

**UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
SENATE**

PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 14:00, WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY 2023

VIA MS TEAMS

Present	Professor Stuart Croft	Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
	Professor Katherine Astbury	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Gary Bending	Representative of the Faculty Board (Science, Engineering and Medicine)
	Professor Daniel Branch	Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies
	Will Brewer	President of the Students' Union
	Professor Robin Clark	Dean of Warwick Manufacturing Group
	Professor Matthew Clayton	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Gill Cooke	Representative of the Faculty Board (Science, Engineering and Medicine)
	Professor David Davies	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)
	Professor Jon Forster	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)
	Professor Rebecca Freeman	Dean of Students
	Professor Lorenzo Frigerio	Vice-Provost and Chair of the Faculty Board (SEM)
	Professor Stuart Hampton-Reeves	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Charlotte Heath-Kelly	Representative of the Assembly
	Professor Ruth Hewston	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Chris Hughes	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)
	Professor David Lambert	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Nina-Anne Lawrence	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Chih-Hsiang Lo	Students' Union Vice-President Education
	Professor Andrew Lockett	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Tim Lockley	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Guy Longworth	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Caroline Meyer	Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research)
	Professor Rachel Moseley	Vice-Provost and Chair of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Mark Newton	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)
	Anna O'Neill	Librarian
	Hamza Rehman	Students' Union Vice-President Postgraduate
	Professor Sarah Richardson	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor James Robinson	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)
	Professor Michael Scott	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
Professor Mike Shipman	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International)	
Professor Yulia Timofeeva	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)	
Professor David Towers	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)	
Professor Ema Ushioda	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)	
Professor Nick Vaughan-Williams	Vice-Provost and Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences	
Dr Naomi Waltham-Smith	Representative of the Assembly (until item 034b)	
Professor Mike Ward	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)	
Professor Derrick Watson	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)	
Clare Watters	Representative of the Assembly	
Jenny Wheeler	Representative of the Assembly	
Attending	Dr Helen Atherton	Associate Professor, Warwick Medical School (observing)
	Sophie Black	Assistant Registrar (Governance) (minute taker)
	Sioned Cash	Head of Sales & Service, Warwick Accommodation (observing)
	Dan Derricott	Director of Education Policy & Quality (Assistant Secretary)
	Rosie Drinkwater	Group Finance Director
	Katharine Gray	Head of Governance Services

	Helen Hotten	Clerical Officer (Academic Governance) (tech support)
	Vicky Marsh	Quality Reviews & Enhancement Manager, EPQ (for item 037)
	Dr Chris Mills	Associate Professor, Law (observing)
	Dr Douglas Morrey	Reader, French Studies (observing)
	Ben Pithouse	Operations Director, Wellbeing and Safeguarding (for item 036)
	Rachel Sandby-Thomas	Registrar (Secretary)
	Dr Gabriele Sosso	Associate Professor, Computational Physical Chemistry (observing)
	Dr Chris Twine	Secretary to Council
	Roberta Wooldridge Smith	Interim Academic Registrar
Ref	Item	
031	<p>Welcome and Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Dr Freeha Azmat, Professor Chris Ennew, Professor Sudhesh Kumar, Professor Gabrielle Lynch, Professor Noortje Marres, Professor Stéphanie Panichelli-Batalla, Professor Simon Swain, Professor Pam Thomas and Professor Azrini Wahidin.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed all. Professor Gary Bending (School of Life Sciences) was welcomed to their first meeting.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed the following who observed the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Helen Atherton (Associate Professor of Primary Care Research, Warwick Medical School) shadowing Professor Tim Lockley. • Sioned Cash (Head of Sales & Service, Warwick Accommodation) shadowing Dr Chris Twine. • Dr Chris Mills (Associate Professor of Law) shadowing Professor Katherine Astbury. • Dr Douglas Morrey (French Studies) also shadowing Professor Caroline Meyer. • Dr Gabriele Sosso (Associate Professor in Computational Physical Chemistry) shadowing Professor Chris Hughes. 	
032	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>No new declarations were made.</p>	
033	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 2 November 2022</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2022 (033-S250123, Protected) were approved.</p>	
034	<p>Matters arising from meeting held on 2 November 2022</p> <p>a) Community Safety & Protests/ Leafleting events (see item 036a)</p> <p>It was reported that following feedback and concerns raised at the last Senate meeting by Professor Charlotte Heath-Kelly, Assembly representative, the matter had been raised by the Registrar with the Head of Community Safety and assurance was provided that due process would be followed in future.</p> <p>b) Update from Working Group on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression</p> <p>Dr Naomi Waltham-Smith (Chair of the Working Group on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression) reported that while the Working Group was ready to proceed, delays in Parliament meant the Code of Practice would be brought to a future meeting. Work with Legal Counsel was ongoing to enable swift progress once the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill received final assent. Progress was also being made in liaison with the Compliance and Assurance Team in relation to post-approval policy implementation and training.</p>	
Chair's Update		
035	<p>Chair's Business</p> <p>The Senate received and noted the report (035-S250123, Protected) providing updates from the Chair under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional news • Awards and Promotions 	

