

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 July 2011

Present: Mr J Leighfield (Chair), Mr K Bedell-Pearce, Professor A Caesar, Dame Fiona Caldicott, Mr P Dunne, Sir George Cox, Mrs P Egan, Mrs T Elliott, Mr J Higgins, Professor T Jones, Professor K Lamberts, Mr G Lyons, Mr A Rivett, Professor M Smith, Mr S Stanley, Mr D Stevens, Professor M Taylor, Professor N Thrift.

Apologies: Dr R Chung, Mrs V Cooke, Professor S Hand, Mrs V Heywood, Mr G Howells, Professor J Labbe, Professor A Muthoo, Mr M Temple, Professor P Winstanley, Mr B Woods-Scawen.

In Attendance: Registrar, Finance Director, Deputy Registrar, Academic Registrar, Acting Head of Governance Support Services, Head of Governance Support Services (until item 125/10-11{part}), Assistant Registrar (Deputy Registrar's Office), Mr G Whitworth.

NOTE: The Pro-Chancellor welcomed Professor Margot Finn to her first meeting as a member of the Council and welcomed Mr George Whitworth, who would be joining the Council formally from 1 August 2011.

97/10-11 Student Members of the Council (minute 92/10-11 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That Mr Jonathan Higgs, who had been elected as the second Student Council Member for 2011/12, had resigned and that Mr George Whitworth, the current Students' Union Sports Officer, had subsequently been elected to the role.

98/10-11 The Treasurer

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That the Treasurer had recently undergone surgery and would be likely to be returning to his duties later in the Autumn, following his recuperation.

RESOLVED:

That the Council convey their best wishes to the Treasurer for a speedy recovery.

99/10-11 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 23 March 2011 be approved.

100/10-11 Access Agreement (minute 91/10-11 refers)

RECEIVED:

The University's Access Agreement for the academic year 2012/13, as approved by the Office for Fair Access (OFFA) (C.60/10-11).

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

- (a) That, further to the delegation of authority from the Council at the meeting of 23 March 2011, the Steering Committee had approved the final level of tuition fees and the financial support arrangements for specific courses and areas.
- (b) That the University had been notified on Monday 11 July 2011 that the University's Access Agreement for the academic year 2012/13 had been approved by OFFA.

(by the Academic Registrar)

- (c) That the final version of the Access Agreement, which had been drafted in consultation with OFFA, incorporated additional expenditure relating to the International Gateway for Gifted Youth and to alumni-funded, merit-based scholarships.
- (d) That the University would be allocating approximately 28% of its additional income from fees to measures designed to widen access, noting that the sector average was 27%.

(by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (e) That it was his view that although one potential implication of the new funding regime may be that the student population of some less prominent universities would become more locally-based, this was unlikely to be the case with Warwick.
- (f) That there remained a significant amount of public misunderstanding relating to the changes in higher education funding, but that the University would do all that it could to clearly communicate to potential students and their families that no upfront payment of tuition fees would be required.

RESOLVED:

That a clear and concise summary of Warwick's fee and support structure be made available to members of the Council, along with more clarity around the targets and milestones contained within the Access Agreement.

101/10-11 Conflicts of Interest

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That Council members were encouraged wherever possible to inform the Registrar prior to the meeting of any potential conflicts of interest, and were also invited to do so now if necessary.

NOTE: No declarations were made.

102/10-11 Future Strategic Topics and Presentations for Meetings of the Council

RECEIVED:

A list of future strategic topics and presentations for meetings of the Council (C.61/10-11).

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That further suggestions for future strategic topics and presentations for meetings of the Council were welcome and should be submitted to the Registrar.

103/10-11 Professor Richard Higgott

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That congratulations were due to Professor Richard Higgott, who had recently been appointed as Vice-Chancellor of Murdoch University in Perth, Australia.

104/10-11 Academic Appointments

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the following appointments had recently been made to the role of Chair of Faculty:
 - (i) Professor Simon Swain, Department of Classics, Chair of the Faculty of Arts.
 - (ii) Professor Pam Thomas, Department of Physics, Chair of the Faculty of Science.
- (b) That Professor Christina Hughes, Department of Sociology, had been reappointed as Chair of the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- (c) That Professor Richard Aldrich, Department of Politics and International Studies, had been appointed as the new Director of the Institute of Advanced Study.

