

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

SENATE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 27 June 2016

- Present: Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair), Professor M Balasubramanian, Professor D Branch, Professor A Clarke, Professor A Cooley, Ms S Crookes, Professor M Freely, Professor S Gilson, Professor L Green, Mr R Green, Professor S Hand, Dr G Hartshorne, Professor Christina Hughes, Professor Christopher Hughes, Mrs K Hughes, Professor S Jacka, Professor S Jarvis, Professor T Jones, Professor D Leadley, Mr I Leigh, Mr L Pilot, Professor R Probert, Professor L Roberts, Professor P Roberts, Professor A Rodger, Professor K Seers, Mr N Shiers, Professor M Shipman, Professor C Sparrow, Professor N Stocks, Professor S Swain, Professor Lawrence Young.
- Apologies: Professor A Coats, Dr G Hartshorne, Professor S Jacka, Professor C Jenainati, Miss M Khan, Professor J Palmowski, Professor A Reeve, Professor J Solomos, Professor H Spencer-Oatey, Professor N Stocks, Professor L Young.
- In attendance: Academic Registrar, Administrative Officer (Academic Registrar's Office), Deputy Academic Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Director of Finance (for 108/15-16), Group Finance Director, Registrar, Secretary to Council.

108/15-16 University Financial Plan 2016, including the 2016-17 Budget

CONSIDERED:

- (a) The University Financial Plan 2016, including the 2016-17 Budget (S. 66/15-16);
- (b) An oral report from the Group Finance Director setting out work undertaken during the 2016 planning process including on planning assumptions, identification of risks and work on contingencies.
- (c) In response to a query from Professor Muthoo, that as an institution, Warwick was relatively lightly borrowed vis-à-vis its competitors; that 90% of the University's borrowing activity related to income generating activities needing to generate a surplus within 25 years and that the University had a cash policy rather than a borrowing policy with £80M being estimated to be the minimum level of reserves upon which it had been calculated the University could operate.
- (d) In response to a query concerning the potential impact of Brexit from Professor Jarvis, specifically the exposure of key departments to fluctuations in international student recruitment and potential vulnerability of research income, that the University was able to draw on significant safety factors and that the capital plan could be re-profiled.

REPORTED (by the Academic Registrar):

- (e) That a reliance on international students did not currently appear to be increasing institutional liability insofar as international students were seeking to

pay their fees early owing to the fall of sterling and hoping to be locked into fees while the pound was at a lower level.

- (f) That indications from international students attending the recent open days on Friday 24th and Saturday 25th June were that student perceptions of the UK and Warwick as a destination remained strong.
- (g) In response to a question from Mr Nat Shiers relating to the impact of enrolling significant numbers of additional students predicated and the timing of an expansion of student numbers in relation to the timing of planned increases in the provision of residential accommodation, that the University would seek to maintain an appropriate balance between the availability of on- and off-campus accommodation and in this way manage student demand and preferences, noting that some new accommodation could come on stream earlier than the plan indicated.

RECOMMENDED (to the University Council):

That the University's Financial Plan 2016 and the 2016-17 Budget be recommended for approval to the Council.

109/15-16 Secretary to the Council

REPORTED:

That, as a consequence of her recent appointment to the role of Secretary to the Council, Mrs Philippa Glover would be attending meetings of the Senate to provide continuity and that she be warmly welcomed in her new role.

110/15-16 Minutes

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the minutes of the meeting of the Senate held on 27 January 2016, be approved.
- (b) That the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Senate held on 26 May 2016, be approved.
- (c) That the minutes of the meeting of the Senate held on 8 June 2016, be approved.

111/15-16 Vice-Chancellor's Business: Outcome of EU Referendum

REPORTED:

- (a) That the outcome of the Referendum held on 23 June 2016 to leave the European Union had been a moment of personal disappointment and sadness.
- (b) That those supporting the Leave campaign had worked against many of the values that the University valued highly: internationalism; cosmopolitanism and evidenced-based argument.
- (c) That in addition to the profound economic shocks registered since the outcome became known, there were now significant political impacts underway in both major political parties in the UK.

