

## **UCL European Research & Innovation Office Research Management Approach**

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- Introduction



- UCL & ERIO's Approach to EU funding



- UCL's ERC Support Services

## Head of European Research and Innovation, UCL European Research and Innovation Office

Responsible for UCL's European funded research portfolio (600 + grants, totally ca. €380 million)

### Industry Experience

- **Digital Helix Leader**, The Crowdhelix Network (Pan-European Open Innovation Network that enables Research and Technology Organisations, and businesses to collaborate, innovate and grow. The network has more than 400+ member organisations from 42 countries.

### Education & Research

- **Climate Change and Health Certificate**, Yale University (present)
- **Association for Project Management Research Fund**, *"A Profession Ready to Address Grand Challenges"* (present)
- **Erasmus+ Fellowship**, The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (2019)
- **Entrepreneurship in Higher Education**, University Industry Interaction Network (2018)
- **MSc Strategic Management of Projects**, UCL (2017)
  - **Director SMPAlumni** ([SMPJournal](#) & SMPUnconferences 2017 & 2018)
- **International Project Management Postgraduate Certificate**, Lapland University of Applied Sciences (2009)



Founded in 1826 to open up higher education in England to those previously excluded

By 1878, first English university to admit female students on equal terms as men



Our founding principles – academic excellence and research addressing real-world challenges - (UCL Strategy 2034)

## Research Services

### European Research & Innovation Management

#### Contract Management

- Collaborative Proposals, ERC, MSCA – Contract Management Support

#### Proposal Management

- Collaborative Proposals – Proposal Development Support

#### Project Management

- Collaborative Projects - EU Financial and Contractual Project Management

#### Innovation Management

- Collaborative Projects – Innovation Management Support

## ERIO Support Model







## Collaborative Funding Success

- 28 Successful H2020 collaborative proposals (40% average success rate)
- Ca. €150 million, of which ca. €30 million allocated to UCL  
→ 20% of UCL's collaborative funding
- 23 UCL led projects currently managed by ERIO, totalling 130m with ca. 270 partner organisations

## UCL ERO & University of Malta RSSD Collaboration

Funded by the Malta Council of Science and Technology

Within one year, this collaboration lead to **two successful Horizon 2020 funded collaborations** between UCL and University of Malta, with the organisations receiving **€1.4 million** in Horizon 2020 funding



## Research Management Service Development – Phase 1

- **Drivers:** Support needed by our academic and clinical colleagues; support world changing research; and increase research income
- **Limitations:** Funding for pre-award research management support
- **Challenges:** Horizon 2020 was new and included new focus areas (innovation and impact)
- **Opportunity:** People (researchers and research managers); brought together colleagues with a research background and colleagues with an administrative, financial and contractual background
- **Approach:** Created pre-award support that feeds into our project management team, who report back and we adapt the next proposals according to the feedback
- **Outcomes:** Partnering with academic colleagues & increasing EU funding

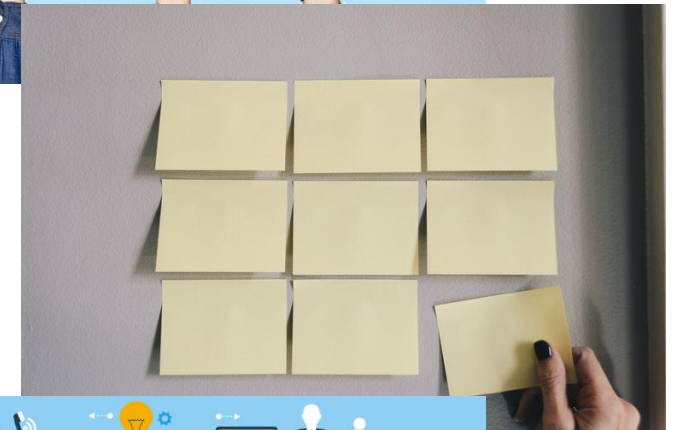


## Research Management Service Development – Phase 2

- **Drivers:** Continue collaboration with Europe / continued research income
- **Limitations:** Control
- **Challenges:** Funding uncertainty and continued collaboration
- **Opportunities:** New collaborations; strengthened relationships (research management); networks, and new support / business models
- **Approach:** Shift from coordination to partnership and coordination; partnering with other EU research management offices to support proposals
- **Outcomes:** Improved success rates and increased collaboration

## UCL ERIO Lessons Learned

- **Novel and cutting edge ideas,** and leading consortium
- **Internal review & selection process**
- Leverage networks and focus on partnership (changed mission statement)
- Further develop innovation management and business knowledge and capabilities, to facilitate impact
- **Promote our successes**



## UCL ERC Support Services

**Internal Engagement:** collaborative with research support colleagues centrally, within departments, reach out directly to researchers, and include peer participation

**Meetings:** combine dissemination of national funding opportunities with dissemination of European funding opportunities

**Workshops: General Workshops** – how to write a grant application + specific advice on ERC requirements; **C.V. Workshops** – help direct researchers and have them assess themselves and if they are a right fit.

**Mock Interviews:** peer participation

**Mentoring Programme:** previously funded ERC grantees to mentor prospective applicants

## **Kimberly Cornfield**

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