105/10-11 Warwick's response to the Japanese earthquake and tsunami

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the University had made provision for bringing up to twelve colleagues from Japan to Warwick for a period of up to eight weeks during the summer period, in order to assist those academics whose work had been affected by the recent earthquake and tsunami.

106/10-11 Brazil Partnership Development Fund

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the University had recently launched a new Brazil Partnership Development Fund, designed to develop new research links with high quality research institutions in Brazil.

- (b) That the launch aligned well with the recent agreement announced by the Brazilian government to fund ten thousand student places in the UK.

107/10-11 Vice-Chancellor's thanks to the Pro-Chancellor

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That he wished to convey his sincere personal thanks for the support and contribution that Mr John Leighfield had made to the University in navigating the Council through one of the most significant periods of change, growth and success in Warwick's history.

108/10-11 Membership of the University Council

CONSIDERED:

An oral report from the Registrar on the considerations of the Nominations Committee relating to lay membership of the University Council.

REPORTED: (by the Registrar)

- (a) That the Council had, at its meeting of 14 July 2010, approved the recommendations of the Nominations Committee to appoint Mr Nick Sanders and Professor Sir John Temple to lay membership of the Council for the period from 1 August 2011 through to 31 July 2014.
- (b) That, should the Council approve a number of recommendations for reappointment of lay members of the Council, the Council would have full lay membership in 2011/12.

RESOLVED:

That, on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee and in accordance with Statute 12 and Ordinance 4, the following individuals be reappointed to lay membership of the Council for the period from 1 August 2011 to 31 July 2014 (passed nem con).

Ms Viki Cooke
Ms Trudi Elliott
Ms Vikki Heywood

109/10-11 Appointments to Council Committees

CONSIDERED:

An oral report from the Registrar on the considerations of the Nominations Committee relating to appointments to Council Committees.

RESOLVED:

That the following appointments to membership of Committees of the Council for the 2011/12 academic year, as recommended by the Nominations Committee, be approved:

- (a) Art Collection Committee
Mr Mel Lloyd-Smith (subject to approval by the Council of the change in the constitution of the Committee under minute 126/10-11)
- (b) Audit Committee
Mr Nick Sanders (vice Mr Keith Bedell-Pearce)
- (c) Building Committee
Professor Pam Thomas (vice Professor Tim Jones)
- (d) Finance and General Purposes Committee
Mr Keith Bedell-Pearce (vice Sir George Cox)
Mr Martin Temple (vice Dr Roy Chung)
Professor Koen Lamberts
- (e) Nominations Committee
Sir David Normington (vice Sir George Cox), pending confirmation of his appointment as a lay member of the Council by the Cabinet Office.
Professor Stuart Croft (subject to approval by the Council of his appointment as Pro-Vice-Chancellor under minute 110/10-11)
Professor Tim Jones
- (f) Remuneration Committee
Dame Fiona Caldicott (vice Sir George Cox)
- (g) Research Ethics Committee
Professor Stuart Croft (Chair) (subject to approval by the Council of his appointment as Pro-Vice-Chancellor under minute 110/10-11)
- (h) University Health and Safety Committee
Professor Tim Jones (Chair)

110/10-11 Appointment of Pro-Vice-Chancellors

CONSIDERED:

An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on the considerations of the Committee on the Appointment of Pro-Vice-Chancellors, including a recommendation from the Committee to appoint Professor Stuart Croft as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research (Arts and Social Sciences) from 1 September 2011 for period of five years.

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor)

That, as previously approved by the Council, Professor Tim Jones would be commencing in his role as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Knowledge Transfer and Business Engagement) with effect from 1 September 2011.

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Statute 8 and Ordinance 3, Professor Stuart Croft be appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research (Arts and Social Sciences) from 1 September 2011 for a period of five years.

111/10-11 Report from the Senate

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report on selected items considered at the meetings of the Senate held on 15 June 2011 and 6 July 2011 (C.62/10-11) together with an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on the following items of business:

(a) Institutional Review of Teaching and Learning and the Student Experience

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (i) That the Senate had approved a proposal that a review of all courses of study be undertaken at department level over a three-day period in the Autumn Term of 2011/12.
- (ii) That a thematic review of key aspects of the student experience would be undertaken alongside the Teaching and Learning Review, in preparation for the anticipated change in student expectations from 2012/13.