	<p>a) New Dean of Warwick Medical School</p> <p>The Chair reported that Professor Gavin Perkins had been appointed as Dean of Medicine for Warwick Medical School from 1 August 2023. Professor Perkins would succeed Professor Sudhesh Kumar OBE who would step down after over eight years serving the WMS community as Dean and many more years than that as a senior leader within the School.</p> <p>b) New Academic Registrar</p> <p>Adam Child would be joining Warwick as the new Academic Registrar from February 2023. Thanks were expressed to Roberta Wooldridge Smith for filling the role on an interim basis, including attending Senate.</p>
Substantive Items	
036	<p>Residential Community System Review</p> <p>The Vice-Provost and Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences, as Chair of the Working Group for Review of Changes to the Residential Community Team, and the Operations Director, Wellbeing and Safeguarding presented the report (036-S250123, Protected) summarising the work to date of the Joint Working Group, with the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures of Success (MoS) had been established for the implementation of the new Residential Community Team (RCT) model based on the objectives of the RCT. These had been grouped into three key themes: Incident response/management (MoS1), Discipline/behavioural change (MoS2), Feedback/awareness (MoS3). • The Joint Group’s methodology was to collect quantitative data from a new RCT dashboard and qualitative data from key stakeholder groups and assess progress over time against the agreed MoS. The analysis would consider Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion factors within the legal parameters. • Although additional data would be required over time, the Group had arrived at several conclusions in the current reporting period, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The number of reported incidents was within expected range. ○ The model was proving sufficient to cope with current levels of demand. ○ It was too early to determine the impact on student behaviour. ○ Feedback from key stakeholder groups was positive. Personal Tutors had highlighted the need to ensure that all students’ concerns, regardless of perceptions of ‘triviality’, are supported. • Continuous improvement would be key to ensuring sustainability of implementation. <p>Members welcomed the report and the qualitative and quantitative data. The potential mismatch between the reporting of incidents compared to incidents actually happening was highlighted.</p> <p>Assurance was gained by feedback received so far from key stakeholders that no challenges were being faced in accessing RCT support out of hours. However, it would be essential to keep the appropriateness of support after 23:00 under review and move swiftly to address any issues if required.</p> <p>Through the measures of success, it was anticipated that a consensus agreement would be reached for an “appropriateness” benchmark, noting that type as well as level of support was also critical.</p> <p>Student members highlighted the importance of ensuring a widely representative membership for the resident focus groups, as well as effective feedback forms. It was noted that the next meeting of the RCT Working Group would consider a discussion guide to facilitate the running of focus group sessions.</p>
037	<p>Interim Report on Institutional Teaching and Learning Review</p> <p>The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) and the Director of Education Policy and Quality presented the report (037-S250123, Public) on progress with delivering ITLR to date. The following key points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project was currently on track to deliver the outputs and outcomes agreed by the Senate.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks were expressed to academic departments and professional services clusters for their effort and energy in pulling together their Self-Evaluation Documents (SEDs), with all but four submitted to date. • The majority of the 38 panels had been appointed and trained (c.300 people) and review panels had started meeting. • Engagement with the three common themes (Blended Learning, Interdisciplinary Learning and Education for Sustainable Development) had been built through a series of academic-led events in the autumn term. The SEDs covered the current position in each of these areas and had already provided helpful insight. • Departments had also chosen a bespoke theme, using an adapted standard skeleton to add value to their respective area. • There were many examples of positive engagement from the wider university community and the SEDs included thoughtful and thorough reflections. While there was some hesitation about the commitment of time required, the feeling was generally upbeat. • A full outcomes and evaluation report would be presented to Senate later in 2023. <p>The Senate was assured that the review was on-track and likely to deliver its intended benefits.</p> <p>In relation to blended learning, as one of the common themes emerging from department submissions, concerns were raised from members regarding Artificial Intelligence software ChatGPT and risks to academic integrity. It was confirmed that guidance had been issued and further discussions were ongoing, led by the Academic Lead for Academic Integrity, noting also the opportunity for ITLR panels to discuss course design, pedagogy etc.</p> <p>Comments around the cost/time benefit of ITLR were noted. It was highlighted that the review method, as agreed by Senate, had been tailored to add value to the specific context of the diverse academic departments and professional services at Warwick, for example, by integrating accreditation information required/provided for Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies where applicable. Consideration was also being given to the future of ITLR, as part of assurance and quality enhancement measures at Warwick.</p>
038	<p>TEF 2023 Provider and Student Submissions</p> <p>The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) and the Director of Education Policy and Quality presented the report (038-S250123, Protected) setting out the requirements of the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2023, key themes in the submissions by the University and Students' Union (SU) and initial reflections in preparation for the next TEF in four years. The following key points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University and SU responses to the TEF 2023 exercise had been submitted on Monday 23 January, by the deadline of 24 January (and before the Senate meeting). • The TEF methodology had changed, with less reliance on data and more on narrative, notwithstanding the University's strong data, e.g. student outcomes, compared to previous years. • Input from colleagues across the University through summer workshops at Warwick Leaders Forum and with departmental education leadership teams had helped to shape the story being told through TEF. This had been brought together with the framing of the Education Strategy, a considerable amount of evidence gathered over the last six months and specific work to articulate "educational gains" through an iterative drafting and editing process. • The submission presented a strong case for the outstanding quality of Warwick's student experience and outcomes, particularly for part time students and those from a widening participation background. • The University had supported the SU (through advice, funding for consultancy and sharing data) to produce their submission and the University and SU had also collaborated on the provider submission. • The submissions would be published by the Office for Students (OfS) along with the results of TEF in September 2023. Universities would be informed of their provisional results in August. <p>Student members highlighted the following themes in the SU submission:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like the provider submission, the SU response had been able to demonstrate overall student satisfaction with experiences at Warwick and a high quality of teaching. • The change in student wants and needs through the Covid pandemic and lockdowns had been noted, with flexibility of provision valued. • It would be important to ensure best practice continued to be shared across the institution. It would also be important to ensure disabled students felt equally supported across the University, sharing and extending good practice in academic support provision and promoting a sense of belonging. • The positive nature of ongoing collaborations between the University and the SU was noted. Improvements already undertaken by the SU as well as areas in which further improvement was being sought had also been highlighted. <p>The positive feedback from students on the flexibility of modules and the potential to over-cat, particularly in mathematical sciences subjects, was noted in the context of ongoing discussions around over-cattng.</p> <p>It was further confirmed that while Warwick benchmarked well in the TEF metrics and the submission spoke for itself in many areas, care had been taken to strike a sensible balance in interpretation of the TEF data.</p>
<i>Items below this line were for receipt and/or approval, without discussion</i>	
Substantive Items II / Governance	
039	<p>Chair’s Action Report</p> <p>The report (039-S250123, Protected) was received and noted.</p>
040	<p>Membership Updates</p> <p>The Senate received a report (040-S250123, Public) with Senate committee membership updates.</p> <p>DECISION: The Senate approved the membership updates for Senate Sub-Group and Social Inclusion Committee.</p>
041	<p>Revisions to Regulation 23: Student Disciplinary Offences</p> <p>A report setting out a proposed revision to Regulation 23 was received (041-S250123, Public).</p> <p>DECISION: The Senate approved the proposed revisions to Regulation 23 with immediate effect.</p>
Committee Reports	
042	<p>Report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee: University College Birmingham (Variation to Regulation 32)</p> <p>The Senate received a report (042-S250123, Public) and recommendation from AQSC for a variation to Regulation 32 to allow UCB to continue to operate External Boards of Examiners in lieu of a Warwick-managed Exam Board to decide on the awards that are recommended for approval, subject to a number of conditions set out in the report.</p> <p>DECISION: The Senate approved the variation to Regulation 32 to allow University College Birmingham to continue to operate External Boards of Examiners subject to conditions.</p>
043	<p>Report from the Academic Resourcing Committee</p> <p>The report (043-S250123, Protected) was received and noted.</p>
044	<p>Report from the Education Committee</p> <p>The report (044-S250123, Public) was received and noted with updates under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional Teaching and Learning Review (ITLR) • Cost of Living Support Package for Students • Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2023 • Online Assessment Project • Student Communications

