



L-Università  
ta' Malta

# Grants Week 2022 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)

University of Malta & SEA-EU

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L-Università ta' Malta



# Contributors

- UM Research Support Services Directorate (RSSD)
- SEA-EU University Alliance
- Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST)
- European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST)



## Objectives of Grants Week

- Information on funding opportunities for research
- Guidance and tips on writing research fund proposals
- A platform for networking and collaboration
- Examples of success stories and good practice



# Research at the University of Malta

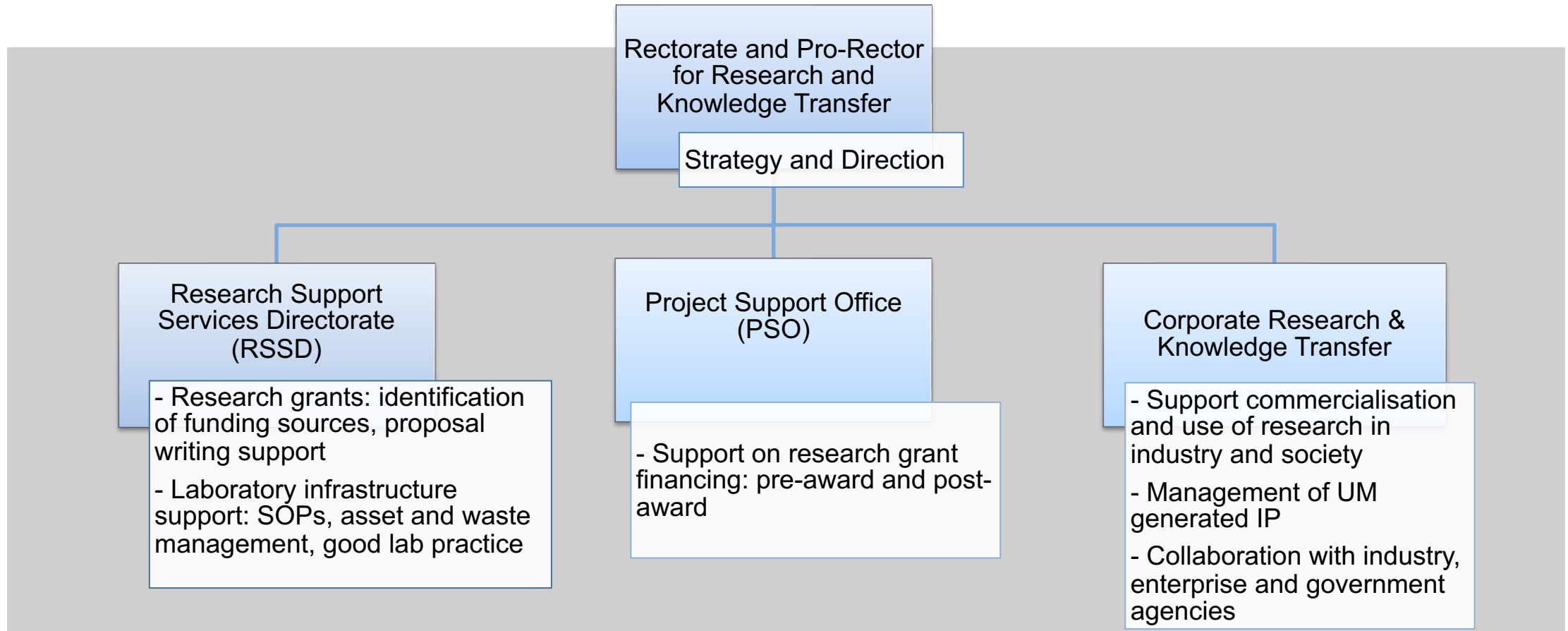
Fostering Research of Local, Regional and Global Significance

In line with its vision and mission, the University of Malta strives to engage in world-class research having local, regional, European and global significance.

