

Postgraduate Research Students, University of Galway

School of Biological and Chemical Sciences

2024 Action Plan

		Actions	Responsible	Status*
1	Research Infrastructure and Facilities	<p>Good rating for students having (i) a suitable workspace, (ii) access to computing resources, (iii) access to library facilities, and (iv) access to specialist resources and facilities.</p> <p>Optimisation of lab space, sharing of resources, access plan for equipment.</p>	HoS, R&D chair	*In Progress
2	Supervision	<p>Supervisor contact being reviewed annually at GRC and any issues advised to supervisor(s).</p> <p>Adherence to college PGR guidelines in place.</p>	GRC	*In Progress
3	Research Culture	<p>Running of section-based research seminar series is underway.</p> <p>More get-together activities for PGR to promote interaction and discussions.</p> <p>Also, research seminars run by units such as Ryan Institute, CÚRAM, MaREI etc will be more</p>	Section vice-heads, PGR	*In Progress

		widely disseminated to our research students.		
4	Progress and Assessment	Mandatory induction provided by Graduate Studies. Follow up session to be organised by School PGR to provide ongoing information on expectations for PhD degree.	Vice-Dean CoSE, PGR, Dean of GS.	*In Progress
5	Research Skills	<p>Good rating for students having (i) appropriate skills on research methodologies, (ii) critical analyses of data, (iii) improved creativity and innovation in research, and (iv) research integrity.</p> <p>Continue to promote the skills within PGR, including the mandatory research integrity training as part of the PGR degree.</p>	Academic Staff, GS	* In Progress
6	Other Transferrable Skills	<p>Career Support and Professional Development Seminar Series taking place and Researcher Development Centre explanation annually to PGR.</p> <p>Topics include Research careers, Grant writing skills, Intellectual Property, Galway Green Labs, Preparing for a job beyond academia, Open science / Open scholarship, Entrepreneurship Media writing, Developing Leadership Skills</p>	Vice-Dean CoSE, Director of GS, RDC	*In Progress

7	Responsibilities and Support	<p>Personal Career Development Plan being included as part of GRC process.</p> <p>Clear role of GRC members, also for mentoring.</p> <p>Lack of knowledge on various student supports (recreation, health) requires info day at the beginning of each academic year.</p> <p>Feedback from PGR students taken into consideration as part of PGR subcommittee from Sep24.</p>	GRC, PGR, Graduate Studies.	*In Progress
8	Personal Outlook	<p>GRC meetings will discuss students satisfaction in the institution and address issues with support staff.</p> <p>PGR representatives in all school committees. Feedback important to ensure satisfaction during PGR degrees.</p>	GRC, School, Graduate Studies.	*In Progress
9	Development Opportunities	<p>Personal Career Development Plan being included as part of GRC process.</p> <p>Increased Career Support and Professional Development available through Researcher Development Centre.</p>	GRC, School, Graduate Studies.	*In Progress

10	Motivations	<p>Low motivation for improving career prospects. Research days should encourage participation of non-academic speakers to showcase careers outside academia.</p> <p>Engage with UG students early to ensure clear motivations to undertake PGR degrees.</p>	Academic staff, R&D committee, Section Vice-heads	*Not started
11	Career	Career Support and Professional Development Seminar Series and Researcher Development Centre.	Vice-Dean CoSE,	*In Progress

***Not Started**

***In Progress**

***Complete**

*** Many of the above actions will be addressed at annual GRC meetings, as a result it is planned that the GRC form completed by students will be revised to reflect these additional actions.**

The above actions are tentative and will require the approval of the new CoSE Vice-Dean for Graduate Studies