation Model properly reflects research & scholarship and research impact activities.
- m. Provide a mentoring system for new and early career staff by embedding this role in all senior academic posts (Professorial and Reader levels).

#### **4. Funding**

- a. Ensure that research & scholarship operates in a sustainable financial environment, supported by external research funding (grants, access to facilities etc.) as appropriate.
- b. Provide support and training in order to improve the success rates for our external grant bids (with the aim of submitting only the highest quality bids).
- c. Have in place measures to deal with demand management arising from the research sponsors.
- d. Introduce formal internal peer-review as an integral part of the bidding process and actively support staff in applying for funding from the most competitive sources (Research Councils, EU etc.)
- e. Target specific funding initiatives that align with our major research themes – e.g., Horizon 2020, Technology Strategy Board.
- f. Encourage and support collaborative high quality bids with other institutions.
- g. To focus institutional funding for research (e.g., HEFCE QR, RCIF) towards achieving the research objectives outlined in the University

Strategic Plan 2012-17.

## **5. Partnerships**

- a. Use discipline-specific partnerships with World-leading institutions to develop and extend our research quality and capability.
- b. Use European partnerships more effectively to increase presence and influence in EU programmes.
- c. Use strategic business and public sector partnerships to drive high quality high impact research.
- d. Explore opportunities for large equipment and facilities sharing by working closely with neighbouring institutions, especially where regional interests or geography drive the agenda.

## **6. Impact**

- a. Wherever appropriate our research should have an impact beyond academia and deliver economic, cultural and social benefit.
- b. To develop a research impact plan for each Research Institute and Research Centre.
- c. Build and support relationships with selected external partners to help deliver impact arising from our research.
- d. Improve our understanding of impact and how it can be best recorded and measured.
- e. Ensure both promotion criteria and PDPR processes properly recognises the broader (societal, cultural, economic and quality of life) impact of research and associated knowledge transfer activities.

## **7. Promote the visibility of research**

- a. Ensure that our research is promoted nationally and internationally as part of the University's communications strategy.
- b. Develop a presence on the University home webpage that highlights examples of excellent research and its broader impact.
- c. Celebrate our successes in research across the Institution, including through an annual programme of Professorial Inaugural lectures that will be made available as an iTunesU resource.
- d. Make full use of a programme of public lectures, seminars, workshops and other events led by internationally-renowned researchers that will appeal to students, staff and the general public alike.
- e. Showcase the outcomes of our research and the impact of our research around our campuses.

- f. Each research-active member of staff to have a webpage with output from their Symplectic Publications Database entry.
- g. Develop the institutional digital repository to raise the profile of our published works and ensure compliance with Open Access requirements for the results of publicly-funded research (outputs and data).

#### **8. Infrastructure & Support**

- a. Focus our research around recognised Research Institutes and Centres, each of whom should have specific research themes, aligned, where appropriate, with national and international priorities (themes to be regularly reviewed).
- b. Build a critical mass of researchers (academic staff, research assistants and Fellows, postgraduate research students) in each of our Research Centres and Institutes and develop succession plans for the leadership of these Centres and Institutes.
- c. Encourage and support interdisciplinarity in research; initially by raising the internal awareness of research activities across the University.
- d. Provide our researchers with the research environment that will help them deliver research of the highest quality in line with the Strategic objectives. This includes capital and IT infrastructure, provision of appropriate building opening hours and staff time (managed through the workload allocation model).
- e. Ensure the administrative and finance systems support the delivery of our research objectives.
- f. Ensure research operates under the highest standards of research integrity. Continue to raise profile of ethics in research in staff development.

*March 2012*