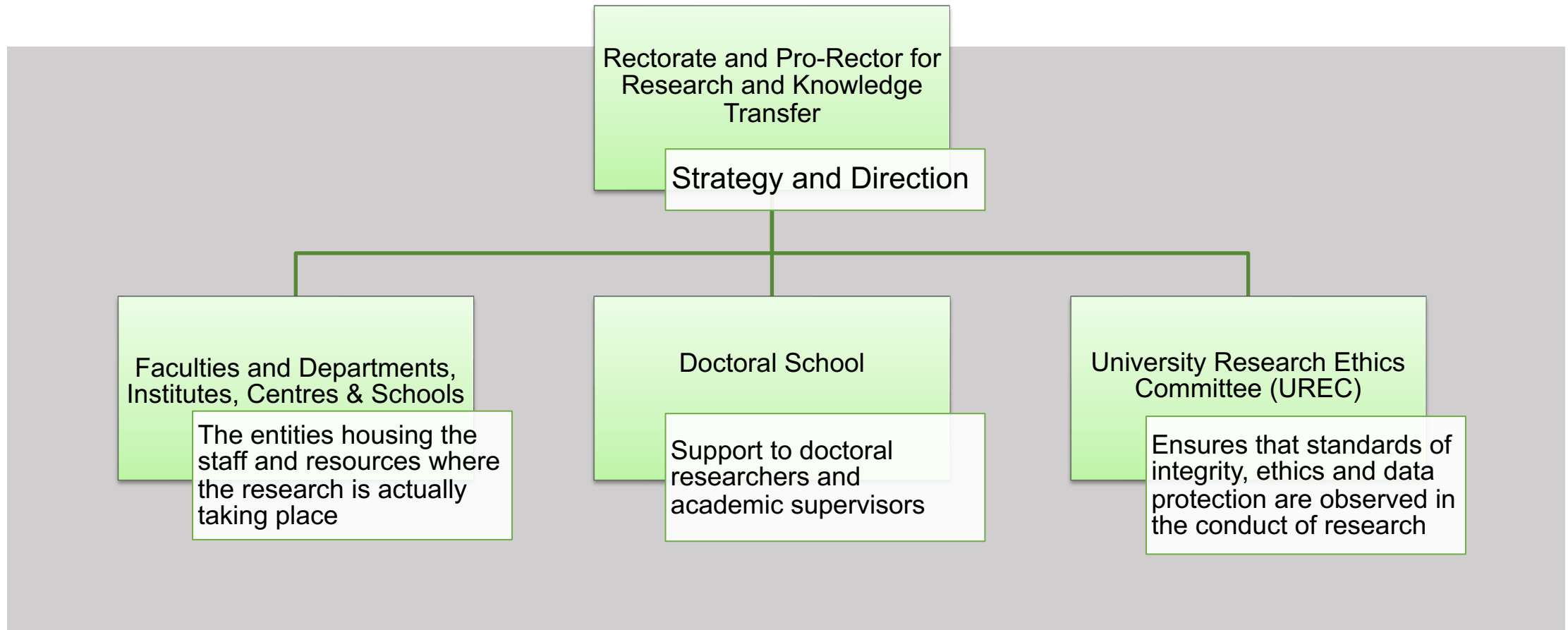
To achieve this, the University endeavours to strengthen the quality of its research output through high-calibre academics and the provision of an enhanced research infrastructure.



# Administrative Support Structures for Research



# Academic Structures for Research



## Other units sustaining research at UM

- Office for Human Resources Management and Development
  - Recruitment of Research Support Officers (RSO)
  - HR Strategy for Research (HRS4R)
- ERDF/ESF unit (manages EU Cohesion Fund projects)
- Finance Office
  - Procurement
  - PSO
- Legal Office
- International Office
- Estates, Facilities and Capital Development Directorate
- IT Services
- The University Library
- Research Innovation and Development Trust (RIDT)

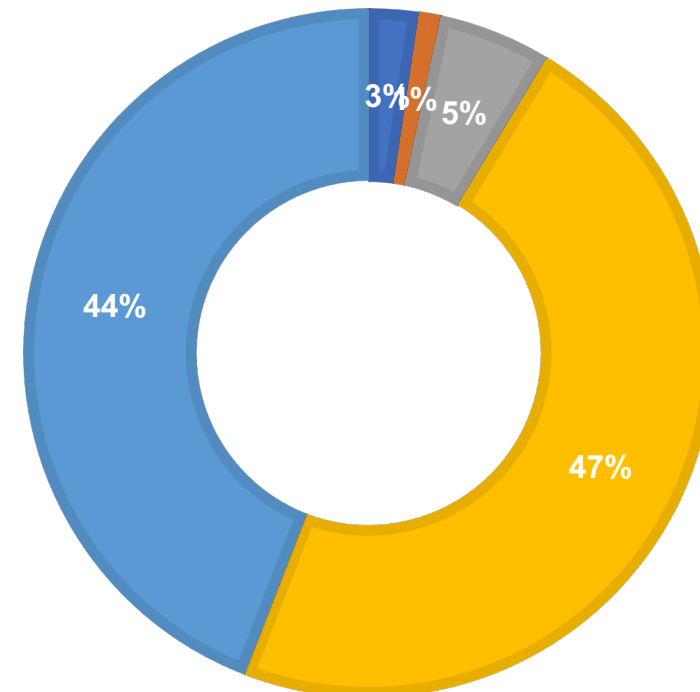


## Research Funds 2020/21

- **Internal Budgeted Funds**
  - Research Seed Funds: €0.524M
  - Research Excellence Funds: €0.24M
  - Cluster funding: €1.20M
- **External Competitive Funds**
  - 114 projects, national funds: €10.7M
  - 46 projects, international funds: €10.0M
- **Structural Funds (not shown chart)**
  - TRAKE (Transdisciplinary Research & Knowledge Exchange) €38.0M
  - Sustainable Living Complex €48.0M