- (d) That there would be no immediate change to the *status quo*, and little likelihood of change within 2.5 years; it being noted that there was no single Brexit scenario.
- (e) That one early priority would be to protect the regional agenda in the midst of the current turbulence and that dialogue would continue with regional stakeholders; that this was an important time to stand alongside other Midlands organisations and to emphasise Warwick's European outlook as exemplified through the University's recent membership of the Guild of European Research Universities, it being noted that Warwick would retain its Brussels office.
- (f) That in order to understand how the current situation came about, the University would invest in a number of fellowships to conduct related research.
- (g) That in the face of the planning and implementation of work consequent upon the Leave decision, he had written to the Government to request a delay in implementation of the HE White Paper, however he emphasised that even were the Government to agree, many of the intentions within the White Paper, notably TEF, would endure and so preparation at University level should continue.
- (h) In response to an enquiry from Professor Clarke, that planning for the Brexit outcome had taken place and was continuing; that statements had already been published for staff and students setting out the University's position on the result and that the Vice-Chancellor would be attending a meeting of Russell Group institutions due to be held imminently on the Referendum result.
- (i) In response to an observation from Professor Rodger that colleagues drew heavily upon their diverse community of scholars and sought to support European colleagues who felt personally rejected by the recent result. It was agreed that the Vice-Chancellor would write directly to such colleagues, to provide reassurance as to the esteem in which they were held in the University community.
- (j) In response to a concern raised by Professor Probert, about a possible increase in racist abuse, it was agreed that consideration would be given to setting up a hotline for staff and students to report concerns.

112/15-16 Registrar's Business: Representative of the Senate on the Steering Committee

REPORTED:

That nominations would be sought following the meeting from amongst the academic members of the Senate to serve on the Steering Committee for the academic year 2016-17, in succession to Professor Sparrow.

113/15-16 *California

CONSIDERED:

A paper and oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on developments in California (S.67/15-16), noting:

- (a) That the new legal entity was to be established on a not-for-profit basis, and would, in time, develop its own academic board incorporating student representation;
- (b) That significant effort was being dedicated to forging strong relationships and meeting the operating requirements of accreditation bodies in order to secure the necessary license to deliver teaching; it being noted that a new submission would need to be made on each occasion the University sought to diversify its portfolio of taught provision.
- (c) That the substantive, senior academic lead whom it was proposed be appointed through internal secondment to oversee the next phase of development would be crucial.

REPORTED (by Professor Lindsay):

- (d) That the strong research theme present throughout the document was particularly welcomed, noting that this had taken time to develop from earlier papers on work in California;
- (e) In response to a query from the President of the Students' Union, that further work with the Students' Union would be feasible by October when more relating to student engagement with the development could be addressed.

REPORTED (by Professor Swain):

- (f) In response to a query from Professor Balasubramanian relating to the proposed student profile and fee structure for the California operation, that market research had been conducted into fee levels; that no non-US students could be enrolled during the first three years of operation; that taught programmes would be delivered through a hybrid of local teaching and a 'flying faculty' model and that detailed discussions with academic departments would be pursued in order to enable compensatory arrangements to be made to affected departments.

RESOLVED:

That the key areas of activity related to California developments including the ten year research vision and actions proposed for the next year to develop a research strategy for California be approved as set out in paper S.67/15-16.

RECOMMENDED (to the Council):

That the proposed name of the new institution and the mission statement be approved as set out in paper S.67/15-16.

114/15-16 Review of Academic Governance

CONSIDERED:

- (a) A paper and oral report from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) setting out progress to date and recommendations arising from the review of academic governance, (S.68/15-16) noting that the paper set out a number of recommendations for adoption by the next academic year, and a further range of recommendations for review during 2016-17 on which consultation with the academic community would be undertaken prior to potential implementation in the academic year 2017-18.
- (b) The recommendation that that additional resource be provided in support of the academic leadership of teaching and learning through the appointment of a Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching) and several Academic Directors who would assume responsibility for pan-institutional leadership reporting to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor within a theme of activity.
- (c) The need for further consideration to be given to the role of the Boards of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies in the current governance framework and to a potential re-working of the Terms of Reference of the Boards of the Faculties.
- (d) That as a consequence of the recent re-affirmation of the role of the University Council in the discharge of responsibilities relating to the quality assurance of taught provision, it was felt important that consideration also be given in due course to means of strengthening this scrutiny.
- (e) In response to a question from the Students' Union President, that the review presented an opportunity for renewed consideration to be given to existing patterns of student representation on University teaching and learning committees and equally for departments to move away from the traditional undergraduate and postgraduate committees to integrated teaching and learning committees.

REPORTED (by Professor Sparrow):

- (f) That the Review should be careful to consider means of ensuring the distinctiveness of doctoral study could be adequately captured and represented in the new structures.

REPORTED (by the Academic Registrar):

- (g) That the process to recruit a Dean of Students was already underway and that consideration would need to be given to the embedding of this role within the governance framework.

REPORTED (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching)):

- (h) That the Education Executive would comprise the academic and administrative leadership of the new organisational area 'Education' in which teaching and learning activity would be situated, with the purpose of considering policy and resources.

RESOLVED:

That all recommendations made to the Senate in relation to the Academic Governance Review be approved as set out in paper (S.68/15-16).

