Development of a Faculty Learning Community to support scholarship and career progression.

Emma Bailey\(^a\), Ashley Le Vin\(^a\), Louise Miller\(^b\), Katherine Price\(^a\), Sharon Sneddon\(^a\), Genevieve Stapleton\(^\ast\), Lissann Wolfe\(^c\)

\(^a\)School of Life Sciences; \(^b\)School of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing; \(^\ast\)School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Glasgow • lissann.wolfe@glasgow.ac.uk

Career progression for academic staff appointed to a Learning, Teaching and Scholarship post at the University of Glasgow is now within the framework of a newly introduced staff development programme – the Early Career Development Programme (ECDP). Progression for staff on this track includes a requirement for participation in scholarship, knowledge exchange and impact. Since its inception in 2016, participants have found the requirements of the scheme unsupported and obscure, resulting in uncertainty and anxiety. This study will investigate whether a Faculty Learning Community\(^1\) is a sustainable model to support staff progression and scholarship activities.

Aims of our learning community

To provide:

- **peer-support** from fellow Learning Community members to support scholarship and progression for MVLS lecturers (learning & teaching track) enrolled on the ECDP.
- **practical support** for scholarship projects (it is hoped that all members will be supported to drive their scholarship from idea to manuscript).
- **co-authorship** on the scholarship of Learning Communities to support ECDP progression and scholarship.

Prospective Outcomes

- **External dissemination of scholarship**, including publication in a peer-reviewed journal, describing the use of a Learning Community to support career progression
- **Generation of local recommendations** for supporting scholarship throughout the ECDP to influence the evolution of the ECDP and promotion criteria.
- **Achievement of learning community members’ ECDP development objectives** at the applicable level of the programme.
- **Improved visibility** of staff who are empowered to implement pedagogy in delivering the University of Glasgow’s vision and ambitions described in the current strategic plan “Inspiring People, Changing the World”
- **Improvement in student satisfaction** by supporting staff to apply pedagogy and deliver excellence in learning and teaching

After 4 months as a group we have already achieved:

- 7 individual scholarship project proposals
- 3 collaborative scholarship projects beyond the learning community
- 4 poster presentations accepted
- 6 oral presentations accepted

Reference: