

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 4 October 2007

Present: Mr J Leighfield (Chair), Professor S Bassnett, Professor L Bridges, Professor A Caesar, Sir George Cox, Professor J Davey, Mr M Dunn, Ms P Egan, Ms D Foster, Mr J Higgins, Professor R Higgott, Mr D Holmes, Mr J Kirby, Professor R Lindley, Mr G Lyons, Mr K Muthalagappan, Professor S B Palmer (until item 14/07-08), Mr A Rivett, Mr N Sanders, Professor M Smith, Professor Sir J Temple, Ms R Thorne, Professor N Thrift, Professor M Whitby, Mr B Woods-Scawen, Professor V Zammit.

Apologies: Professor Y Carter, Mr M Greenlees, Mr P Varney.

In Attendance: Academic Registrar, Director of Finance, Registrar, University Secretary, Ms Y Salter Wright, Ms H Sinclair.

The Pro-Chancellor welcomed new members to the first meeting of the Council for the academic year 2007/08.

1/07-08 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 July 2007 be approved subject to revision of minute 92 (d) to read as follows:

That Professor Michael Whitby be re-appointed to the position of Pro-Vice-Chancellor for a third term of two years from 1 August 2007 to 31 July 2009.

2/07-08 Membership of the University Council

RECEIVED:

A statement of the membership of the Council for the 2007/2008 academic year (C.1/07-08).

CONSIDERED:

- (a) An oral report from the Pro-Chancellor on the progress of meetings with prospective lay members of the Council and the Pro-Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor.
- (b) A recommendation from the Nominations Committee that Mr Roy Chung, co-founder and Vice Chairman of Techtronic Industries, be appointed as a lay member of the University Council for the period to 31 July 2010 (C.2/07-08).

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

- (a) That the Senate had been unable to appoint its final Senate representative to the Council at its meeting held on 3 October 2007 but that it was expected that the appointment would be made in advance of the meeting of the Council to be held on 19 December 2007.

- (b) That Ms J Hobson had resigned from lay membership of the Council with effect from 1 October 2007 but that Ms Hobson would continue to Chair the Faculty of Social Studies Advisory Board for the academic year 2007-08.
- (c) That it was expected that the Council Members brochure for the academic year 2007/08 would be published in hard copy and online and circulated to all members of the Council prior to the meeting of the Council to be held on 23 November 2007.

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Statute 16 and Ordinance 5, Mr Roy Chung be appointed to lay membership of the Council for the period to 31 July 2010 (passed nem con).

3/07-08 University Strategy

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the University Strategy had been launched on 14 September 2007 and that the internal strategy document and the external vision document had been circulated to all Members of the Council.
- (b) That the launch of the Strategy had generated positive media coverage for the University.

4/07-08 Ministerial Visits

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That Ian Pearson MP, Minister of State for Science and Innovation at the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills, had visited the Warwick Manufacturing Group on 1 October 2007 and that the Minister had also met student representatives to discuss student fees.
- (b) That Liam Byrne MP, Minister for the West Midlands, had held a conference with senior regional policy makers at the University on 1 October and that this was the first in a series of meetings co-ordinated by the Minister for the West Midlands to discuss priorities for the West Midlands Region.

5/07-08 University Committee Structures, Membership of Council Committees and Related Matters

CONSIDERED:

- (a) Proposed revisions to the constitution of Council Committees (C.3/07-08).
- (b) The membership of Council Committees for the 2007/2008 academic year (C.4/07-08).

RESOLVED:

(a) Building Committee

That Professor K Lamberts, Professor Tim Jones and Professor N J Swan be appointed to membership of the Building Committee to replace Professors Jones, Luntley and Terry.

(b) Finance and General Purposes Committee

(i) That Professor R Higgott be appointed to membership of the Finance and General Purposes Committee in place of Professor John Jones.

(ii) That consideration of the appointment of lay members of the Council to the Finance and Purposes Committee to fill vacant places be deferred until the meeting of the Council to be held on 19 December.

(c) Equality and Diversity Committee

On the recommendation of the Senate:

(i) That Professor Yvonne Carter be appointed as Chair of the Equality and Diversity Committee.

