Working the metricized academy: DIARY COMPLETION EXERCISE, PILOT PROJECT.

INSTRUCTIONS

The diary is in two parts. We would ask you initially to complete Part I, the retrospective diary, going back to when you first remember hearing of RTB. As it may be hard to recall precise dates, meetings etc, you might find it easier to write a summary of experiences so far, or jot down snatched memories and key moments with approximate dates.

Going forwards, we would ask you, in part II, to add new entries on an ongoing basis: provisionally up until the end of December 2016. If you don’t have time for Part I, then just begin with Part II and fill in Part I at a later stage if time allows.

Please record your experiences, feelings, and thoughts about RTB as you encounter it in your daily working life at Newcastle University. This could include:

* formal management-led communications such as emails from the management to all staff
* Vice Chancellor’s ‘town-hall’ meetings;
* faculty and school presentations by pro-VCs, research deans and others
* discussions in faculty, departmental, research group and school staff and other meetings
* emails sent or formal gatherings convened by UCU reps or other activists
* REF-readiness exercises, internal quality assessments, or other formal audits
* PDRs, and formal or informal discussions with managers about career trajectories, promotions, and other contractual matters;
* informal interactions and conversations with colleagues, students, university managers or family and friends outside the university

You’re welcome to add your reflections on these encounters. These could include:

* your associations, feelings, expectations
* changes to the nature and quality of your interactions with colleagues/managers
* how these interactions changed what you thought about the meaning and purpose of Newcastle University and your own work
* changes to your working practices
* altered relations/attitude to university management. If you are a middle manager (head of school, research director, degree programme director, etc), what were your feelings and experiences about the expectations upon you to assist in rolling out RTB?

Please feel free to write as much or as little as you want: even infrequently-recorded notes will be valuable to the overall project. Instead of keeping a diary, you could make audio/video recordings on a mobile device and send them to [rtb.research@outlook.com](mailto:rtb.research@outlook.com) for collation and eventual transcription. You could also send your reflections by email, and they’d be collated in the same way.

For further information on the research and its use, including ethical issues of security, anonymization, and reputation, see full research outline and in particular the diary exercise covering letter on the project website [www.rtbresearch.org](http://www.rtbresearch.org), or contact Dr Nick Megoran, Reader in Political Geography, at either [rtb.research@outlook.com](mailto:rtb.research@outlook.com) or on internal telephone on 86450.

PART I: RETROSPECTIVE REFLECTIONS

*Add as appropriate*

PART II: ONGOING DIARY

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date |  | Entry |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

*NB: to extend table space, highlight the last few lines: ‘Table tools’ tab will appear, select ‘Layout’ then ‘insert below.’*