(b) Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Institutional Review

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (i) That the University had been notified by the QAA that its Institutional Review was proposed to take place in 2012/13, noting that the preparatory meeting would take place in November 2012 and that the first team visit would take place in January 2013.
- (ii) That the University was required to submit a mid-cycle follow-up report to the 2008 QAA Institutional Audit to the QAA by 12 December 2011.

(c) Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That this year's winners of the Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence were:

Rachel Dickinson (Institute of Education)
Grier Palmer (Warwick Business School)
Dr Vinod Patel (Warwick Medical School)
Dr Vas Stavros (Department of Chemistry)
Dr James Harrison (School of Law)

(d) Formal Disestablishment of Warwick HRI and the Department of Biological Sciences

REPORTED:

- (i) That the School of Life Sciences had been operational from 1 October 2010 and that the two predecessor departments, Warwick HRI and the Department of Biological Sciences, had continued to be established and operational in part until the last of those colleagues who had been selected for redundancy within those departments had completed their contractual notice.
- (ii) That the period of contractual notice for the last such employee had ended on 15 June 2011, and as such the Senate had recommended to the Council that Warwick HRI and the Department of Biological Sciences be formally disestablished with immediate effect.

RESOLVED:

That, on the recommendation of the Senate, the proposal to formally disestablish Warwick HRI and the Department of Biological Sciences be approved with immediate effect.

- (e) Membership of the Senate
- (f) White Paper on Higher Education
- (g) Higher Education Innovation Fund 2011-15
- (h) Immigration Issues
- (i) Research Strategy Update
- (j) Appointment of Pro-Vice-Chancellor
- (k) Conferral of Title of Emeritus Professor
- (l) Conferral of Title of Emeritus Reader
- (m) New and Revised Courses of Study

112/10-11 Intellectual Property Committee

CONSIDERED:

The proposed Terms of Reference of a new joint committee of the Council and the Senate, the Intellectual Property Committee (C.63/10-11).

REPORTED: (by the Deputy Registrar)

That the proposal to establish an Intellectual Property Committee was intended to provide oversight of the development and evolution of the University's Intellectual Property Strategy, and that it was envisaged that it would facilitate an improvement in the discussions around relevant issues.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal to establish an Intellectual Property Committee as a joint committee of the Senate and the Council, with the terms of reference and constitution as set out in C.63/10-11, be approved, noting that the Senate had approved it at its meeting held on 6 July 2011.

113/10-11 Report from the Building Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report from the meeting of the Building Committee held on 9 June 2011 (C.64/10-11) together with an oral report from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education and the Student Experience) on the following items of business:

(a) Coventry House

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor {Education and the Student Experience})

That the usage of the new postgraduate space in Coventry House would be closely monitored over the next academic year to ensure that it was optimised.

(b) People and Planet Green League

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor {Education and the Student Experience})

That work was currently being undertaken by the Estates Office to establish the benefits of the league table to the University in order to determine whether appropriate investment should be made to improve the University's position.

(c) Travel Survey

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor {Education and the Student Experience})

(a) That the University had already exceeded its 2013 targets for car-sharing and use of public transport.

(by the Students' Union President)

(b) That it was his view that recent increases in student car-parking charges were a significant contributory reason for declining student car use.

- (d) University Masterplan
- (e) Life Sciences
- (f) Carbon Challenge Group
- (g) EMS Annual Report 2011

114/10-11 Report from the Audit Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report from the meetings of the Audit Committee held on 20 April and 29 June 2011 (C.65/10-11) together with an oral report from the Chair of the Audit Committee, Mr John Higgins, on the following items of business:

- (a) External Audit Strategy
- (b) Internal Audit Strategy and Plan
- (c) Risk Management
- (d) Internal Audit Reports
- (e) Bribery Act 2010
- (f) Extended Assurance Map

- (g) HEFCE Assurance Review
- (h) Internal Controls Presentation: Sustainability
- (i) Internal Controls Presentation: Reputational Risk
- (j) Statement of Internal Controls and Annual Report

REPORTED: (by the Chair of the Audit Committee)

- (a) That the Audit Committee was keen to ensure that it was effectively carrying out its role for the Council, both in terms of formal and informal assurance.