## RESEARCH FUND % DISTRIBUTION (EXCLUDING STRUCTURAL FUNDS)

■ RSF ■ REF ■ Cluster ■ National ■ International





# External Funding Agencies

- MALTA COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
  - FUSION: CVP, TDP, Research Excellence Programme, TDP Lite, Thematic Programmes
  - SPACE RESEARCH FUND
  - PRIMA
  - SINO-MALTA COLLABORATION
  - MCST-TUBITAK
  - JPI OCEANS
- MINISTRY FOR EQUALITY, RESEARCH & INNOVATION
  - Post-Doctoral Fellowship Scheme
- SPECIFIC COLLABORATION AGREEMENTS
  - Funded research with government agencies, ministries or private companies
- HORIZON EUROPE
  - European Research Council Grants
  - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
  - Research Infrastructures
  - Pillar II clusters
  - Widening actions: COST, ERA Chairs, Teaming etc.



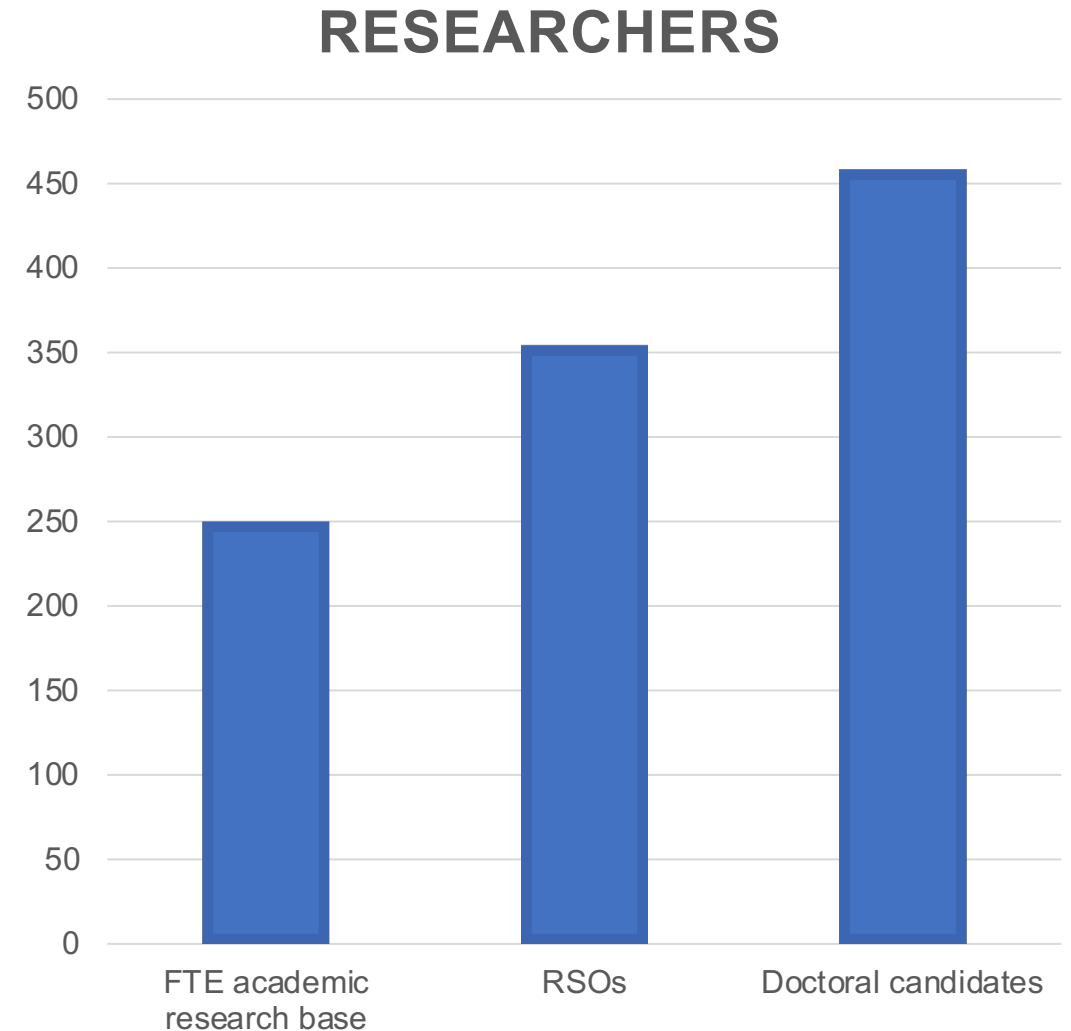
The Malta Council for  
**Science & Technology**



