

<p>Institution: York St John University</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 3 (Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy)</p>
<p>a. Overview</p>
<p>With over 50 years of health related professional education, which contributed substantially to achieving Taught Degree Awarding Powers (TDAP) in 2005 and university status in 2006, York St John University continues to promote health related education and research. Following this success the University research strategy gave even greater prominence to promoting an environment and culture that encourage and facilitate research and scholarship for all academic staff and students. The University underwent the QAA Special Review of Research Degree Programmes in 2009-10 as one of those institutions which were receiving public funds for research degree programmes for the first time based on the strength of their RAE 2008 submissions. York St John University met the expectations of the QAA Code of Practice in the quality and standards of its research. The University has continued on a trajectory towards achieving Research Degree Awarding Powers (RDAP) culminating in an RDAP application in August 2013 which met key <i>prima facie</i> criteria and is now undergoing full review.</p> <p>The Faculty of Health and Life Sciences was created in 2008 by merging the long established School of Professional Health Studies with the School of Sports Science and Psychology to produce one of the largest Faculties in the University. RAE 2008 saw the Faculty's first RAE submission which identified elements of international strength in the Faculty's research and further strengthened our ambition to achieve 'internationally recognised' research across the board.</p> <p>The number of research students has increased substantially compared to RAE 2008 submission. The number of staff with doctorates in the subjects covered by UoA 3 has trebled and the number of PhD completions has increased from zero in 2008 to six in 2013. Our UoA 3 submission includes: Occupation in Mental Health (Bannigan), Cardiac Rehabilitation and Exercise (Doherty), Patient Safety (Dawson and Scott) and Relationship and Culture (Akhurst and Tizro).</p> <p>Academic staff members in the Faculty are supported through: Performance Development Review (PDR) meetings with the Head of Department and relevant Faculty Professor; an internal seminar programme; an external seminar programme with invited speakers; and opportunities for research leave and secondment. All academic members of staff are required to complete research supervisor training and are mentored through their first PhD supervision by a senior researcher. All research supervisors are expected to attend meetings of the Postgraduate Research Supervisors Forum and take part in its programme of training. UoA 3 research students and staff support the University's annual Postgraduate Research Methodologies Conference.</p> <p>The Faculty supports collaborative research for individual academics and also has a research centre (Research Centre for Occupation in Mental Health – RCOMH – Bannigan) with NHS partners; a Unit for Child and Youth Studies; and the Community and Critical Social Psychology Group, to which Akhurst and Tizro belong. These are supported by our Senior Research Administrator. Collaborative research with the NHS has resulted in eight Faculty-led projects being delivered successfully in the last seven years (involving Doherty, Bannigan, Dawson and Scott). Doherty is a co-researcher on the CopenHeart Project, University of Copenhagen investigating the effectiveness of cardiac rehabilitation. The Faculty is committed to the development of early career researchers and has since 2005 hosted the AHP Yorkshire Research and Clinical Effectiveness Forum which bridges the gap between academic research and NHS practice. This initiative, led by Doherty, has resulted in two successful PhD completions and six peer reviewed papers.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p>
<p>Evaluation of RAE 2008 and resulting changes</p> <p>Our RAE 2008 research outputs for unit C12 indicated 55% nationally recognised and 20% internationally recognised research. Since 2008 two UoA C12 staff have retired and two have</p>

Environment template (REF5)

moved to other employment. Dawson, Scott and Tizro have been appointed, while Akhurst, Bannigan and Doherty remain from that RAE submission. In comparison with the previous RAE census period total UoA 3 research income has increased for this submission.

Since 2008, growth in PhD enrolments has improved in line with supervisory experience, helped by securing funding for University studentships and international studentship funding. While UoA 3 had 13 part-time and no full-time research students between 2001-2008 this has now improved to 21 research students (9 full-time) on PhDs since 2008 with seven full-time students supervised by UoA 3 staff: Doherty (4), Bannigan (1) and Akhurst (2). Two full-time students completed by January 2013 with a further student, who has completed minor corrections (post viva), resubmitted in November 2013. The remaining four are on target for completion within the designated time period.