(by Mr K Bedell-Pearce)

- (b) That it was his view that all of the work carried out by the Audit Committee was in line with good practice, and in most cases best practice, although it remained important to avoid complacency as not every potential risk could be anticipated.

115/10-11 Report from the Research Ethics Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, with the resolutions set out below, a report from the meeting of the Research Ethics Committee held on 27 June 2011 (C.66/10-11), together with an oral report from the Registrar on the following items of business:

- (a) Research Code of Practice

RESOLVED:

That the revised Research Code of Practice as set out in paper REC.10/10-11 of C.66/10-11 be approved, noting that the Senate had approved it at its meeting held on 6 July 2011.

- (b) Code of Conduct for the Investigation of Research Misconduct

RESOLVED:

That the revised Code of Conduct for the Investigation of Research Misconduct as set out in paper REC.11/10-11 of C.66/10-11 be approved, noting that the Senate had approved it at its meeting held on 6 July 2011.

- (c) Annual Report from the Research Ethics Committee

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Report from the Research Ethics Committee be approved.

- (d) Human Tissue Authority (HTA) Licence – Self-assessment
- (e) HTA Summary report of performance against HTA standards for all sectors
- (f) Periodic Reports from the Sub-Committees
- (g) Future of the UK Research Integrity Office

116/10-11 Report from the University Health and Safety Executive Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, with the resolutions set out below, a report from the meeting of the University Health and Safety Executive Committee held on 15 June 2011 (C.67/10-11), together with an oral report from the Chair of the University Health and Safety Executive Committee on the following items of business:

(a) Terms of Reference for the University Health and Safety Executive Committee

RESOLVED:

That the proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference for the University Health and Safety Executive Committee, as set out in paper UHSEC.09/10-11 (part) of C.67/10-11, be approved.

(b) University Health and Safety Committee

(i) Driver Health Policy

RESOLVED:

That the Driver Health Policy, as set out in paper UHSC.16/10-11 (part) of C.67/10-11, be approved.

(ii) Smoking Policy

(iii) Amendments to SITU

(iv) Commercial Group

(c) Review of Ionising Radiation

REPORTED: (by the Chair of the University Health and Safety Executive Committee)

(i) That the University's Radiation Protection Officer had reviewed current relevant activity and ionising radiation audits held since 2006 and concluded that there were only minor non-compliances which had been resolved in a timely manner.

(ii) That the University's security arrangements for radioactive sources had been endorsed by West Midlands Police Counter Terrorism Security Advisors in May 2011.

(d) University Genetic Modification and Biosafety Committee

REPORTED: (by the Chair of the University Health and Safety Executive Committee)

That the new University Genetic Modification and Biosafety Committee, which reported to the University Health and Safety Executive Committee, had held its first meeting.

(e) Incident Investigation

(f) Terms of Reference for the University Health and Safety Committee

(g) Fire Risk Assessment

(h) National Perspective – The Lofstedt Review

117/10-11 Report from the Equality and Diversity Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, with the resolution set out below, a report from the meeting of the Equality and Diversity Committee held on 31 May 2011 (C.68/10-11) together with an oral report from the Chair of the Equality and Diversity Committee on the following items of business:

(a) Annual Report on Equality and Diversity

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Report on Equality and Diversity and the Single Equality Action Plan be approved.

(b) Equal Pay Review 2011

REPORTED: (by the Chair of the Equality and Diversity Committee)

That although the Review had found no inequitable disparities in base pay distribution within grades 1a-8 on the grounds of gender, ethnicity, disability, age, contract type or full/part-time working arrangements, the issue would be kept under review.

- (c) Single Equality Act – Specific Duties of the Public Sector Equality Duty
- (d) Equality Challenge Unit – Strategic Priorities
- (e) HEFCE Consultation Document

118/10-11 Report from the Finance and General Purposes Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report from the meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 17 May and 28 June 2011 (C.69/10-11), together with an oral report from Sir George Cox on the following items of business:

(a) Financial Performance

REPORTED: (by Sir George Cox)

- (i) That the latest forecast surplus for the year was £15.2m compared with the original budget of £8.6m.
- (ii) That cash balances remained high at £92m.

