

Date Friday, 23/10/2020

Time 1.30pm

To Committee Members

At Held virtually using MS Teams

Subject AWERB Operations Committee

Attendees:

Apologies:

Mentioned within text:

1. Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on 25th July 2020 were approved.

2. Matters arising

summarised the AWERB review of lessons learned during the Covid 19 lockdown. The NACWOs were thanked for their comprehensive responses. The full report will be given at the November AWERB Standing committee meeting, feedback from researchers is also expected.

3. Establishment Licence Holder Report

Several changes have been made to the Establishment Licence including room changes to the

The University can now accommodate PIL E licences that are used for education and training purposes. These are usually held by people who would not typically hold a Personal Licence and only for the length of time to carry out the training.

reported on four Standard Condition 18 reports that have been received since the last meeting.

4. NACWO Reports

noted that as the NACWOs attend the AWERB Standing Committee according to a rota, the minutes from the previous meeting do not always relate to a meeting they have attended and so they do not always get a chance to provide feedback to the next AWERB committee. The NACWOs were asked to suggest ideas to overcome this.

5. Director and Deputy Director Reports

All equipment requests were approved aside from one request for a coffee machine.

reiterated that any contractors who complete work in the facilities are to submit risk assessments and method statements up front. This also applies if permit to work systems are in place. The facility managers were reminded that staff should wear the powered respirators provided instead of FFP3 masks to prevent using up the current limited resources. Back straps can be provided for those who experience any discomfort.

Another letter from PETA has been received regarding the forced swim test. A fact sheet has been put together by LASA, BPS and the UAR and will form part of the reply.

LASA and the IAT have concluded their negotiations for returning monies to organisations who had paid for AST 2020. It could be a while before refunds are received. LASA and the IAT are negotiating a tech meeting in March 2021 that will be a virtual congress.

6. NVS Reports

The Tecniplast UK DVC Webinar is being held on 4th November at 2pm.

7. Training Centre Manager Report

██████████ asked for ██████████ not to be contacted while she is away from work. ██████ is happy to receive any queries meant for ██████.

█████ is working to resolve some IAT funding issues.

Good progress is being made at getting through the Home Office PIL Course exams and Module 22 practical assessments.

If anyone needs any help with training in the units then ██████████ is available. She will limit going to one unit per week and will wear any protective equipment required.

8. NICSO Report – 3Rs/Outreach/Openness

██████████ reported on one Home Office visit to ██████████.

LASA have been informed that ██████████, ██████████, ██████████ and ██████ ██████████ have been added to the membership.

A Science Festival slot has been booked for the expected virtual event in 2021. A request for material will be circulated soon.

█████ noted that ██████████ has shared a write-up of an interview he did recently with Understanding Animal Research on naked mole rats:

<https://www.understandinganimalresearch.org.uk/news/research-medical-benefits/the-secrets-of-the-naked-mole-rats/>. He asked for his thanks to be passed on to ██████████, ██████████

and ██████████ in ██████ for their help establishing naked mole rats in Cambridge.

9. Any other business

█████ reported that he is going to arrange with the Staff Counselling Service for them to run sessions for UBS staff on uncertainty in crisis situations. He also encouraged anyone who is struggling with the current circumstances to use the Staff Counselling Service.

Date of next meeting: Friday 20th November 2020