

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

PGR Scholarships Working & Advisory Group

PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11:00, 06 November 2025, Microsoft Teams

Present	Adam Childs	Academic Registrar (Chair)
	Nicola Attridge	PGR Finance Manager, Doctoral College
	David Lambert	AHRC M4C Director & Arts Scholarship Management Group Chair
	Vardis Ntoukakis	BBSRC MIBTP Director, SLS
	Ashleigh Skelhorn-French	ESRC Consortium Manager, Doctoral College
	Emilie Day	Postgraduate Programmes Administrative Officer, Chemistry
	Abby Lewis	Postgraduate Researcher
	Kay Jones	Doctoral Training Manager, Faculty of Arts
	Chris Moran	Social Sciences Scholarship Management Group Co-Chair)
	Rebecca Vipond	CDT & PGR Scholarships Manager, Doctoral College (Secretary)
Attending	<i>All non-members in attendance, alphabetically by surname</i>	
	Susan Black	PGR Scholarships Coordinator, Doctoral College
	Sarah Jarratt	Centre Manager, HetSys
	Neeha Labba	Management Accountant, Doctoral College
	Harbeena Lalli	Research Strategy and Development Manager, RIS
	Rebekah Luck Owen	PG Admissions, Admissions
	Rhiannon Martyn	Head of Doctoral College
	Vicky Strudwick	Head of Research Culture, IAS
	Louise Sutcliffe	PGR Development Officer, Doctoral College
	Kate Whiston	International Partnership Manager, ISR
Ref	Item	
001	Apologies for absence Apologies were received from Andrea Howard (deputised by Harbeena Lalli) James Kermode (deputised by Sarah Jarratt) and Leda Mirbhai.	
002	Declarations of Interest No new declarations were made.	
003	Minutes of last meeting on 10 July 2025 The minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2025 (003- SWAG2526, Public) were approved , subject to minor amendment of the date on the header.	
004	Matters arising from last meeting on 10 July 2025 There were no ongoing matters reported.	
Chair's Update		
005	Chair's Business The Committee received and noted an update from the Chair (005-FGPC250918, Public).	
Governance		
006	Membership and Terms of Reference 2025-26 The Committee received the report (006-SWAG2526) with the updated membership and terms of reference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership of the group has been streamlined and reflects the fact it is a working group, other colleagues may join or be invited to attend meetings as necessary. • Postgraduate Researchers members are to be recruited. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus this year on individual programme reports to university. All CDT directors will be invited to report to the group as necessary. • Postgraduate Research Committee (PRS) happy with this- reasonable direction. <p>ACTION: Secretary to let colleagues who were previously on the membership know what changes have been made to the membership.</p>
Finance and Resources	
007	<p>FCCG Report 2024 Q3</p> <p>The Committee received the report (007-SWAG2526) and key points and discussions were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been no changes since year end, no changes with grants that have issues. • EPSRC CDTs: HETSYS renewed and 3 new CDTs where Warwick is CO-I have started. • Query where there is under recruitment, is it an issue quality of applications or difficulty of finding applications. There are known sector-wide issues in recruitment. More proactive WP strategies to recruit students and a different way of advertising may be valuable. <p>ACTION 1: Report back to group in more detail on student recruitment.</p> <p>ACTION 2: Find out and update group on both the BBSRC DFA bids</p>
008	<p>2026 Entry Scholarships- verbal update</p> <p>The Committee received a verbal report and key points and discussions were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications for central scholarships for 2026 are now open, streamlined process and time saving- 1 application for 1 applicant. • 2026 budget not confirmed by Finance yet. We will need to absorb the stipend increase into the budget for 2026, which is unlikely to increase, meaning there will likely be a smaller number of individual scholarships available across the portfolio. • New Faculty Scholarship Management Groups have been formed, department nomination quotas agreed for SMGs are to confirm faculty assessors. • Student population informed department nomination quotas this time but other options can be explored and decided on for next year, this is in the gift of the Faculty Scholarship Management Groups. • Dates for deadlines and processes shared for both Applicant led and nomination led scholarships. <p>ACTION: Information on the new Faculty Scholarship Management groups to be shared with departments, including who the members are and how they operate.</p>
Items below this line were for receipt and/or approval, without discussion	
Subsidiary and Sub-Committee Reports	
009	No reports were submitted to the group.
Other	
010	<p>Any other business</p> <p>a) Commonwealth PhD Scholarships</p> <p>The Commonwealth PhD scholarship does not cover full fee, could we provide additional funding, would we want to priorities. Correspondence on this item between members.</p> <p>ACTION: BV to send details to KW and others in the group for discussion.</p>
Next meeting: 12 February 2026 14:00-16:00 (Microsoft Teams)	

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

ITEM	DECISION/ACTION	LEAD AND DUE DATE	STATUS
[2025-2026]			
006-SWAG2526 Membership and Terms of Reference 2025-26	ACTION Secretary to let colleagues who were previously on the membership know what changes have been made to the membership.	Secretary 12 February 2026	complete
007-SWAG2526 FCCG Report 2024 Q3	ACTION 1: Report back to group in more detail on student recruitment.	Secretary 12 February 2026	On-going
	ACTION 2: Find out and update group on both the BBSRC DFA bids	R&IS 12 February 2026	complete
008- 2026 Entry Scholarships	ACTION: Information on the new Faculty Scholarship Management groups to be shared including who the members are and how they operate.	Secretary 12 February 2026	On-going
010- Commonwealth Scholarships	ACTION: Becky Vipond to send details to Kate Whiston and others in the group for discussion.	Secretary 12 February 2026	On-going