University Research strategy delivery through the Faculty and UoA 3

York St John University is a learning-led, research informed, institution where research is considered to be an inclusive activity and a process in which staff and students are expected and encouraged to participate. The University Research Strategy reflects this approach, as it explicitly seeks to 'Develop a strong, vibrant and sustainable research culture that informs our teaching, inspires our students and staff, enables research excellence, and enhances our academic reputation.' The key objectives of the YSJU Research Strategy, which are embedded and realised at Faculty level, are to:

- i. Promote research as a key form of learning: This has been achieved, among other ways, in the undergraduate and Masters programmes through the Students as Co-researchers (SCoRe) project where students and academic staff publish collaboratively;
- ii. Create a critical mass of sustainable research and increase the percentage of staff with doctorates: This is aided by the essential criteria for staff recruitment now including doctoral level qualifications or registration on a PhD. Existing staff who wish to pursue a PhD are supported, through work load planning, either internally or externally. For example we have staff on PhDs at the University of Warwick and University of Keele.
- iii. Achieve Research Degree Awarding Powers (RDAP) with increasing numbers of students and high completion rates: Faculty staff have contributed to one-third of the required 30 PhD completions and trebled their number of registered PhD students;
- iv. Engage with and influence users of research locally, nationally and internationally: By way of examples, UoA 3 researchers influence practice locally at York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (Doherty) and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (Dawson and Scott). Nationally they influence practice through the Research Centre for Occupation in Mental Health (Bannigan). Internationally they influence practice via Professor Doherty's roles as National Clinical Lead and Chair of the rehabilitation section of the European Association of Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation and as researcher and PhD co-supervisor at the universities of Copenhagen, Oslo and Heidelberg; while UoA 3 research findings have been applied in the Republic of Ireland, South Africa and New Zealand (Akhurst);
- v. Increase research activity through effective research management, tied to work planning systems and student experience: Work planning and the Performance Development Review system facilitate the allocation of time for research. Where the student experience is concerned, the Faculty is consistently rated highly in the national Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) with most scores above benchmark universities and above national averages.

The Faculty's approach to research is shaped by the University's Research Strategy and operationalised through the Faculty's Annual Operating Plan (AOP). The AOP is agreed by the University's Senior Leadership Team as part of its annual planning cycle and progress against the AOP is monitored through Annual Evaluative Reports. Our approach cultivates strong research leadership and focuses on the recruitment both of established researchers and early career researchers, and on staff development and retention.

Research management and the methods for monitoring the attainment of targets

Research is managed at University level through the University Research Committee and its sub-committees including the Research Degrees Sub Committee and the Research Ethics Committee. Research in UoA 3 is managed through the Faculty Research Committee (FRC), chaired by a Research Professor, which comprises the Dean, Research Professors and Readers, the Chair of the Research Ethics Committee, all Faculty REF UoA leads, the Post-graduate Tutor, who is responsible for pastoral support for PGR students, and a research student representative. The FRC oversees the development, implementation, support and monitoring of research across the Faculty and reports variously to the Faculty Leadership Team (FLT), the University Research Committee and the Research Degrees Sub Committee.

The planning, monitoring and management of individual staff research is guided by the University work planning model and implemented through PDR. The University requires academic staff to record research and scholarship using the Academic Profile System (APS) which is used to inform academic audits and support the PDR process.

New and developing initiatives

- In the pursuit of growing a greater number of early career researchers, funding has been secured to implement three Graduate Teaching Assistant roles that combine teaching with PhD studies.
- The Faculty has, in the last three years, had considerable funding success with collaborative research with other Universities and NHS partners (Dawson, Scott and Doherty). The Faculty aims to support more research staff to work collaboratively in bidding for research and delivering the desired outcomes from funded research. To help achieve this aim the Faculty has recently appointed a Research Associate, on a full time basis, to promote and support research bidding.