**European  
Commission**

## Research Staff 2020/21

- **TR appointed academics**
  - 822 TR academics
  - Approximately equivalent to 750 full-timers
  - These dedicate 1/3 of their time to research, yielding a 250 FTE researcher base
- **Research Support Officers (RSOs)**
  - 354 - increase of 46% over 2019/20
- **Doctoral candidates: MPhil/PhD & Prof Doctorate**
  - 458 - increase of 22% over 2019/20



# Strategic Plan 2020–2025

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*Serving students, scholarship  
and society, sustainably*

[www.um.edu.mt/strategy](http://www.um.edu.mt/strategy)



# STRATEGIC PLAN – OBJECTIVES

University wide implementation across 174 units in 12 administrative directorates, 14 faculties, 114 academic departments, 35 institutes, centres, schools and academies.



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University wide implementation across 174 units in 12 administrative directorates, 14 faculties, 114 academic departments, 35 institutes, centres, schools and academies.



## 2. RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

University wide implementation across 174 units in 12 administrative directorates, 14 faculties, 114 academic departments, 35 institutes, centres, schools and academies.

### Promote World Class Research

High-level researchers, research environment, doctoral school, international collaboration, respond to local and global needs, emerging areas, smart specialisations, research niches or UM

### Conduct Research that Supports Rankings

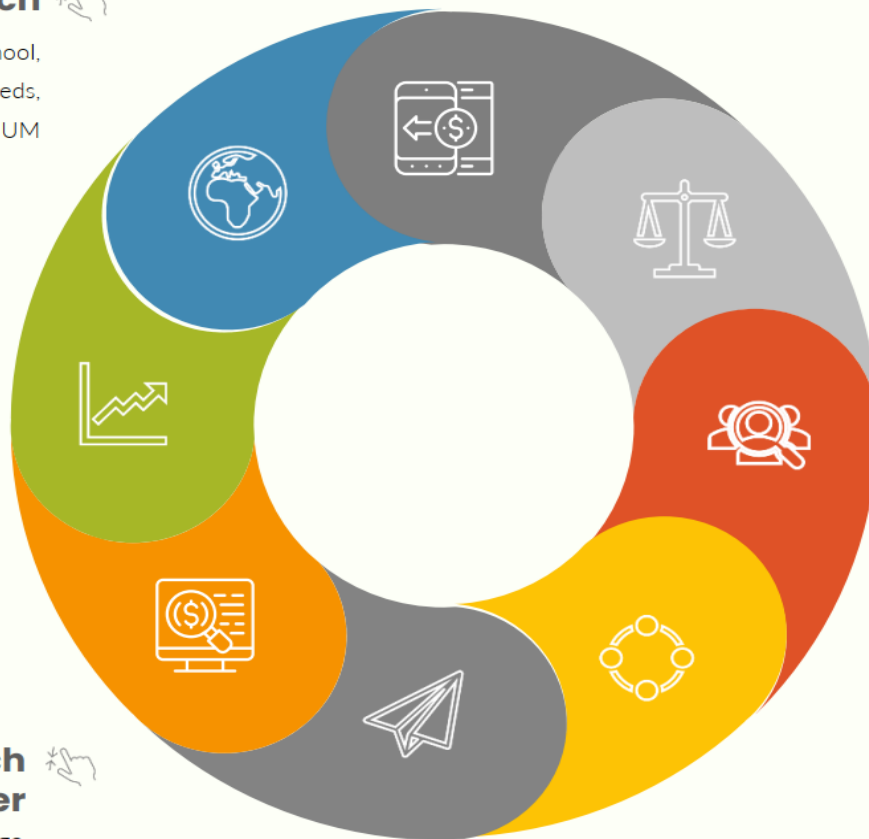
Benchmark best-in-class, peer-reviewed publications and citations, doctoral-researcher-to-staff ratio

### Secure Sustainable Funding for R&D

Funds in line with GERD, infrastructure, auditing for use of resources, funding from RIDT, strengthening RSSD and PSO, procurement and recruitment

### Expand Corporate Research and Knowledge Transfer

Intellectual property, research consultancy, IP and knowledge transfer, CR&KTO unit, partnerships and industry collaboration, proof-of-concept and start-up funding



### Improve Communication and Research Outreach

Social and traditional media, Malta-centric publication, research as a pillar in Malta's economic development, postgraduate research, engage STEAHM communicators, internal and external communication.

### Undertake Responsible Research, Integrity and Ethics

Set up Committee for Research Engagement and a Research Integrity Office. Strengthen and streamline UREC

### Design an HR Strategy for Researchers


Studentships, HRS4R charter, mentoring, take-up of the research stream, status of researchers, support and conditions, gender balance, mobility, training on emerging technologies

### Apply the Research Clusters Concept

Multidisciplinary research, funding from national and international sources, business plans detailing expected outputs in diverse research areas

# Thank you for your attention.

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