Conference Accounts & Research Spending Policy

A key factor is that we need to attract more outside funds so part of the intention here is to enhance the incentives for attracting outside funds.

Getting research funded is one of the criteria for promotion and moving up professorial pay bands - so this should be an important incentive for all.

Policy Outline:

1) Each member of staff is given an annual conference fund of up to £2500 (to a maximum of £6000 over three years). These funds can be used only for conferences. Pre-approval to use your conference account is required. Use the Conference Pre-authorisation application form to apply.

2) There is a Departmental fund to which people can apply for research support. The Research Director will allocate these funds. Grants are competitive with the following factors determining eligibility:

   - People who have completed their PhDs within the last three years are automatically eligible.
   - Others are eligible if:
     A. They have applied either to the College Research Strategy Fund or to an outside funder within the previous two years and:
     B. They have published in a top field journal or better in the past two years or have three such publications within the last five years.

3) People with large PI accounts may be asked to use these funds instead of the research fund although they will not be automatically be excluded from applying to the research fund.

For this year, 2014, I’m putting £5,000 in the research fund.

Professor Michael Spagat
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