(ii) That Dr C Jenainati be appointed to membership of the the Equality and Diversity Committee in place of Dr E Mason.

(d) Honorary Degrees Committee

(i) That the constitution of the Honorary Degrees Committee be revised to provide for the appointment of a maximum of three Pro-Vice-Chancellors to membership of the Committee.

(ii) That the Pro-Chancellor take Chair's action to approve the three Pro-Vice-Chancellors to on the Honorary Degrees Committee for the academic year 2007/08.

(e) Nominations Committee

(i) That the constitution of the Nominations Committee be revised to provide for the appointment of a maximum of three Pro-Vice-Chancellors to membership of the Committee.

(ii) That the Pro-Chancellor take Chair's action to approve the three Pro-Vice-Chancellors to on the Nominations Committee for the academic year 2007/08.

(f) Research Ethics Committee

That Professor R Higgott be appointed as Chair of the Research Ethics Committee and that, following on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, Mr Ed Kuzemko be appointed as the second lay member of the Committee and Ms Elsa Suckle be appointed as the postgraduate student member.

(g) Remuneration Committee

That Sir George Cox be appointed to membership of the Remuneration Committee in place of Mr Paul Varney

6/07-08 Strategic Discussion Topics for Meetings of the Council (minute 79/06-07 refers)

CONSIDERED:

A list of strategic items for discussion at future meetings of the Council in the light of the new University Strategy, together with a summary of responses to the survey of the priority of standard agenda items for meetings of the Council (C.5/07-08).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the list of strategic items for discussion at future meetings of the Council, the list of presentation topics for consideration prior to future meetings of the Council and the annual programme of standard agenda items for meetings of the Council be approved as set out in paper C.5/06-07.
- (b) That the additional topics of environmental improvement of the University campus, the development of Warwick HRI, building the University community and the student experience be included as potential items for strategic discussion at a future meeting of the Council.

7/07-08 Strategic Topic for Discussion: Good Governance at Warwick

CONSIDERED:

- (a) A discussion paper setting out current topical issues relating to governance matters together with oral reports from the Pro-Chancellor and the University Secretary (C.6/07-08).
- (b) The proposed terms of reference and membership of the Review Group on the Effectiveness of the University Council (C.7/07-08).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposed terms of reference and constitution of the Review Group on the Effectiveness of the University Council be approved as set out in paper C.7/07-08, subject to the amendment in the constitution to include two members of the academic staff of the University rather than two academic members of the Council.
- (b) That the following be appointed to membership of the Review Group:
 - Mr J Higgins (Chair)
 - Ms R Thorne
 - Professor K Lamberts
 - Professor P Mack
- (c) That the Pro-Chancellor take Chair's Action to approve the appointment of the lay members and the representative of the Union of Students to membership of the Review Group on the Effectiveness of the University Council.

8/07-08 Induction for Members of the Council (minute 91/06-08(c) refers)

CONSIDERED:

Proposals for enhancements to the induction arrangements for new and existing lay members of the Council (C.8/07-08).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposals for enhancements to the induction arrangements for new and existing lay members of the Council be approved as set out in paper C.8/07-08.
- (b) That the University Secretary investigate the possibility of the provision of strategic press summaries to members of Council at regular intervals between meetings of the Council.

9/07-08 Code of Corporate Governance, Statement of Primary Responsibilities and Delegated Authorities

CONSIDERED:

- (a) The University's Code of Practice on Corporate Governance (C.9/07-08).
- (b) The University's Statement of Primary Responsibilities (C.10/07-08).
- (c) A draft Statement of Delegated Authorities from the Council to Council Committees and University Officers (C.11/07-08).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the University Code of Corporate Governance be approved and adopted as set out in paper C.9/07-08 subject to the following amendments:
 - (i) Revision of the constitution of the Honorary Degrees Committee to provide for the appointment of a maximum of three Pro-Vice-Chancellors to membership of the Committee.
 - (ii) Revision of the constitution of the Nominations Committee to provide for the appointment of a maximum of three Pro-Vice-Chancellors to membership of the Committee.
- (b) That the University's Statement of Primary Responsibilities be approved and adopted as set out in paper C.10/07-08 subject to minor amendments to the appendices to the Code setting out the delegated authority of the Council Committees to reflect the revisions to the constitution of the Honorary Degrees Committee and the Nominations Committee as set out in (a) above.
- (c) That the initial Framework of Delegation for the University Council and Committees of the Council be approved as set out in paper C.11/07-08.