(b) Mercia 3 Fund

REPORTED: (by Sir George Cox)

That the Finance and General Purposes Committee had resolved that the University should express an interest in investing in the new Mercia 3 fund, with a suggested investment of up to £1m, noting that any final commitment would be deferred pending further investigation and the finalisation of the Financial Plan in November 2011.

(c) Royal Shakespeare Company Collaboration with Warwick Business School

REPORTED: (by Sir George Cox)

- (i) That alongside the academic case for the collaboration, there would also be significant reputational benefits for the University, particularly internationally.
- (ii) That the financial risk of the collaboration rested with the University, to a maximum cash outlay of £650,000, noting that should there be a

requirement to exceed that ceiling, a strong justification would be required.

(d) University Pension Scheme valuation

REPORTED: (by Sir George Cox)

- (i) That the Finance and General Purposes Committee had resolved to approve a nine year recovery plan to extinguish the University Pension Scheme deficit.
- (ii) That the recovery plan included an underlying employer contribution rate of 13.9% from 1 April 2011, decreasing to 13.4% from 1 April 2012, and total employer contributions of 24% from 1 April 2011, decreasing to 23.5% from 1 April 2012.

119/10-11 University Draft Financial Plan 2011 - 2015

CONSIDERED:

The University draft Financial Plan for the period through 2014/15 (C.70/10-11), together with an accompanying presentation by the Finance Director.

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

- (a) That the draft University Financial Plan for the period to 2015 had been prepared through a series of meetings of the Financial Plan Sub-Committee informed by a number of challenge meetings with different areas of the University.

(by the Finance Director)

- (b) That the draft University Financial Plan forecast surpluses of £1.4m, £6.8m, £5.7m and £12.3m over the four year period from 11/12 to 14/15 after safety factors, noting that the surpluses before safety factors met the Council's sustainability target of 3% of income in the final year of the plan.
- (c) That the plan assumed a mainstream T grant cut of 78.7% by 2014/15 from 2009/10 levels with the R grant largely protected.
- (d) That the plan included the generation of appropriate cash inflows to support ongoing investment needs including significant capital investment projects as well as investment in the Research Excellence Framework and the student experience.
- (e) That the University continued to investigate opportunities to drive further efficiencies and additional income in order to maintain capital investment.

(by the Registrar)

- (f) That decisions on the prioritisation of capital projects would be made on the basis of identified criteria in order to ensure that they aligned with institutional strategy.

(by the Deputy Registrar)

- (g) That the additional investment in the student experience over the period of the plan was closely aligned with those themes that had been previously identified in consultation with the Students' Union and other stakeholders.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the draft University Financial Plan be approved as set out in C.70/10-11, noting that this included approval of the 2011/12 budget for operational purposes.
- (b) That an updated plan be brought forward for consideration by the Council at its November 2011 meeting prior to submission to the HEFCE by 1 December 2011 for final approval.

120/10-11 University Risk Status Summary Report

CONSIDERED:

A summary report outlining the current risk status for each of the key risks of the University together with relevant sections of the University Risk Register (C.71/10-11).

REPORTED: (by the Deputy Registrar)

- (a) That Risk F1, slower than planned increases in University surplus, had been reduced from 8 to 7 to reflect prudent financial planning by the University and a greater level of clarity over funding shortfalls for 2011/12.
- (b) That Risk F3, inability to achieve ambitious development income targets within a competitive environment of giving, had been reduced from 6 to 5 to reflect the achievement of development income targets for the past three years and the appointment of a Pro-Vice-Chancellor with responsibility for development.
- (c) That Risk F5, significant unplanned increases in University pension contributions, had been reduced from 7 to 6 to reflect greater clarity over external factors relating to pensions and the implementation of University plans to mitigate the risk.
- (d) That Risk Res1, lack of sustained growth in the University's quality and capacity for research, innovation and knowledge transfer, had been increased from 6 to 7 to reflect the significant downturn in research funding which was forecast to impact on the University's research capacity.