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive Education Action plans.
045	<p>Annual Report from the Honorary Degrees Committee</p> <p>The report (045-S250123, Protected) was received and noted.</p>
046	<p>Report from the Research Committee</p> <p>The report (046-S250123, Protected) was received and noted with updates under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on the institutional signing of the Coalition Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment (CoARA) • Amendment to University Open Access Policy • Report from Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) • Future Research Assessment Programme (FRAP) Update • Report from the Research Operations Group • Research Culture Update • Research Communications Update • Research Centres triennial review. <p>DECISION: The Senate approved the continuation of the following University Research Centres:</p> <p>For a further three years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Warwick Cancer Research Centre on condition that the Centre undergo external scrutiny and a review of leadership and engage further cross faculty to enhance interdisciplinarity. (ii) Warwick Environmental Systems Interdisciplinary Centre (WESIC) (iii) Warwick Interdisciplinary Research Centre for International Development (WICID) on condition that the Centre engage in greater collaboration with IGSD. (iv) Centre for Television Histories (v) Centre for Fusion Space and Astrophysics (CFSA) (vi) Milburn House Magnetic Resonance Lab (vii) Centre for Research in Statistical Methodology (CRiSM) (viii) Fluid Dynamics Research Centre (ix) Industrial Relations Research Centre (IRRU) <p>For a further two years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (x) Mathematics Research Centre
047	<p>Report from the Social Inclusion Committee</p> <p>The report (047-S250123, Protected) was received and noted.</p>
048	<p>Report from the University Executive Board</p> <p>The report (048-S250123, Protected) was received and noted.</p>
Other	
049	<p>Student and Alumni Deaths</p> <p>The report (049-S250123, Public) was received and noted.</p>
050	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Hardship Fund for international students with disabilities