10/07-08 Report from the Senate

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report from the meeting of the Senate held on 3 October 2007 (C.12/07-08) together with an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on the following items of business discussed at the meeting of the Senate:

- (a) Funding of UK Higher Education
- (b) Science and Innovation Investment Framework
- (c) Undergraduate and Postgraduate Admissions
- (d) University League Tables
- (e) National Student Survey
- (f) HESA Performance Indicators 2007
- (g) *Times Higher* Analysis of Research Grant Applications and Awards
- (h) NAO Report on Retention of Students in HE
- (i) Government Changes to the Student Support System
- (j) WUAP and Performance Monitoring of the University Access Agreement
- (k) Leitch Review of Skills: Government Response and Implementation Plan
- (l) Response to the West Midlands Economic Strategy Consultation
- (m) Higher Education-Business and Community Interaction Survey
- (n) University and Colleges Employers Association
- (o) Talent Wars, the International Market for Academic Staff
- (p) Siddiqui Review of 'Islam at Universities in England'
- (q) University Development Plan

11/07-08 RAE 2008

CONSIDERED:

An update on the preparation for the Research Assessment Exercise 2008 including the proposed timetable for the University submission, the current staff submission rate and details of the final phase of preparations (C.13/07-08).

12/07-08 Report from the Remuneration Committee

CONSIDERED:

A report from the Remuneration Committee held on 24 July 2007 (C.14/07-08).

RESOLVED:

That, on the recommendation of the Committee the University Severance Policy be revised in line with current HEFCE guidance, such that the Remuneration Committee determine the level of severance pay to be awarded to members of staff whose salary exceeds £100,000 in addition to all those senior members of University staff whose remuneration packages are determined and reviewed by the Committee.

13/07-08 Appointment of the Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council

REPORTED:

- (a) That the second term of office of the Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council would expire on 31 July 2008.
- (b) That a proposal for appointment of the University Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council for the period from 1 August 2008 will be brought forward by the Nominations Committee for consideration at the meeting of the Council on December 19, 2007.

14/07-08 Appointment of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

REPORTED:

That the second term of office of Professor S B Palmer as Deputy Vice-Chancellor would expire on 31 July 2008.

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Statute 7, Professor Palmer be re-appointed to the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor from the point at which his current term of office ends on 31 July 2008, for a further two year period from 1 August 2008 until 31 July 2010 on a one year rolling basis.

NOTE: The Deputy Vice-Chancellor left the meeting for consideration of this item.

15/07-08 Awards and Distinctions

RECEIVED:

A paper setting out the awards and distinctions that had been conferred on members of the University since the last meeting of the Council held on 11 July 2007 (C.15/07-08).

16/07-08 Register of Members' Interests

RECEIVED:

A copy of the Register of Interests of Members of the University Council for the academic year 2007/2008 (C.16/07-08).

17/07-08 Amendments to University Ordinances

CONSIDERED:

For the second time, proposed amendments to University Ordinances 7 and 9 on the Constitution of the Boards of Faculties and the Board of the Institution of Education respectively and the consequent renumbering of subsequent University Ordinances (C.17/07-08).

RESOLVED:

That, for the second time, proposed amendments to University Ordinances 7 and 9 on the Constitution of the Boards of Faculties and the Board of the Institution of Education respectively and the consequent renumbering of subsequent University Ordinances be approved as set out in paper C.17/07-08.

18/07-08 Amendments to University Regulations

CONSIDERED:

Proposed amendments to University Regulations 5 and 14 Governing the Granting of Study Leave and the Provisions Applying to the Award of the Degree of PhD by Submission of published work respectively (C.18/07-08).

RESOLVED:

That the proposed amendments to University Regulations 5 and 14 Governing the Granting of Study Leave and the Provisions Applying to the Award of the Degree of PhD by Submission of published work respectively be approved as set out in paper C.18/07-08.