

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14 December 2001

Present: Mr R J Williams (in the Chair), Mr M Angle, Councillor S Bains, Mr Y Battiwala, Ms M Bell, Professor A Caesar, Mr I Caulfield, Mr J Dubber, Professor R G Dyson, Ms V Gooding, Councillor R Grant, Professor J Jones, Mr J Leighfield, Professor R Lindley, Professor M McCrae, Mr T Monnington, Dr I Nussey, Professor S B Palmer, Mr G Stokes, Professor D VandeLinde, Mr P Varney, Mr T E H Walker, Professor M Whitby, Mr B Woods-Scawen.

Apologies: Professor S Bassnett, Mrs R Carruthers, Mr P Dodd, Mr C Foy, Professor K Lamberts, Professor A Mullender.

MINUTES

16/01-02 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3 October 2001 be approved.

17/01-02 Pro-Chancellor's Business

University Treasurer

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Pro-Chancellor on the recent ill-health of the University Treasurer, Mr Peter Dodd, noting that he would be unavailable for University business until the new year.

RESOLVED:

That the best wishes of the Council for a speedy recovery be conveyed to Mr Dodd.

18/01-02 Vice-Chancellor's Business

(a) Research Assessment Exercise 2001

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on the outcome of the 2001 Research Assessment Exercise, noting:

- (i) That all but one of the University's academic departments submitted to the Research Assessment Exercise attained a rating of 5 or 5*, the maximum score of 5* being achieved by six departments.

- (ii) That 91% of University academic staff who were submitted as research active were located in departments rated 5 or 5*.
- (iii) That the various institutional league tables produced in the media indicated that the University had improved its research ranking to fifth position nationally.

RESOLVED:

That the congratulations of the lay members of the Council be extended to the University on an outstanding result and that those responsible for preparing the University submission be thanked for their contribution.

- (b) Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth

REPORTED (by the Vice Chancellor):

That, following the formal presentation of the University's bid to host an Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth at the Department for Education and Skills on Tuesday 27 November, the University had been informed that it had been selected as the preferred bidder.

19/01-02 Effectiveness of the University Council

CONSIDERED:

A paper on an effectiveness review of the University Council (C.13/01-02).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposal that a second review of the effectiveness of the University Council be conducted during the Spring and Summer Terms 2002 be approved as set out in paper C.13/01-02.
- (b) That the following persons be appointed as members of the Review Group:

Mr J Leighfield (Chair)

Mr P Varney

Professor R G Dyson

Professor A Mullender

Mr J Dubber

Ms K Morgan (external, Chair of the Board of Governors of the University of the West of England)

20/01-02 Report from the Senate

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, with the resolution set out below, a report from the meetings of the Senate held on 3 October and 5 December 2001 (C.14/01-02):

Emeritus Professors

RESOLVED:

That the title of Emeritus Professor be conferred on the following former members of staff:

Professor D Kelly (Biological Sciences)
Professor K Jennings (Biological Sciences)
Professor R Carter (Mathematics)

21/01-02 Report from the Joint Council and Senate Strategy Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED:

A report from the meeting of the Joint Council and Senate Strategy Committee held on 22 November 2001 (C.15/01-02).

22/01-02 Finance and General Purposes Committee

(a) Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6 November 2001

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED:

A report from the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6 November 2001 (C.16/01-02 {Part 1}).

(b) Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14 December 2001

CONSIDERED:

An oral report from the Chair of Council on the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held immediately before the meeting of the Council, selected papers relating to specific items of business on the agenda for the meeting (C.16/01-02 {Part 2}) and the Committee's receipt of reports and its resolutions on the following matters:

- (i) The report from the Earned Income Group relating to first quarter performance in 2001/02 (FGPC 16/01-02), noting that due to lower than expected expenditure during the quarter, the actual statutory surplus for this period was ahead of the original budget by £544k.
- (ii) An oral report from the Pro-Chancellor on the report from the Budget Steering Group held on 13 December noting:
 - (A) That the financial performance of the Warwick Manufacturing Group was being monitored against the revised plan recommended by the Earned Income Group Working Party on Five-Year Plans which was intended to remove the deficit, reduce costs and improve the control on various activities.

