

PRES 2018 – School of Ocean Sciences Action Plan

|                  | Question   | Comments / Actions   | Action owner(s)              |
|------------------|--|--|------------------------------|
| Supervision      | 2.1.a. My supervisor/s have the skills and subject knowledge to support my research                  |  |                              |
|                  | 2.2.a. I have regular contact with my supervisor/s, appropriate for my needs                         |  |                              |
|                  | 2.3.a. My supervisor/s provide feedback that helps me direct my research activities                  |  |                              |
|                  | 2.4.a. My supervisor/s help me to identify my training and development needs as a researcher         | Students need to be proactive in exploring options for training courses and if needed discuss with supervisors   |                              |
| Resources        | 4.1.a. I have a suitable working space   | We will be exploring issues relating to equipment storage.   | SOS PGR lead & Ian Pritchard |
|                  | 4.2.a. There is adequate provision of computing resources and facilities                             | Ian Pritchard will be responsible for liaising with IT regarding the provision of computers for all new PGRs   | Ian Pritchard                |
|                  | 4.3.a. There is adequate provision of library facilities (including physical and online resources)   |  |                              |
|                  | 4.4.a. I have access to the specialist resources necessary for my research                           | This received a low score, but currently there is no clear explanation for it.   |                              |
| Research Culture | 6.1.a. My department provides a good seminar programme   | Explore options to even out the number of physical oceanography and biology talks  | SOS PGR lead                 |
|                  | 6.2.a. I have frequent opportunities to discuss my research with other research students             | SOS PGR reps will continue their PGR group meetings, but expand from journal clubs to include slots for practicing presentations and discussing research (experimental design, analyses etc.). | SOS PGR reps                 |
|                  | 6.3.a. The research ambience in my department or faculty stimulates my work                          | Low score, but currently no apparent explanation/solution.   |                              |
|                  | 6.4.a. I have opportunities to become involved in the wider research community, beyond my department | Low score, but currently no apparent explanation/solution.   |                              |

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| Progress and Assessment | 8.1.a. I received an appropriate induction to my research degree programme  | The induction has greatly improved recently, so no action here. The low score may be the result of PGRs who had their induction a few years ago.  |              |
|                         | 8.2.a. I understand the requirements and deadlines for formal monitoring of my progress                                   | There is a need to provide some guidance for PGRs in terms of what is expected during annual reviews and this should be the same for all PGRs. There is also a need to provide guidance for staff so that the internal and the chair know what is expected. | SOS PGR lead |
|                         | 8.3.a. I understand the required standard for my thesis   |   |              |
|                         | 8.4.a. The final assessment procedures for my degree are clear to me  |   |              |
| Responsibilities        | 10.1.a. My institution values and responds to feedback from research degree students                                      | To increase transparency, SOS reps will feedback to other PGRs following rep meetings and school and college meetings.  | SOS reps     |
|                         | 10.2.a. I understand my responsibilities as a research degree student   |   |              |
|                         | 10.3.a. I am aware of my supervisors' responsibilities towards me as a research degree student                            | The PGR Lead will send a reminder of good practice of supervision to all staff, as well as an email to PGRs outlining the responsibilities of the supervisor.   | SOS PGR lead |
|                         | 10.4.a. Other than my supervisor/s, I know who to approach if I am concerned about any aspect of my degree programme      |   |              |
| Research Skills         | 12.1.a. My skills in applying appropriate research methodologies, tools and techniques have developed during my programme |   |              |
|                         | 12.2.a. My skills in critically analysing and evaluating findings and results have developed during my programme          |   |              |
|                         | 12.3.a. My confidence to be creative or innovative has developed during my programme                                      | This received a low score, but it is unclear how PGRs have interpreted this one.  |              |

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|                          | 12.4.a. My understanding of 'research integrity' (e.g. rigour, ethics, transparency, attributing the contribution of others) has developed during my programme |  |              |
| Professional Development | 14.1.a. My ability to manage projects has developed during my programme  |  |              |
|                          | 14.2.a. My ability to communicate information effectively to diverse audiences has developed during my programme   |  |              |
|                          | 14.3.a. I have developed contacts or professional networks during my programme   | Encourage PGRs to come to coffee mornings. | SOS PGR reps |
|                          | 14.4.a. I have increasingly managed my own professional development during my programme  |  |              |
| Overall                  | 18.1.a. Overall, I am satisfied with the experience of my research degree programme  |  |              |
|                          | 18.2.a. I am confident that I will complete my research degree programme within my institution's expected timescale  |  |              |