

FAO Chair of the Concordat Strategy Group

18th December 2019

Letter of Commitment to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers

On behalf of Stranmillis University College, Belfast, I am pleased to confirm our commitment to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers.

Stranmillis University College fully supports the Principles of this revised Concordat and we intend to uphold our obligations and responsibilities as a signatory.

Stranmillis University College is a small, specialist institution, and although we have relatively few researchers compared to much larger HEIs, we fully support the three core principles of the Concordat, namely:

- 1. Environment and Culture: Excellent research requires a supportive and inclusive research culture
- 2. Employment: Researchers are recruited, employed and managed under conditions that recognise and value their contributions
- 3. Professional and career development: Professional and career development are integral to enabling researchers to develop their full potential

These principles are in alignment with our existing aims to provide a sustainable and inclusive research environment which can support researchers at all stages of their careers.

We agree to work collectively and engage with initiatives to address systemic challenges in progressing towards a UK research system where researchers work in healthy and supportive environments. We agree that researchers should be recognised and valued for their contributions in research and beyond, supported in their professional and career development, and equipped and empowered to succeed in their chosen careers.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Anne Heaslett

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Principal

