Middlesex University London

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Researching the researcher

Improving research student support at Middlesex University

Overview

- Where we were
- Project
- Changes made
- Outcomes

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Library research support

Librarians

- 121
- Induction
- Library Guide

Research Information Team

- Repository
- Open Access
- Data
- Training

Research and Knowledge Transfer Office (RKTO)

- Researcher development programme

Plus Learning Enhancement Team

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Our project

- Vision
- Strategy
- Project
- Research support group

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Task and aspirations

- Identify and develop support
- Personal, convenient, visible, approachable
- Clear on our expertise
- Clear on our offer

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What we did: Conversations

Research Degree Coordinators

- Conversation
- Fact finding
- Feedback

Results:

- Lack of knowledge
- Need for more training
- NVIVO and SPSS training
- RefWorks v others
- Students
- Support off site

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What we did: Visits

Findings

- Researchers hard to reach
- Curricula for researchers
- Get NVIVO and SPSS to provide training
- Reassuring

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What we did: Existing training

Attended existing sessions

- Publications
- Writing a literature review

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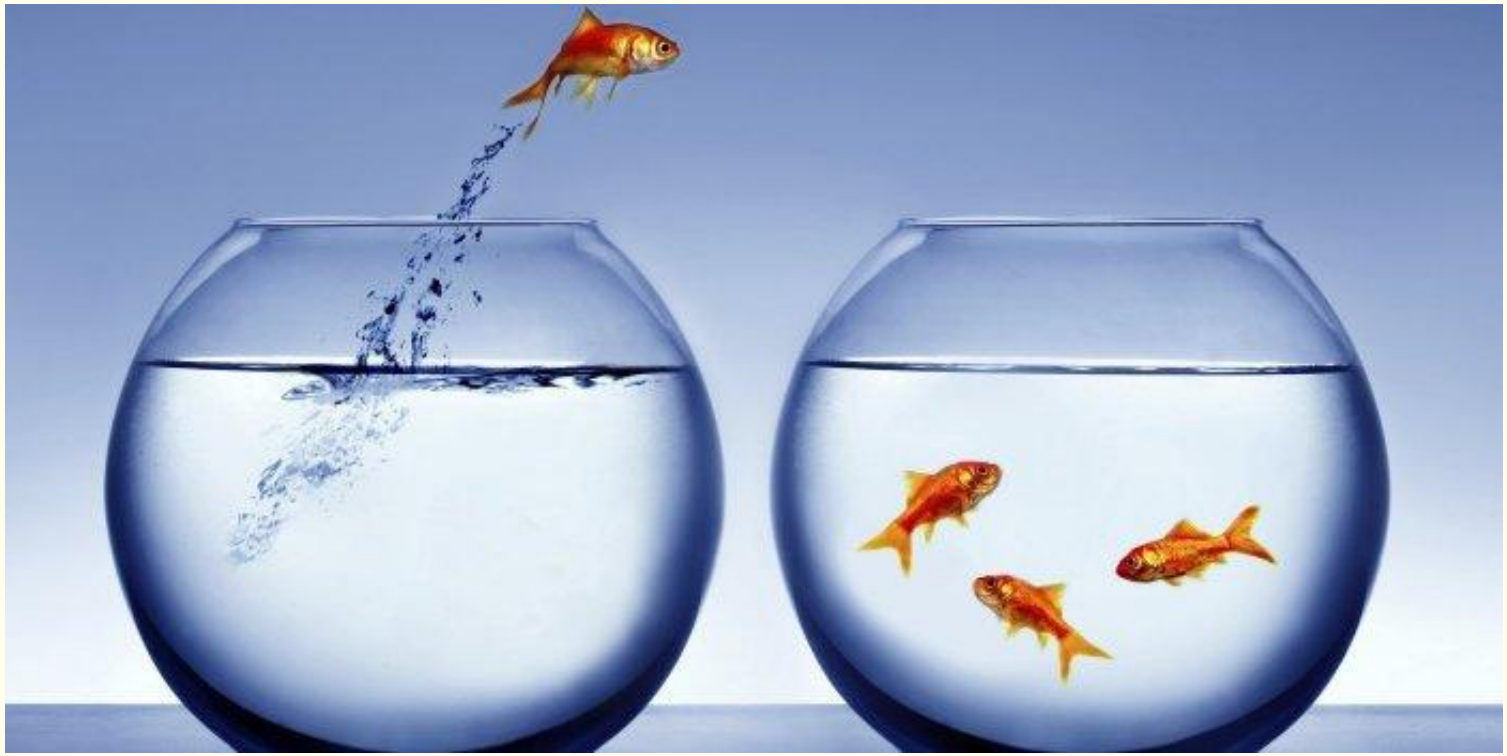
Organisational change

- RKTO role reduced
- Training moved to Research Programme Admin team



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New developments

- Human Books
- Student check list
- Enhanced training offer
  - Advanced research
  - Plagiarism and Referencing
  - Open Access
  - Repositories and Research Data
  - Writing
- 5 additional sessions
- In-house and webinars
- Research retreat pilot

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Going forward…

NVIVO

- Training on site
- Free places for venue
- Nvivo days
- Nvivo champions

SPSS

- Chasing their offer
- Lynda.com

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In conclusion

- Pragmatic practical changes
- Organisational change
- Improved training
- Good attendance
- Check list
- Work in progress…

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