J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics Postgraduate Research Action Plan

Developed in consultation with the PGR Student Representatives, Vice Dean for Graduate Studies, Head of School, and PhD Programme Lead in the School of Law.

	Action Plan
1	**Research Infrastructure & Facilities** **Findings Summary:** Ratings in this category are generally high. One area to address is "Adequate provision of computing resources and facilities", which at 67.6% is below the University average of 73%. However, it is worth noting that 79.5% of PGRs in the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics felt they had access to the specialist resources and facilities for their research, which is above the University average.
	1.1. Supervisors are reminded to communicate to students the ICT available within the school/ campus. 1.2. Survey students to identify their needs in relation to the provision of computing resources and facilities.
2	**Research Culture** **Findings Summary:** Ratings in the Research Culture category are generally high. The school performed slightly lower in two areas: "to discuss my research with other research students" and "become involved in the wider research community".
	2.1 Develop an annual PhD research day/PhD Conference to encourage students to share ideas with staff and students beyond their Disciplines. 2.2 Update the school website showcasing the profiles of the PhD students.
3	**Progress and Assessment** **Findings Summary:** Ratings in this category are generally high and in line with the University average.
	3.1 Continue to promote College-run orientations/inductions and workshops on GRCs and mini-vivas.
4	**Research Skills** **Findings Summary:** Ratings in this category are generally high, with over 80% across three indicators. Slightly lower scores are observed in relation to PGRs "confidence to be creative or innovative".
	4.1 Remind supervisors and PGRs of the resources and training provided by the Research Development Centre (RDC) in this area, as well as other supports on campus, such as the Ideas Lab and MakerSpace. 4.2 Encourage students to feedback to the RDC and Associate Head of Graduate Studies in relation to skills gaps.

5	**Other Transferable Skills**
	Findings Summary: Ratings in this category are generally high. Areas to improve relate to project management and communication of research.
	5.1 Remind supervisors and PGRs of the training opportunities available through the RDC. 5.2 Develop an annual PhD research day/PhD conference to encourage students to develop their research translation, networking, and presentation skills. 5.3 Promote communication about relevant training events to PhD students within the School. 5.4 Create awareness amongst PGRs of the importance of, and the opportunities to, present their research to other audiences throughout their PhD e.g. Threesis.
6	**Responsibilities and Support**
	Findings Summary: Ratings in this category are generally high. Two areas where the performance is below the university average is awareness of "student supports available" and "responding to feedback".
	6.1 Promote communication about relevant student supports available to PGRs within the School and University. 6.2 Arrange regular meetings between the Associate Head of Graduate Studies and PhD reps to ensure a feedback loop is in place.
7	**Personal Outlook**
	Findings Summary: Ratings in this category are generally high. One area we are performing slightly below the University average relates to "there is someone in my institution to talk to about Day to Day problems."
	7.1 Remind students of the various supports student-level supports available in the university.
8	**Development Opportunities**
	Findings Summary: Ratings in this category are generally high, including a score of 92% in receiving training to develop research skills. Areas that require further support include "presenting a paper or poster at an academic research conference" and "communicating your research to a non-academic audience".
	8.1 Develop an annual PhD research day/PhD conference to encourage students to develop their research translation, networking, and presentation skills. 8.2 Remind supervisors of the training opportunities available through the RDC.