- (B) That the University's performance against its budget for the current year to date was good.
- (iii) The report from the meeting of the Estimates and Grants Committee held on 13 November 2001 (FGPC 20/01-02) noting that the Finance and General Purposes Committee had agreed to release the resources necessary for the filling of vacancies and establishment of posts and had approved and noted the progress made in meeting the Estimates and Grants savings target.
- (iv) The Consolidated Report and Accounts for the Union of Students for the year ended 31 July 2001 and its budget for the year ending 31 July 2002 (FGPC 21/01-02).
- (v) A report on the actions being taken in regard to the Financial Plan 2001 Staff Costing Errors which had been noted and approved by the Finance and General Purposes Committee (FGPC 28/01-02).
- (vi) An analysis of the University's cash and investments position as at 30 November 2001 (FGPC 22/01-02).

(a) The University's Consolidated Accounts for 2000/01 (FGPC 14a/01-02)

RESOLVED:

That the University's Consolidated Accounts for 2000/01 be approved as set out in paper FGPC 14a/01-02.

(b) Terms of Reference of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

CONSIDERED:

A proposed amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Finance and General Purposes Committee to ensure that its role in respect of stewardship of subsidiary and related companies was clarified as set out in paper FGPC 24a/01-02.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed amendment to the Terms of Reference for Finance and General Purposes Committee be approved as set out in paper FGPC 24a/01-02.

(c) University Development Strategy

CONSIDERED:

Proposals for investment in a new Development Strategy for the University (FGPC 18/01-02).

RESOLVED:

That the proposals for investment in a new development strategy for the University be welcomed and endorsed.

23/01-02 Audit Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report from the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 28 November 2001 (C.17/01-02).

24/01-02 Honorary Degrees Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, with the resolutions set out below, a report from the meeting of the Honorary Degrees Committee held on 7 November 2001 (C.19/01-02):

REPORTED:

- (a) 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.
- (b) That further nominations of persons on whom honorary degrees might be conferred in July 2002 might be forthcoming from the Honorary Degrees Committee in the light of the Vice-Chancellor's discussions with senior figures from East and South-East Asia.

RESOLVED:

That honorary degrees be conferred in January and July 2002 on the thirteen persons recommended by the Committee (passed *nem con*) subject to the Registrar establishing whether one of the proposed honorary graduands had previously declined a similar invitation from the University, noting that it had not been past practice to offer more than one invitation to a single individual for the conferral of an honorary degree.

25/01-02 Nominations Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report from the Nominations Committee (C.19/01-02).

26/01-02 Academic Statistics 2001/02

RECEIVED:

A copy of the University's Academic Statistics document for the academic year 2001/02.

27/01-02 Code of Corporate Governance

RESOLVED:

That the University's Code of Corporate Governance including the statement of the role of the Secretary to the Council be approved and adopted as set out in paper C.5/01-02.

28/01-02 Amendments to University Statutes

CONSIDERED:

For a second time, proposed amendments to the University Statutes and Ordinance 2 principally to provide for the establishment of the full-time post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

RESOLVED:

That, for the second time, the proposed amendments to the University Statutes and Ordinance 2 be approved as set out in paper C.20/01-02.

29/01-02 Appointment of the Chancellor

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Pro-Chancellor noting that good progress had been made in identifying a new Chancellor of the University and it was expected that a nomination would be presented to the Senate, the Council and the Court during the Spring term in accordance with Statute 3.

30/01-02 Capital Projects Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report from the meeting of the Capital Projects Committee held on 22 November 2001 (C.21/01-02).

31/01-02 Careers Advisory Board

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report from the Careers Advisory Board on Careers Advisory Service activities for the year ended 30 September 2001 (C.22/01-02).

32/01-02 Report from the Arts Centre Board

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED the Annual Report of the Arts Centre for the academic year 2000/01 (C.23/01-02).

33/01-02 Safety Committee

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED with the resolution set out below, a report from the meeting of the Safety Committee held on 9 November 2001.

CONSIDERED:

The draft University Safety Plan for the period 2002-2004 (C24/01-02).

RESOLVED:

That the draft University Safety Plan for the period 2002 to 2004 be approved as set out in paper C.24/01-02.

34/01-02 Amendments to University Ordinances

CONSIDERED:

Proposed amendments to University Ordinance 6 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties (C.9/01-02).

RESOLVED:

That, for the second time, the proposed amendments to University Ordinance 6 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties be approved as set out in paper C.9/01-02.

35/01-02 Register of Members' Interests

RECEIVED:

A copy of the Register of Interests of Members of the University Council for the academic year 2001/02 (C.25/01-02).

36/01-02 Awards and Distinctions

RECEIVED:

A paper setting out Awards and Distinctions that have been conferred on members of the University since the last meeting of the Council held on 3 October 2001 (C.26/01-02)