115/15-16 Institutional Teaching and Learning Review 2017

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching) setting out the proposed *modus operandi* for the conduct of the Institutional Teaching and Learning Review 2017 (S.69/15-16) together with an oral report noting:

- (a) The intention that a risk-based approach should enable flexibility to be built into the process such that each department's review might take 1-3 days depending upon the nature of its provision, its most recent review or external accreditation exercise and perceived need;
- (b) That it was proposed that, as in 2011-12, Annual Course Review be suspended during the year of ITLR;
- (c) That the nature of the engagement of ARC with ITLR needed to be worked through as a priority to ensure that outputs from ITLR fed seamlessly into the planning ground.

REPORTED (by the Director of Student Support):

That the inclusive nature of the focus of ITLR be warmly welcomed and that consideration be given to a representative from Student Support joining the Steering and Operational Groups.

REPORTED (by Professor Cooley):

That academic departments should be advised of the requirements for departmental submissions as soon as practicable.

RESOLVED:

That the paper setting out the proposed *modus operandi* for the conduct of the Institutional Teaching and Learning Review 2017 be approved as set out in paper (S.69/15-16); it being noted that a lay member of the University Council should be invited to serve on the ITLR Steering Group to reinforce the linkage between the Senate and the Council in the provision of oversight of quality assurance matters reviewed through ITLR.

116/15-16 University's Access Agreement 2017/18

CONSIDERED:

A paper and oral report from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) on updates to the University's Access Agreement 2017/18, (S.70/15-16), noting:

- (a) That the targets previously approved for adoption by the Steering Committee were at a higher level of granularity than in earlier Agreements and included social mobility targets in the light of the University Strategy refresh.
- (b) That in the light of the Teaching Excellence Framework, the progression for different student groups would be particularly closely monitored and work was in train to review how best to provide support to continue to ensure good progression across the student community.

REPORTED (by the Welfare Officer of the Students' Union):

That whilst targets on BME students were welcomed, the current categorisation was very broad. It was agreed that the categories needed to become more nuanced, alongside further work to support outreach activity.

RESOLVED:

That the paper from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) on the University's Access Agreement 2017/18, be approved as set out in paper (S.70/15-16.)

117/15-16 * Risk Update

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Secretary to Council outlining the Summer Term Risk Update, (S.71/15-16); it being noted;

- (a) That in addition to the adjustments to risks highlighted in the paper, the Director of Estates would disaggregate the carbon reduction target from risk 26 since it was now highly likely that the University would fail to meet its carbon reduction target and that this new separated risk should be given a likelihood score of 6 and an impact score of 3, as a consequence.
- (b) That a new risk would be introduced to the register in connection with Brexit, noting that whilst it would not be possible to reflect the likely outcomes of the decision, the uncertainty created should be noted.
- (c) That in connection with risk 28 on pastoral support, that this risk was compounded by recent changes to the Disabled Student Allowance.

RESOLVED:

That the paper from the Secretary to Council outlining the Summer Term Risk Update be approved as set out in paper (S.71/15-16).

118/15-16 * Report from the Steering Committee

RESOLVED:

*That the report from the Steering Committee and its resolutions under the following headings be approved as set out in paper (S.72/15-16, {Part 1}, **Restricted**):

- (a) *International Student Barometer Results
- (b) Gender Statement of Intent

REPORTED:

That the Statement of Intent had been produced as an outcome of a workshop led by the University's Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chair of Council, Ms Viki Cooke, and that the Vice-Chancellor had signed the statement as a signal of commitment to progress with respect to gender equality within the Warwick academy.

- (c) Statement of Expected Behaviours for Students
- (d) *Complete University Guide League Table Analysis

- (e) University Rankings
- (f) *Report from the Administrative and Professional Services Group
- (g) *Report from the Capital Space and Amenities Group
- (h) *Monash Warwick Alliance – Renewal of term proposal 2017-21
- (i) *UCU Ballot and Industrial Action
- (j) Data Futures
- (k) Annual Report on Equality and Diversity
- (l) *Report from the University Health and Safety Executive Committee
- (m) *Department for Transport Dangerous Goods Transport Inspection
- (n) Approval of Electrical Safety Policy
- (o) Car Parking Strategy
- (p) Teaching and Learning Hub
- (q) Campus Environment
- (r) Appointment of Registrar
- (s) Royal Society of Chemistry
- (t) Warwick Conferences: Best Anticipated Launch Award
- (u) National Societies Awards
- (v) International Programme in the Leadership and Management (IPLM) of Higher Education
- (w) AVIVA Women's Tour

119/15-16 Report from the Academic Staff Committee

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Academic Staff Committee and its resolutions under the following headings be approved as set out in paper S.73/15-16:

