RAE 2020 Workshop

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Having noted that the RAE results will have significant impact on the School’s local and international credibility as well as the research budget allocations among universities, the School of Law hosted a RAE Workshop on 19 March 2018 to better strategize the RAE 2020.

We were honoured to invite **Prof John Birds** (Emeritus Professor at The University of Manchester and Honorary Professor at University of Sheffield) who had been on Law Panel of the Research Assessment Exercise in the United Kingdom twice to share his in-depth experience in RAE and REF, with an aim to optimize the staff’s and the School’s research profile and RAE performance.
In the workshop, Prof Birds first introduced the background of RAE and explained in detail how assessments would be done in the panel. He shared his rich experience on the research strategies on producing and selecting quality publications for assessment, some thoughts on research environments and other related matters. Prof Birds emphasized the importance of producing quality outputs with new knowledge or concepts.

Over twenty staff participated in the workshop, including **Prof Geraint Howells** (Dean, School of Law), **Prof Lin Feng** (Associate Dean, School of Law) and **Dr Chen Lei** (Associate Dean, School of Law).

With the common goal of improving the RAE results, staff enthusiastically raised many questions in the discussion session. Prof Birds gave valuable advice and detailed explanations to each specific question. At the end of the workshop, on behalf of the School of Law, Prof Howells thanked Prof Birds for providing professional advice which was a significant help to the School in preparing for the RAE 2020.

*For Prof Birds bio, please refer to:*
https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/john.birds.html