Identification of priority developmental areas for the unit - research topics, funding streams, PGR activity, facilities, staffing, administration and management

Health-related research, for UoA 3, is dependent on collaboration with the NHS clinical services and with other University partners. The following priorities have been agreed:

- Increase critical mass of research staff in core areas including: Mental Health and Wellbeing, Long Term Conditions, Rehabilitation and Patient Safety
- Build on recent NIHR and Health Foundation funding success and increase income through external collaboration and consultancy
- Increase the number of PhD supervisors across the staff group
- Increase the number of PhD supervisors with University of Leeds 'sole supervisor' status
- Increase PhD student numbers, including international students
- Improve PhD completion rates
- Optimise external partner research opportunities with the NHS and the York Community Stadium to support research student experience in the areas of exercise, health and well-being.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

There are 32 UoA 3 related staff in the Faculty, twelve with a PhD and three currently being supported on PhDs externally. Two members of UoA 3 staff, who received Faculty PhD support as part of the UoA 2008 RAE strategy, have successfully completed part-time PhDs. All academic

staff are expected to be research active and produce published outputs that have social or economic impact. The Faculty allocates a minimum of 10% of each academic's contracted workload to research activity and in addition makes provision for research leave, subject to Head of Department and the FLT approval.

Since 2008 the requirement to be research active has been built into job and person specifications for all new academic posts. A completed PhD or demonstrated research potential is an essential requirement. Where new appointees are not in possession of a PhD they are normally expected to enrol on a relevant PhD programme as a condition of employment. All YSJU staff are provided with opportunities to develop their research skills. On appointment, new staff members are allocated a mentor from within the Faculty who will have both research and teaching experience. The mentor provides advice throughout the probationary period on how to develop as a researcher and contribute to the Faculty and University research culture. In addition, during their probationary period all new staff members meet with the relevant Faculty Professor responsible for research leadership in their area to discuss personal research plans and agree research objectives. On completion of probation, staff members participate in the annual review process which includes discussion around research aspirations, achievements and objectives and individual research plans. Through these discussions, staff members are mentored on how to develop esteem through networking, marketing their research, and engaging in external research activities such as contributions to editorial and reviewing processes, grant reviewing and service to professional associations and scholarly societies.

All members of academic staff are provided with opportunities to participate in regular research training workshops organised centrally and are encouraged to participate in regular Faculty-led seminars involving research students and staff, with further contributions from external speakers. In line with PDR plans, all staff are given the opportunity to present at national and international conferences at the University's expense.

As part of its strategy to increase research capacity, it is YSJU policy to support academics that do not have PhDs and wish to develop as researchers. The Faculty supports academic staff, through fee payment, fee remission and time allocation, to undertake doctoral study. In the period since 2008 six staff members have been supported with both time allocation and financial support to pursue a part-time PhD, and one is on a full-time PhD. Three members of academic staff were unable to source in-house staff supervision but were supported to register for PhDs externally. Two full-time staff on part-time PhDs have successfully completed in the last two years. Early career researchers (such as Scott) were given Professorial support (Dawson) to enhance their publications and research bidding potential. This proved highly beneficial as Scott and Dawson secured £200K from the Health Foundation for a patient safety project in 2013.

In accordance with YSJU aspirations to increase doctoral provision, central support is provided for staff to access training in research supervision, research degree examining and other relevant programmes. Members of UoA 3 staff, who are inexperienced in research supervision, work with experienced supervisors who have University of Leeds 'sole supervisor' status. Two members of the UoA 3 staff being submitted, and a further five from the UoA 3 subject area, have gained experience of research supervision through this process since 2008. Four members of UoA 3 submission have 'sole supervisor' status and are actively involved in mentoring less experienced research staff.