RESOLVED:

That the risk status summary report be approved as set out in paper C.71/10-11.

121/10-11 Effectiveness Review of the Council

RECEIVED:

A report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Group on the Effectiveness of the University Council (C.72/10-11).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar)

- (a) That a number of improvements to Council-related processes identified in the Effectiveness Review had been implemented as outlined in C.72/10-11, notably relating to the timely distribution of papers, the relationship between the Senate and the Council and the implementation of institutional key performance indicators.
- (b) That the next Effectiveness Review of the Council would commence in 2012.

122/10-11 Awards and Distinctions

RECEIVED:

A paper setting out the awards and distinctions that had been conferred on members of the University since the meeting of the Council held on 17 February 2011 (C.73/10-11).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar)

That Dr Roy Chung had recently been elected to be the Chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries and had also been awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star Medal.

123/10-11 University of Warwick Training Limited Scarman House Leases

RESOLVED:

That any two or more of the Chair of Council, the Treasurer, the Vice Chancellor and the Finance Director be authorised to agree and to sign on behalf of the University under hand and/or to procure where any two of them considers it appropriate the execution and sealing as a deed of such documentation as any two or more of them may consider appropriate either now or in the future in relation to all or any of the following (all references to any document being to that document as amended and/or supplemented and/or varied and/or novated from time to time):

- (a) the surrender or other termination by BMI (No.18) Limited (“the Land Lessor”) of a lease originally made between (1) the University and (2) BEE Properties Limited (formerly Baltic Properties Limited) (and now between (1) the University and (2) the Land Lessor) dated 9 February 1990 relating *inter alia* to Scarman House;
- (b) the acquisition by the University or any other person of title to certain loose plant original leased to University of Warwick Training Limited (“WUTL”) pursuant to a Master Plant Lease Agreement originally entered into on 9 February 1990 or otherwise in relation to such Master Plant Lease Agreement or any documentation relating thereto or any fixed or loose plant the subject of that agreement or any replacements thereof;
- (c) the surrender or other termination by WUTL of its existing under leasehold interest in *inter alia* Scarman House;
- (d) the grant of new lease(s) and/or licence(s) of *inter alia* Scarman House to WUTL and/or such other person or persons as any two or more of the Chair of

Council, the Treasurer, the Vice Chancellor and the Finance Director may determine.

124/10-11 Thanks

REPORTED: (by the Students' Union President)

That he wished to extend his thanks to Mr Patrick Dunne for his generous donation to the Students' Union which had enabled the progression of the 'Go Global' project.

125/10-11 Strategic Topic for Discussion: The Higher Education White Paper: Students at the Heart of the System

CONSIDERED:

- (a) The executive summary of the Government's Higher Education White Paper: Students at the Heart of the System (C.74/10-11).
- (b) The executive summary of the HEFCE Consultation on Teaching Funding and Student Number Controls (C.75/10-11).

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That, as anticipated, there had been a significant focus on Teaching and the Student Experience in the White Paper.
- (b) That the White Paper sought to open up competition at the top end of the market, for students with A-level results of AAB or better, noting that it was estimated that 65,000 student places would become available under this model.
- (c) That Warwick was currently positioned at 7th in terms of percentage of students at UK universities that have AAB or better A-level results.
- (d) That the White Paper also proposed opening up the market to encourage a diverse range of providers, including FE colleges and private providers, which would have an impact on the lower end of the market.
- (e) That, in light of the White Paper, Warwick's focus on quality would continue to be critical to the University's success.
- (f) That the focus on freeing up competition on high tariff students and controlling numbers for lower tariff students would present challenges for the University in terms of achieving Widening Participation targets.
- (g) That the White Paper provided a good opportunity to reflect on the size and scope of the University's student population, noting that this would involve key strategic decisions for the University.
- (h) That the White Paper proposed to introduce a risk-based approach to quality assurance which was likely to be beneficial for Warwick.
- (i) That the focus on provision of information, notably the Key Information Set, would have risks in terms of interpretation and would also involve a significant administrative burden.

(by the Students' Union President)

- (j) That, in his view, many campus facilities were currently at capacity and that any increase in student numbers would require capital investment to avoid there being a detrimental effect on the student experience.

