Doctoral School relaunch

28 May 2019

ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
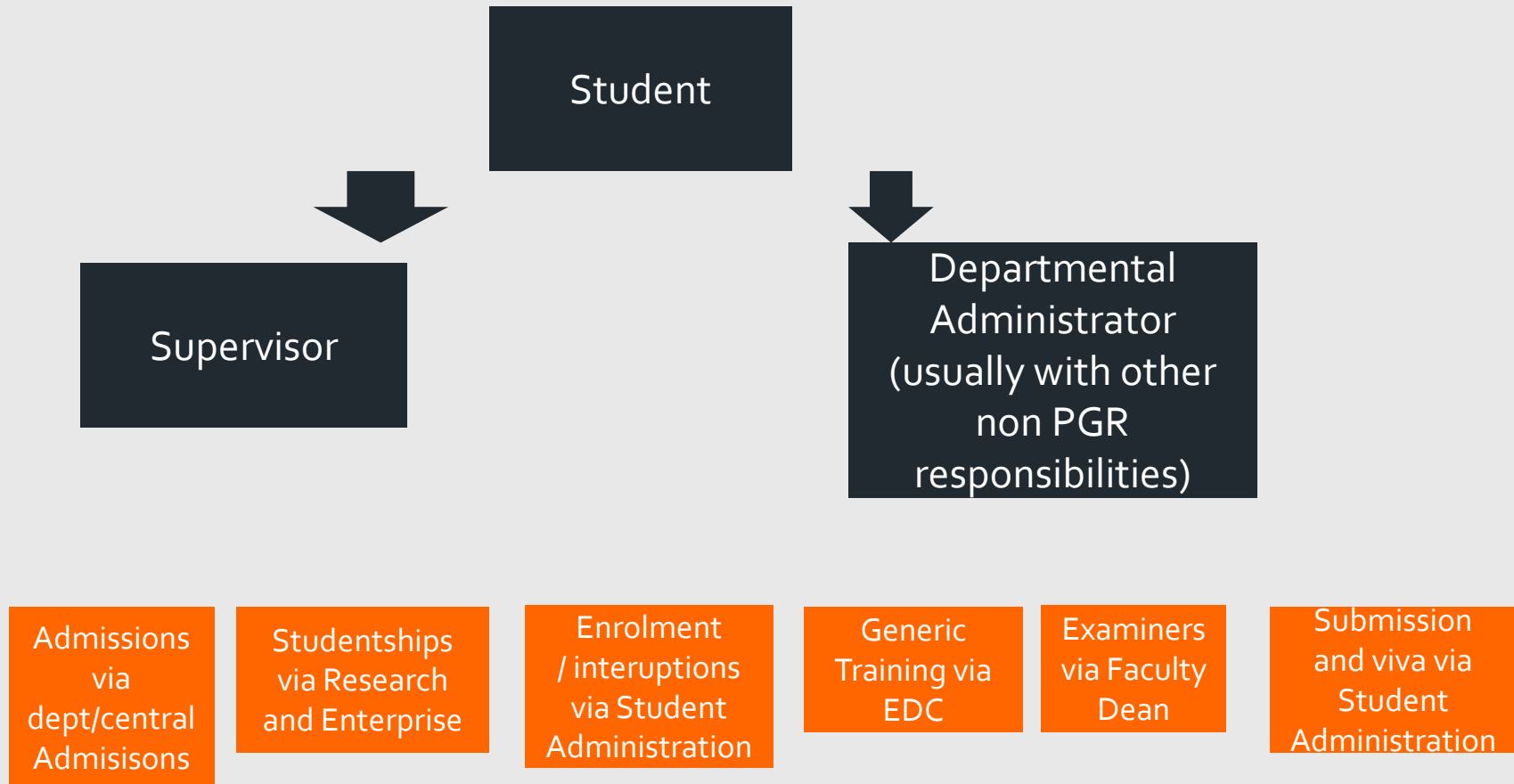UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

The Doctoral School

Formed in 2014, with over 1000 doctoral students the aim of the current Doctoral School is to:

- Foster an environment for support across the three faculties;

- Hold events which are pan-College;

- Support generic training for all students;

- Meeting for Directors of Graduate Studies across College;

- Some input into processes such as complaints and appeals.

- The School is virtual and has no physical presence

Doctoral Student Journey at present

Student

Supervisor

Departmental Administrator (usually with other non PGR responsibilities)

| Admissions via dept/central Admisisons | Studentships via Research and Enterprise | Enrolment / interuptions via Student Administration | Generic Training via EDC | Examiners via Faculty Dean | Submission and viva via Student Administration |

Issues

Non specialist staff dealing with matters at departmental level

Often single person (single point of failure if they are ill)

Delays created by PGR students in depts being dealt with as 'one-offs'

Multiple agencies dealing with PGR issues

Lack of knowledge of matters across the whole experience

Lack of good record keeping regarding studentships (budget source, terms)

Vision for Doctoral School

- Creation of physical centre of expertise for PGR students

- Creation of shared environment with events for all students to work across disciplinary boundaries

- One stop shop for all PGR processes (application, registration, generic training, submission, appeals)

- Centre for training, sharing of practice and advise for supervisors

- Work with Schools Directors of PGR Studies to create suitable support

- Sharing of events and training across Schools/Departments

Doctoral School

- Physical location near Herringham Room which joins informal PGR space with administrative support

- Dedicated and expert administrators who are able to deal with PGR issues

- Place to follow student journey from application to submission

- Staff and student forums to enable doctoral school to be shaped by users

- Central support and advertising of all PGR training across the College

- Consistent processes maintained across College

- Support for all parts of student life cycle for new Schools: admissions, scholarships, induction, training, interruptions, submissions, examinations