YSJU operates a personal promotion system for established research staff able to demonstrate an outstanding contribution to research. A personal Chair may be conferred on applicants who are able to demonstrate exceptional or internationally recognised achievement in original research. The annual approval of applicants involves a rigorous two-stage process where an internal evaluation is conducted, by the Academic Promotions Committee, to determine whether there is a *prima facie* case for promotion. If a case is established, external experts in the applicant's field are sought, and their evaluation reports inform the recommendation. External appointments to Professorships are required to meet the same stringent criteria. The health research area has secured two Readerships (one of which is Bannigan) and two Professors (Dawson and Doherty)

through these processes.

Research supervision

The Faculty supports staff to ensure that they are given opportunity to supervise PhDs. The number of supervisors has risen from seven to 25 and the number of Faculty wide 'sole supervisors' from two to ten since RAE 2008. The Faculty has a strong pool of doctoral supervisors (40% of total academic staff), with a broad range of research interests and expertise. The Faculty has repeatedly achieved high student satisfaction scores from the PRES with over 90% satisfaction for staff availability and a supportive research environment.

ii. Research students

The UoA 3 has supported 21 research students from 2008 until July 2013 with a further four PhD students registered by the end of November 2013. There have been seven PhD completions two of which were full-time international students, both of whom have secured employment and continue with research as post docs. One student was interdisciplinary and one student has submitted.

Identification of research training involves the research student and supervisory team and is based on regular training and development needs analysis. To give the students greater experience and to benefit from economies of scale, training workshops are provided by YSJU and through collaborative arrangements with the University of Leeds and the University of York. There is a wide variety of training opportunities available including a range of short courses and workshops on research skills, personal development, employment and career planning skills. Faculty subject-liaison librarians provide advice and skills training in literature retrieval and the use of bibliographic software. The Faculty offers opportunities to engage in multidisciplinary research involving local NHS partners and the Third Sector (MS Society and dementia care organisations).

All Faculty research students are encouraged to participate in the University's annual multidisciplinary research methodologies conference which promotes interaction with students from others areas. The Faculty provides regular in-house seminars where research students present their work in sessions chaired by their lead supervisor, and they also engage with the Faculty seminar programme where research active staff and invited speakers present their research.

YSJU provides a generous funding package to support its PhD research students. An annual expense account of £900 per full-time student and £450 per part time student is provided for fee paying research students. In addition, those on studentships have funding provided within their bursaries. The expense account may be used to support attendance at conferences, external short courses, or for the purchase of key resources, texts and IT hardware and software. To provide an environment that is conducive to enquiry, critical debate, and strong social support, all YSJU research students have workstations in a dedicated graduate centre located in the De Grey building. Locating post graduate research students centrally has enabled the development of a strong supportive community that enables inter-disciplinarity and an appreciation of different methodological perspectives on research. The research students provide each other with peer support and have developed an active discussion group and a writing support group whose meetings and activities are advertised on the Virtual Graduate Centre on Moodle.

Should they wish to do so, as part of their professional development, post graduate research students are also provided with opportunities to teach on the undergraduate programmes at the University. Research students wishing to teach may do so from their second year of study, providing they have either undergone mandatory training or possess a recognised teaching qualification.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

External funding:

- The BHF Care and Education and Research Group fund a two days per week secondment to the University of York for Doherty. The total research funding received to July 2013 is £56,300

Environment template (REF5)

- NIHR programme grant with Cornwall NHS and the University of Exeter (£2m). Started in January 2013 with a total allocation of £37,254 for Doherty's time and expertise
- Systematic review commissioned by Oxford Brooke's University in 2009 for £1000
- International FT PhD fellowship (2009-2013) Malaysian Education Ministry, £27,000
- British Association of Hand Therapists, £17,000 (2008)
- International Scholarship awarded to Akhurst (2012) of £6,200 from the Higher Education Academy to investigate community-based learning
- Dawson (3,342) research consultancy (2011-12)
- Nuffield Foundation £4,940 (2008-09)
- College of Occupational Therapists £6,000 (2011-2013)
- A grant of £20,000 was awarded by NHS North-East to fund the evaluation of the mentoring Workforce Innovations Project (Akhurst, 2009-11)
- Health Foundation Grant: Scott and Dawson (August 2013) £186,000 research award

Total since 2008 = £365,036.