(by Mr P Dunne)

- (k) That there could be an opportunity to concentrate institutional growth in strength areas whilst consolidating other areas, in order to manage any increase in student numbers in a way that maximised benefit to the University.

(by Ms T Elliott)

- (l) That the University should seek to identify ways in which to target students from Widening Participation backgrounds in order to bring them up to AAB standard.

(by Mr G Lyons)

- (m) That the University should seek to promote its brand more aggressively in light of a more competitive environment.
- (n) That the University should continue to plan for a variety of scenarios in order to maximise its ability to react in a dynamic environment.

126/10-11 Reports from the Art Collection Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, with the resolution set out below, a report from the meeting of the Art Collection Committee held on 31 May 2011 (C.76/10-11) on the following item of business:

Terms of Reference, Constitution and Membership

RESOLVED:

That the proposed revisions to the Constitution of the Art Collection Committee, as set out in paper C.76/10-11, be approved.

127/10-11 Future Meeting Dates of the University Council, Timetable for Council Committees and Term Dates

CONSIDERED:

A list of proposed dates of future meetings of the University Council for the academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14, the timetable of meetings for committees of the Council for the academic year 2011/12 and University term dates until 2021/22 (C.77/10-11).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the list of proposed dates of future meetings of the University Council for the academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14 and the provisional timetable of meetings for committees of the Council for the academic year 2011/12 be noted.

(b) That the University term dates for the academic year 2021/22 be approved.

128/10-11 Membership and Terms of Reference of the Advisory Board of the Warwick Business School

CONSIDERED:

Proposed revisions to the Membership and Terms of Reference of the Advisory Board of the Warwick Business School (C.78/10-11).

RESOLVED:

That the proposed revisions to the Membership and Terms of Reference of the Advisory Board of the Warwick Business School, as set out in C.78/10-11, be approved.

129/10-11 Gift Acceptance Policy

RECEIVED:

The University's Gift Acceptance Policy, as approved by the Steering Committee (C.79/10-11).

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That there were two minor changes to the Gift Acceptance Policy as set out in C.79/10-11:

- (a) That the member of the Senate who would serve on the Gift Acceptance Committee would typically be the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Development.
- (b) That briefings on donors supplied to members of the Committee would include reasonable due diligence relating to the donor.

130/10-11 Register of Members' Interests

REPORTED:

That a copy of the Register of Interests of members of the University Council was available from the Deputy Registrar's Office and that the University would be writing to each of those members of the Council who would continue to serve in 2011/12 to update existing information on their interests.

131/10-11 Amendments to University Ordinances

CONSIDERED:

For the first time, proposed amendments to the following University Ordinances, as recommended by the Senate (C.80/10-11):

- (a) University Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties.
- (b) University Ordinance 13 on Degrees and Diplomas.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed amendments to the following University Ordinances, as recommended by the Senate and set out in C.80/10-11, be approved for the first time:

- (a) University Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties.
- (b) University Ordinance 13 on Degrees and Diplomas.

132/10-11 Amendments to University Regulations

CONSIDERED:

Proposed amendments to the following University Regulations, as recommended by the Senate (C.81/10-11):

- (a) University Regulation 8.12 governing appeals relating to decisions of final-year undergraduate boards of examiners.
- (b) University Regulation 38 governing Research Degrees.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed amendments to the following University Regulations, as recommended by the Senate and set out in C.81/10-11, be approved:

- (a) University Regulation 8.12 governing appeals relating to decisions of final-year undergraduate boards of examiners.
- (b) University Regulation 38 governing Research Degrees, noting that the changes would take effect from 1 August 2011.

133/10-11 University Research Ethics Committee

REPORTED:

That the Pro-Chancellor had taken Chair's Action on behalf of the Council to approve the appointment of Professor Victor Zammit to serve on the University Research Ethics Committee as one of the two co-opted internal members, appointed on the recommendation of the Senate.

134/10-11 Mr John Leighfield

RESOLVED:

That the University Council formally record its sincere and significant gratitude to Mr John Leighfield on the occasion of his last meeting as Chair of the Council, noting the exemplary service that he had given to the University during his time as Chair of the Council and in other capacities prior to that.