PhD Manager

PhD Manager User group meeting

Haplo, Emperor House, Dragonfly Place, London SE4 2FL
Friday 23 June 2017

1. Welcome and attendees
   Jennifer Summers from Haplo welcomed attendees to the inaugural PhD Manager user group.

   Attendees were present from:
   University of Westminster
   University of Northampton
   London South Bank University
   Open University
   University of South Wales
   University of Leeds

2. User group
   The group agreed to meet twice a year. Meetings will likely take place in June and December each year.

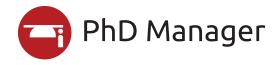   The University of Northampton volunteered to host the next meeting in December 2017.

   David Watson, University of Northampton and Tracey Bean-Williams, Open University, volunteered to coordinate the group for the first year.

   The purpose of the group is to coordinate feedback to Haplo on new features and improvements for PhD Manager, to agree priorities for the development roadmap, to network and share good practice.

3. Information sharing amongst the user group
   The group discussed using a JISC mailing list to share information between meetings. This might be instigated later in response to demand.

4. Haplo development
   Haplo Technical Director, Ben Summers, updated the group on recent and current development. The most significant has been the development of an improved platform for building PhD Manager systems. This enables faster deployment of new PhD Manager systems and improves common functionality

such as the new PhD Manager Project dates calculation engine. Existing PhD Manager installations will all be moved to the new platform by the end of 2017.

The group agreed it was desirable to focus development on common features used by all institutions than heavily customised instances for individual institutions.

5. PhD Manager roadmap
   The group discussed the results of a survey completed by user group members prior to the meeting of proposed new features and enhancements. Desired development was prioritised and Haplo will publish the agreed roadmap.

   The roadmap will be reviewed and agreed at each PhD Manager user group meeting.

6. Tips for successful rollouts
   The group shared tips on ensuring a successful roll-out of PhD Manager. Haplo will collate the tips and share with new users.