

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Council held on 13 February 2004

Present: Mr J Leighfield (Chariman), Professor M Cooper, Mr R Jones, Professor J Jones, Professor K Lamberts, Professor R Lindley, Mr T Monnington, Professor S B Palmer, Professor D VandeLinde, Professor M Whitby, Ms Y Zahbina.

Apologies: Mr M Angle, Councillor S Bains, Mr I Caulfield, Professor C Davis, Mr P Dodd, Professor R G Dyson, Mr C Foy, Professor J Gardner, Miss V Gooding, Councillor R Grant, Mr M Greenlees, Mr J Higgins, Ms S J Hobson, Mr C Howgrave-Graham, Mr M A McCrae, Professor P Mack, , Professor A Mullender, Miss R Thorne, Mr P Varney, Mr T Walker, Mr B Woods-Scawen.

59/03-04 Validity of Decisions of the Council

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

- (a) That, contrary to past interpretation and advice provided to the Council, including that provided at the last meeting of the Council held in December 2003, recent interpretation and advice sought from the University's solicitors on the provisions of the University Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Council had confirmed that it was not a legal requirement that a majority of lay members of the Council be present for decisions reached at meetings of the University Council to be valid.
- (b) That, in the light of that advice and the fact that there was no provision within the University's governing instruments for a quorum of members of the Council, any decision reached by the Council at the meeting would be valid and legitimate within the terms of the current legal framework of the University.
- (c) That steps be taken to review and where possible to revise the relevant governing instruments of the University to provide for decisions to be made by the Council through mechanisms other than holding a full meeting of the Council and paying particular regard to the opportunities offered by new technologies including electronic ballot or circulation of papers and video conferencing.

60/03-04 University Registrar

REPORTED:

That, following consultation with the Senate in accordance with Statute 9, the Council, at its meeting held on 1 October 2003, resolved *inter alia* that a Committee with the following membership be established to bring forward a recommendation to the Council, following consultation with the Senate, for the appointment of a Registrar of the University with effect from 1 January 2004, or as soon as practicable thereafter:

The Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Mr J Leighfield
Mr P Dodd

Ms R Thorne
Professor S Bassnett
Professor R G Dyson
Professor D Rand

CONSIDERED:

In accordance with the provisions of Statute 9, a report from the Committee established to bring forward a recommendation to the Council, following consultation with the Senate, for the appointment of a Registrar of the University (C.36/03-04) together with a summary of the career of the candidate recommended for appointment by the Committee (circulated electronically to members of the Council).

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor noting that the Senate, at its meeting on 13 February 2003, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That Mr Jonathan Baldwin, currently Registrar of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, be appointed Registrar of the University at a mutually agreeable date as yet to be confirmed (passed nem con).