

FAO Chair of the Concordat Strategy Group

12th September 2019

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

We, Drs Anjali Shah & Alison Tidy, Co-Chairs of the UK Research Staff Association (UKRSA), on behalf of the UKRSA, confirm our commitment to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers.

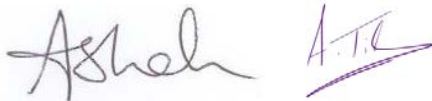
UKRSA fully supports the Principles of this revised Concordat and we intend to uphold our obligations and responsibilities as a signatory.

The UKRSA representing researchers throughout the UK welcomes the publication of the revised Researcher Development Concordat because it sets out expectations for all key parties (institutions, funders, managers of researchers and researchers) to together create the more supportive and inclusive culture necessary for conducting excellent research. We particularly appreciate the expectation of time and opportunities for researchers to focus on their professional development, as well as research identity and broader leadership skills, which should support their success in a wide range of careers.

As a member of the Concordat Strategy Group, we will continue 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. In particular, we would champion a project on 'Researcher destinations' with the support of the other key stakeholders.

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,

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature is 'Anjali' and the second is 'A.Tidy'.

Dr Anjali Shah & Dr Alison Tidy

Co-Chairs of UK Research Staff Association