- (a) Membership of the Academic Staff Committee for 2016/17
- (b) Membership of the Probation Review Group for 2016/17
- (c) Revisions to the promotions criteria
- (d) Proposed changes to PCAPP
- (e) Proposed amendments to the arrangements for Honorary, Visiting and Supernumerary Associations for individuals not employed by the University

120/15-16 Report from the Faculty Boards of Arts and Medicine

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Boards of the Faculties of Arts and Medicine recommending changes to Ordinance 7 on the Boards of the Faculties consequent upon restructuring in the Warwick Medical School, the establishment of the School for Cross-Faculty Studies and the desirability of inclusion of the Director of the Language Centre in the constitution of Board of the Faculty of Arts, be approved as set out in paper S.74/15-16).

121/15-16 Report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, and its resolutions under the following headings be approved as set out in paper S.75/15-16, {Part 1}, {Restricted}:

- (a) Feedback on Examinations as set out in paper
- (b) Amendments to Regulation 34 on Determination of the Fitness to Practise
- (c) Research student progression requirements

122/15-16 Report from the Equality and Diversity Committee

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Equality and Diversity Committee, and its resolutions under the following headings be approved as set out in paper (S.76/15-16):

- (a) Athena award results
- (b) Race Equality Charter Mark Group
- (c) Disabled Student Allowance (DSA) Working Group
- (d) Disability Policy for Staff and Students.
- (e) University Equality Objectives for 2016-2020.
- (f) Trans and Gender Reassignment Policy.
- (g) Diversity and Inclusion Policy.
- (h) Equality and Diversity Annual Report for 2015/16.

123/15-16 Report from the Research Committee

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Research Committee and its resolutions under the following headings, be approved as set out in paper (S.81/15-16):

- (a) Establishment of the Warwick Institute for Mathematics & Biology as a Category II Research Centre
- (b) Establishment of the Warwick Institute for Sustainable Development
- (c) Re-categorisation of the Warwick Systems Biology from a Category I to a Category II Research Centre;
- (d) Re-categorisation of the the Centre for Scientific Computing from a Category I to a Category II Research Centre;
- (e) Amendment of the title of a Category III Research Centre from the Consciousness and Self Consciousness Research Centre (CSCRC) to the Warwick Mind and Action Research Centre (WMA).

124/15-16 Committee Timetable 2016-17, Dates for Meetings of the Senate and Term Dates 2025-26

CONSIDERED:

The dates proposed for meetings of the Senate during the academic year 2016-17 and University term dates to 2026-27, (S.77/15-16).

RESOLVED:

That the proposed dates be approved, as set out in paper (S.77/15-16).

125/15-16 Awards and Distinctions

RECEIVED:

A paper setting out Awards and Distinctions conferred upon members of the University since the last meeting of the Senate held on 8 June 2016, (S.78/15-16).

126/15-16 Membership of the Senate

RECEIVED:

The membership of the Senate for the academic year 2016-17, (S.79/15-16).

127/15-16 Report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee and its resolutions under the following headings be approved as set out in (S.75/15-16 {Part 2}):

- (a) Revision to Regulation 8.1 to include the award of BAsC
- (b) Report from the Widening Participation Group.
- (c) Report from the Induction Strategy Steering Group
- (d) New collaborative courses
 - (i) PGCE (OTS) School Direct (Early Years) with Derby Early Years
 - (ii) Masters in Professional Education
 - (iii) Walsall College
- (e) New Postgraduate Courses
 - (i) MSc in Behavioural and Data Science
 - (ii) MSc (and sub-qualifications) in Smart, Connected and Autonomous Vehicles
- (f) Revised Postgraduate Courses
 - (i) MSc in Analytical Science and Instrumentation
 - (ii) MA in English Language Teaching
 - (iii) MA in English Literature
 - (iv) MSc in Advanced Biotechnology and Business Management
 - (v) Warwick MBA by Distance Learning
 - (vi) MSc (and sub-qualifications) in Management for Business Excellence

128/15-16 *Report from the Steering Committee

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Steering Committee and its resolutions under the following headings be approved as set out in paper (S.72/15-16 {Part 2}), (**Restricted**):

- (a) Final National Student Survey Response Rate
- (b) Consumer Rights Compliance Self-Assessment Survey
- (c) Draft response to the QAA Consultation on the Subject Benchmark Statement for Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies

129/15-16 Heads of Academic Departments 2016-17

RECEIVED

A list of Heads of Academic Departments for the academic year 2016-17 (S.80/15-16).

130/15-16 Date of the next meeting

REPORTED:

That the next meeting of the Senate would be held at 2.00 pm on Wednesday 12 October 2016 in the Council Chamber, Senate House.

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