

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 December 2002

Present: Mr J P Leighfield (in the Chair), Mr M Angle (item 22/02-03 onwards), Councillor S Bains, Professor S Bassnett, Professor A Caesar, Mr P Dodd, Professor R G Dyson, Mr C Foy, Ms V Gooding (item 21/02-03 onwards), Ms S J Hobson, Mr C Howgrave-Graham (item 22/02-03 onwards), Mr G Jones, Professor J Jones, Professor K Lamberts, Professor R Lindley (item 21/02-03 onwards), Professor M A McCrae, Professor S B Palmer, Professor D VandeLinde, Mr P Varney, Professor M Whitby, Mr B Woods-Scawen (item 22/02-03 onwards), Ms Y Zhabina.

Apologies: Mr I Caulfield, Professor M Cooper, Councillor R Grant, Professor A Mullender, Mr G Stokes, Mr T E H Walker.

18/02-03 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 2 October 2002 be approved.

19/02-03 Nominations Committee (minute 2/02-03 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That the Nominations Committee met during the Autumn Term to consider possible candidates for appointment to lay membership of the University Council and that it was expected that a nomination for appointment would be proposed to members of the Council for consideration and approval early in the new year.

20/02-03 Horticulture Research International (minute 5/02-03 refers)

RECEIVED:

- (a) An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on the progress of discussions with Horticulture Research International (HRI), BBSRC and DEFRA on the future development of the relationship between the University and HRI noting that merger with HRI at a future date was a possible option.

- (b) An oral report from the Registrar on the publication of University responses to external consultation documents on the Insite section of the University website, including the responses from the University and HRI to Stage 1 of the DEFRA Quinquennial Review Report.

21/02-02 Long Term Funding of Higher Education (minute 6/02-03 refers)

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on the most recent discussions at national level regarding the long term funding and development of Higher Education.

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That a number of the issues relating to the future size and shape of Higher Education would be discussed in the presentation to be given to members of the Council by Mr Bahram Bekhradnia, former Head of Policy at the Higher Education Funding Council, immediately after the meeting.

22/02-03 Review of the Effectiveness of the University Council (minute 8/02-03 refers)

CONSIDERED:

The report from the Committee established to conduct the review of the effectiveness of the University Council (C.9/02-03) together with an oral report from the Pro-Chancellor.

REPORTED:

That Mr G Jones had served as the student member of the Review Committee during 2002/03.

RESOLVED:

That the report of the Review Committee be welcomed and that the following recommendations of the Review Committee be approved:

- (i) That at least one further member of the Council be appointed to membership of each of the Faculty Advisory Boards, in addition to the Chair of the Faculty Advisory Board.
- (ii) That an annual supper and visit to an event in the Arts Centre for all members of the Council be introduced on the evening preceding the first meeting of the Council in each academic year.
- (iii) That the Arts Centre event and supper be preceded by an induction briefing for all new members of Council (lay, academic and student) along similar lines to the briefing currently offered to new members.

- (iv) That each meeting of the Council be preceded by a buffet lunch and that a presentation from an external speaker on some aspect of HE policy, or from an internal speaker on one aspect of the University's activities, be incorporated into the programme of each meeting.
- (v) That more structured agendas for meetings of the Council be introduced as proposed in Appendix A of paper C.9/02-03.
- (vi) That a single coversheet for all reports and papers presented be introduced in the format set out in Appendix B of paper C.9/02-03.
- (vii) That, wherever practicable, Council papers be posted to external members of the Council no later than six days in advance of the date of Council meetings.
- (viii) That a procedures document and timetable for submission and circulation of papers and reports for Council meetings be prepared for the information of Council members.
- (ix) That proposals for the presentation of relevant performance indicators to the Council be developed during the course of the forthcoming year alongside the new strategic planning process.
- (x) That the Nominations Committee and the Senate be asked to review the guidelines and criteria adopted by both bodies for appointment of lay and academic members of the Council.

23/02-03 Leicester Warwick Medical Schools (minute 10/02-03 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the Council, at its meeting on 2 October, approved the recommendations of the Joint Committees of the Leicester Warwick Medical School and the Senate on the future structure and constitution of the School.