	<p>Professor Charlotte Heath-Kelly, Assembly Representative, raised a query relating to current discussions on the possibility of a hardship fund for international students with disabilities and/or chronic health conditions, with reference to private correspondence between the University and a student relating to a complaint. The complexity and confidentiality of the matter were noted.</p> <p>It was agreed that Professor Heath-Kelly share comments and a proposal with the Vice-Chancellor for further discussion. A number of Senators including the Students' Union Vice-President Postgraduate and the Academic Director (Doctoral College), offered to participate in discussions.</p> <p>ACTION: Professor Charlotte Heath-Kelly to share proposal relating to hardship fund for international students with disabilities with the Vice-Chancellor for further discussion.</p>
Next meeting: 14:00 Wednesday 26 April 2023, online via MS Teams	

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS			
ITEM	DECISION/ACTION	LEAD AND DUE DATE	STATUS
2019-20			
106b - Revisions to Reg 27 On-Campus Residential Accommodation and Reg 23 Student Disciplinary Offences	ACTION 2: A review to be undertaken of University policy and process relating to student drug use and possession.	Helen Knee, Jane Bryan, asap	Ongoing
2020-21			
116b - Senate Inclusivity, Membership and Elections	ACTION: Report on inclusivity and diversity of membership of academic governance committees to be brought to a future meeting of the Senate.	Director of Education Policy and Quality	Ongoing
2021-22			
06-07-2022			
127 - Report from the Assembly meeting on 17 June 2022	ACTION 2: Termly review of the new RLT system (first review point in October 2022) to be aligned with concerns raised by parts of the University community.	Registrar	Ongoing
2022-23			
02-11-2022			
022 - Report from the Research Committee	ACTION: Research Impact Strategy to be shared with departments.	Research Committee Secretariat	Ongoing
25-01-2023			
040 - Membership Updates	DECISION: The Senate approved the membership updates for Senate Sub-Group and Social Inclusion Committee.		
041 - Revisions to Regulation 23: Student Disciplinary Offences	DECISION: The Senate approved the proposed revisions to Regulation 23 with immediate effect.		
042 - Report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee: University College Birmingham (Variation to Regulation 32)	DECISION: The Senate approved the variation to Regulation 32 to allow University College Birmingham to continue to operate External Boards of Examiners subject to conditions.		
046 - Report from the Research Committee	DECISION: The Senate approved the continuation of the following University Research Centres: For a further three years:		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Warwick Cancer Research Centre on condition that the Centre undergo external scrutiny and a review of leadership and engage further cross faculty to enhance interdisciplinarity. (ii) Warwick Environmental Systems Interdisciplinary Centre (WESIC) (iii) Warwick Interdisciplinary Research Centre for International Development (WICID) on condition that the Centre engage in greater collaboration with IGSD. (iv) Centre for Television Histories (v) Centre for Fusion Space and Astrophysics (CFSA) (vi) Milburn House Magnetic Resonance Lab (vii) Centre for Research in Statistical Methodology (CRISM) (viii) Fluid Dynamics Research Centre (ix) Industrial Relations Research Centre (IRRU) <p>For a further two years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (x) Mathematics Research Centre 		
<p>050 - Hardship Fund for international students with disabilities</p>	<p>ACTION: Professor Charlotte Heath-Kelly to share proposal relating to hardship fund for international students with disabilities with the Vice-Chancellor for further discussion.</p>	<p>Charlotte Heath-Kelly</p>	<p>Complete</p>