

Directors' Forum / 21-22 March 2019 Programme

Programme Director – Martin Davies, UCL

Holiday Inn London – Regents Park, Carburton St, Fitzrovia, London W1W 5EE

Thursday, 21 March 2019

1830 Drinks reception

1930 Dinner

Friday, 22 March 2019

0930 Welcome: Martin Davies, University College London, Director of Business and Innovation Partnerships

0945 KE sector stakeholder insights informing PraxisAuril Strategy: Maxine Ficarra, CEO, PraxisAuril and Sean Fielding, PraxisAuril Chair and Director of Innovation, Impact & Business, University of Exeter

As part of its annual strategic planning process, the PraxisAuril Board recently convened a meeting of key sector stakeholders to discuss high level, macro-economic, changing environment issues and stakeholder needs including topics such as: towards 2.4% - improving UK performance; more businesses investing in R&D; simplifying the innovation landscape; projecting UK expertise internationally. This session will start to articulate what practical steps PraxisAuril – and its partner and member organisations - can take together to support the sector and the KE profession.

1015 KEF - Metrics, Concordat: Alice Frost, Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research England

Alice will bring us right up to date with all the latest news and developments relating to the KEF consultation and concordat and the forward schedule. The session will provide an opportunity for all Directors to discuss next steps and feed a practitioner view into implementation plans.

This session will include an update re PraxisAuril KE Office peer review as a tool to support the KEF - Tony Raven, Chief Executive, Cambridge Enterprise

1115 Networking break, refreshments

1145 Benchmarking industry engagement: Dr Dan King, Director, Research Consulting

Growing importance is placed on the volume and effectiveness of industry engagement in research environments, but we have only limited understanding of the organisational structures, systems and staff capabilities needed to deliver this. Building on a previous exercise in the area of research contracts, Research Consulting has been working with a small group of institutions in both the UK and Australia to develop a benchmarking approach for industry engagement. This session will explain the rationale behind the chosen approach and provide an opportunity for Directors to comment on and inform the final shape and outputs of the exercise.

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- 1215 Training for academics: Jeff Skinner, Executive Director, London Business School, Alison Mitchell, Director of Development, Vitae, Oliver Hardick, Director, Puridify

One way of stimulating more KT is to train willing academics to do it themselves - there's not much they can't do if they put their minds to it and those who have been 'round the block' once can be rather good at it. On the other hand, a little knowledge is a dangerous thing and if they keep too much to themselves conflicts inevitably arise. However, the 'multiplier effect' can be dramatic and they are often better placed than us (centrally) to see what's going on. Should we put more into academic KT training and what is the impact on our roles?

- 1315 Lunch, networking

- 1415 Convergence of KE roles and activities: Ian Carter RTTP, Carter Research Navigation

This session will facilitate a round table discussion and scenario planning around the possible implications of the KEF Concordat and metrics for office development and staff deployment across KE and Research functions.

- 1545 Feedback from the HEBCI review meeting: Alice Frost, Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research England

- 1600 Drinks, networking

*** Please note speakers/timings may be subject to change ***