CONSIDERED:

Proposed arrangements for the future structure and governance of the Warwick Medical School (SC.18/02-03 {revised 2}).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposed arrangements for the future structure and governance of the Warwick Medical School, including the establishment of the School as a department within the Faculty of Medicine be approved as set out in paper SC.18/02-03 (revised 2) noting that it may be necessary for further proposals to be brought forward for revision of governance arrangements for the Warwick Medical School in the light of developments during the current academic year.

- (b) That the proposed revisions to Ordinances 7 and 11 to effect the new arrangements for the future structure and governance of the Warwick Medical School be approved as set out in paper SC.18/02-03 (revised 2).

24/02-03. Report from the Strategy Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED:

A report from the meeting of the Strategy Committee held on 21 November 2002 (C.10/02-03).

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That, acting on behalf of the Council, he had approved the appointment of Ms Jane Hobson as Chair of the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Social Studies.

25/02-03 Report from Finance and General Purposes Committee

- (a) Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 7 November 2002

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED:

A report from the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 7 November 2002 (C.11/02-03 {Part 1}).

- (b) Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 5 December 2002

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, with the resolution set out below, a report of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 5 December 2002 (C.11/02-03 {Part 2 and Part 2 supplement}) together with an oral report from the Treasurer.

The University's Consolidated Accounts for 2001/2002

RESOLVED:

That the University's Consolidated Accounts for the year ending 31 July 2002 be approved as set out in paper FGPC.27(a)/02-03.

26/02-03 Report from the Audit Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED

A report from the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 27 November 2002 (C.12/02-03).

REPORTED: (by Mr Brian Woods-Scawen)

That at the conclusion of the audit examination process for 2001/02 the University's auditors had expressed their opinion to the Audit Committee that the University's audit regime was highly ranked in comparison to the audit regimes of other Universities.

27/02-03 Report from the Building Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED:

The report from the meeting of the Building Committee held on 21 November 2002 (C.13/02-03).

28/02-03 Report from the Careers Advisory Board

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED:

The report from the Careers Advisory Board on Careers Service activities for the year ended 30 September 2002 (C.14/02-03).

29/02-03 Report from the Equal Opportunities Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED:

The report from the meeting of the Equal Opportunities Committee held on 30 October 2002 incorporating the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Report for 2002/2003 (S.18/02-03).

30/02-03 Report from the Honorary Degrees Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, with the resolution set out below, a report from the meeting of the Honorary Degrees Committee held on 31 October 2002 (C.15/02-03).

REPORTED:

(a) That, acting on behalf of the Council, the Pro-Chancellor had taken Chair's action to approve the award of honorary degrees at the January 2003 degree congregations to:

Ms Estelle Morris MP
Dr Michael Goldstein

(b) That the names of those on whom it was proposed to confer honorary degrees should remain confidential to members of the Council until replies had been received to all the invitations and the official list had been published by the University.

RESOLVED:

That honorary degrees be conferred in July 2002 on the ten persons recommended by the Committee (passed nem con).

31/02-03 Academic Statistics 2002/2003

RECEIVED:

A copy of the University's Academic Statistics document for the academic year 2002/2003.

RESOLVED:

That the Academic Registrar be requested to consider incorporating additional data in future editions of the Academic Statistics document on the regional profile of the University.

32/02-03 Awards and Distinctions

RECEIVED:

A paper setting out the awards and distinctions that have been conferred on members of the University since the last meeting of the Council held on 2 October (C.16/02-03).

33/02-03 Report from the Senate

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED:

A report from the meeting of the Senate held on 4 December 2002 (C.17/02-03).

34/02-03 Arts Centre Annual Report:

RECEIVED:

The Annual report of the Arts Centre for the academic year 2001/2002 (C.18/02-03).

35/02-03 Register of Members' Interests

RECEIVED:

A copy of the Register of Interests of Members of the University Council for the academic year 2002/2003 (C.19/02-03).

31/02-03 Amendments to University Ordinances

CONSIDERED:

The withdrawal of University Ordinance 10 on the Governance and Management of the Leicester Warwick Medical School and the proposed amendment to Ordinance 7 to establish a single Faculty of Medicine (SC.3/02-03)

RESOLVED:

That, for the second time, the withdrawal of University Ordinance 10 on the Governance and Management of the Leicester Warwick Medical School and the proposed amendment to Ordinance 7 to establish a single Faculty of Medicine be approved as set out in paper SC.3/02-03.