Infrastructure and facilities: The Faculty funds a full-time Senior Research Administrator to work with three faculty professors and two readers in delivering and monitoring research activities. All YSJU research students have workstations in a dedicated graduate centre located in the De Grey building.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

- Dawson and Scott: DH Partnerships in Older People Programme – Action Research Evaluation of Northumberland 'Fit, Involved, Safe, Healthy Networks for Falls Prevention'
- Dawson and Scott: Yorkshire Ambulance Service and University of Nottingham, producing two peer reviewed papers and two successful research bids
- Scott: Research Associate (CETL4HealthNE) involving Newcastle University, the University of Durham, Northumbria University, the University of Sunderland, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust and Northumbria Healthcare
- Bannigan: Director of the Research Centre for Occupation in Mental Health (RCOMH) which has global partners and is hosted at York St John University. The centre has extensive collaboration with NHS partners (e.g. Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, and Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust) that are actively involved in developing evidence based interventions in occupation in mental health
- Bannigan: led an international scoping study, involving 19 different countries, to identify people who want to be involved in occupation and mental health research and capture their perceptions of future research needs (SIPPS project)
- Bannigan: leads the Agrability UK Project (The A'UP Study) with Dr Nancy Krusen (Pacific University) that has a vital applied role for occupational therapists
- Bannigan and Mayers: YSJU is a Founder organisation of the European Cooperation in Occupational Therapy Research & Occupational Science (ECOTROS) and this arm of international research is continuing
- Doherty: Collaboration with the University of York (since 2005) involving research with the BHF Education and Care research group. This has resulted in six papers, two successful research bids and one PhD student completion
- Doherty: Collaboration with the University of Exeter with Prof Rod Taylor, resulting in one peer reviewed paper and a successful NIHR grant for just under £2million to develop and evaluate

Environment template (REF5)

the effectiveness of a self-management approach for patients with heart failure

- Doherty: Former President of the British Association for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation (BACPR) from 2009 to 2011 which led to the development of two sets of Standards and Core Components for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation
- Doherty: Collaboration with the University of Heidelberg with Dr Geraldine Rauch investigating mortality trends in cardiology. Joint publications in two high impact journals and success in securing funding (24,000 Euros) to support a PhD studentship
- Doherty: Collaboration with the European Association of Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation (EACPR) resulting in four peer reviewed papers including three European clinical guidelines. Vice Chair (2012) of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Section
- Doherty: Co-researcher and PhD supervisor at the University of Copenhagen with Dr Zwisler, investigating efficacy of cardiac rehabilitation across four different RCTs (CopenHeart Project)
- Doherty: since 2002, led the AHP Yorkshire Research and Clinical Effectiveness Forum which has bridged the gap between academic research and NHS clinical practice. This initiative has led to two successful PhD completions (supervised by Doherty) and six peer reviewed papers
- Akhurst: collaboration with international scholars through conferences (e.g. Convening the 8th European Community Psychology Association congress at YSJU 15-16 September 2011, entitled Community Psychology: Critical Issues), reviewing articles and producing publications (e.g. published chapters in texts including *The Psychologically Literate Citizen*, a USA-Australia-UK collaboration, and in the volumes of *State Violence and the Right to Peace*)
- Akhurst: Active as a member of Editorial Board of *Community, Work and Family*
- Akhurst: member of the Scientific Committee of the 9th European Congress of Community Psychology, Naples, 2013
- Tizro: invited keynote speaker at a Women's Studies event, University of York, 2012, presenting Iranian women's and men's narratives of love and marital relationship
- Tizro: invited speaker at the Women's Rights Research Seminar at St Antony's Centre, University of Oxford, 30 January 2013, presenting her paper 'Domestic Violence against women: women, marriage and Islam'
- Tizro: invited to the 17th World Congress of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, University of Manchester, 7 August 2013, to present her paper on 'The Archaeology of Experience of Domestic Violence against Women in Iran'