



Postgraduate Working Group

Location: Online

Date: 20th February 2023

Time: 15:30-16:30

Miontuairiscí/ Minutes

Present: -

Waqar Ahmed (Chair, USI), Jamie-Lukas Campbell (QUBSU), Jessica Perez (TUDSU), Shahboz Babaev (TUSSU), Bryan O'Mahony (SETU SU)

Apologies:

Jenna Barry (TUS)

1. Minutes of Meeting: -

The minutes of meeting were taken and approved as read.

2. Matters Arising from Minutes:-

No matter arising from the minutes.

3. Items for Discussion

3.1 USI Stipend Survey of PGRs

- Signed off with minor changes. Given the PGR Survey & other surveys ongoing at the moment, it was decided to run the PhD Stipend survey in April to avoid survey fatigue.

3.2 Motions for Comhdháil

- The group can suggest/ submit three motions until 23rd Feb. Input and feedback needed on the following proposed ideas/motions:
 - Support for part-time PhDs
 - Strategy paper and actions to increase postgraduate engagement from the perspectives of representation at SUs, HEI committees, regional supports, class rep council, events etc.

3.3 Recommendations for the role of VPPGA

- VP PGA informed that details discussion on this will be carried out later to prepare recommendations for Governance Committee.

4. Items for Information / Pointí Eolais

5.1 PhD Stipend review update

- Awaiting invitation for consultation with the review team. Department of HE confirmed that consultation will happen in mid-March.

5.2 Working group updates

5. A.O.B

- Supervisory issues, paternity, maternity and medical leave issues, and PhD transfer inconsistencies to be brought on NFDE.
- VPPGA will write to Department of Justice to lobby for international PGRs.
- VP PGA thanked everyone for their attendance and participation before closing the meeting. The next meeting is to be held in March before Congress.
