

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9 October 2014

Present: Sir George Cox (Pro-Chancellor (Chair)), Mr R Ankcorn, Mr K Bedell-Pearce (Treasurer), Ms V Cooke (Vice-Chair), Dr J Ferrie, Mr G Howells, Professor C Hughes (Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Teaching and Learning), Professor C W Hughes, Professor T Jones (Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Science, Engineering and Medicine), Ms J MacNaughton, Professor A Muthoo, Sir David Normington (till item 8/14-15), Mr A Rivett, Mr M Temple, Professor P Thomas, Professor N Thrift (Vice-Chancellor and President), Ms C Turhan, Professor P Winstanley.

Apologies: Dame Fiona Caldicott, Professor S Croft (Provost), Mr P Dunne, Mrs P Egan, Ms T Elliott, Mr J Higgins.

In Attendance: Ms S Black (Assistant Registrar (Governance)), Ms R Drinkwater (Group Finance Director), Mrs P Glover (Director of Governance and Assurance Services), Mr K Sloan (Registrar and Chief Operating Officer (Secretary)).

NOTE: The Pro-Chancellor welcomed new and returning members to the first meeting of the Council for the academic year 2014/15.

1/14-15 Minutes

CONSIDERED:

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9 July 2014.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9 July 2014 be approved.

2/14-15 Conflicts of Interest

REPORTED:

- (a) That, should any members or attendees of the Council have any conflicts of interest relating to agenda items for the meeting, they should be declared in accordance with the CUC Guide for members of Higher Education Governing Bodies in the UK.

(by the Pro-Chancellor)

- (b) That Council members were encouraged, wherever possible, to inform the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer prior to the meeting of any potential conflicts of interest, and were also invited to do so now if appropriate.

NOTE: No declarations were made.

(by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (c) That members were invited to review the Register of Interests of Members of the University Council for the academic year 2014/15 as at 8 October 2014 (C.11/14-15, minute 19/14-15 refers) and inform the Institutional Governance Team of any updates.

3/14-15 *School of Life Sciences and Warwick Medical School Update (minute 156/13-14 refers)

(COMMERCIAL AND IN CONFIDENCE)

4/14-15 *High Speed 2 Rail Network (HS2) (minute 142/13-14 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (a) That since the July Council meeting, work to develop the University's position continued following advice from the Masterplan Team and the Parliamentary Agents.
- (b) That Robin Purchas QC had been appointed to advise the University and to lead the case in the event that the University would elect to appear before the Select Committee, the date for which was likely to be 11 December 2014.
- (c) That the University was advised that it was likely that the promoters would seek to provide sufficient mitigating measures to high-profile organisations to remove their need for a parliamentary appearance, it being noted that this was supported from discussions at recent meetings with HS2.
- (d) That concern remained about traffic impact on the road network adjacent to the campus during the construction period, and resulting access difficulties.
- (e) That it appeared that there were errors and omissions in the promoters' case, noting that remodelling work was currently being undertaken in advance of the select committee date.
- (f) That discussions were ongoing with the Local Enterprise Partnership and the local authorities regarding the feasibility study for a new link road from the A46 to the University/ A45 along the route of HS2 to provide important relief to Gibbet Hill Road, together with a new Kenilworth bypass, noting that the Chancellor's commission would be used to promote what was seen by the City, County, District and LEP to be a major issue for the local economy.

5/14-15 Membership of the University Council

RECEIVED:

A statement of the membership of the Council for the 2014/15 academic year (C.01/14-15).

6/14-15 Pro-Chancellor's Business: Sir Nick Scheele

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor)

That the University had been informed of the sad passing of Sir Nick Scheele in July 2014, a great supporter of the University and Chancellor from 2002 to 2008, noting that the University had hosted a memorial event to celebrate the life and career of Sir Nick on Monday 22 September 2014.

RESOLVED:

That the sorrow of the University Council at the news of the passing of Sir Nick Scheele be recorded.

7/14-15 *Pro-Chancellor's Business: Report from the Nominations Committee

CONSIDERED:

An oral report from the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer on the meeting of the Nominations Committee held on 8 October 2014.

(COMMERCIAL AND IN CONFIDENCE)

(a) Future Lay Membership of the Council

RESOLVED:

- (i) That Mr G Howells be thanked for his willingness to continue for a further annual term.
- (ii) That the recommendation from the Nominations Committee that Mr G Howells be reappointed as a lay member of the Council for the 2015/16 academic year, be approved (passed *nem con*).
- (iii) That the skills matrix for Council members, highlighting key areas requiring future input, be made available to members.
- (iv) That members of the Council be invited to identify and/or nominate any potentially suitable candidates for consideration as future lay members of Council.

8/14-15 *Pro-Chancellor's Business: Update on California

(COMMERCIAL AND IN CONFIDENCE)

9/14-15 Vice-Chancellor and President's Business

RECEIVED:

An oral report and presentation from the Vice-Chancellor and President (C.02/14-15).

(a) University Rankings

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

That the University had recently been announced as the Sunday Times and Times "University of the Year for 2014-15", noting that he wished to thank every member of staff, the students and the alumni that contributed to the achievement of the award.

(b) *Admissions Update

(COMMERCIAL AND IN CONFIDENCE)

(c) Research Income and Research Awards

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

That the University's research income had increased to £90.1m, the highest ever level of research income, coupled with the second highest ever level of research awards at £122m.

(d) Recent Awards and Achievements

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (i) That Professor Martin Hairer, Warwick's Regius Professor of Mathematics had been awarded the Fields Medal, the world's most prestigious mathematics award and the equivalent of a Nobel Prize.
- (ii) That the independent company Advanced Propulsion Centre (APC) had selected Warwick as the site for its Hub location, supporting a ten-year, £1bn industry and government commitment to the development of low carbon propulsion systems.
- (iii) That the Warwick Business School (WBS) had completed its agreement to open a London base at The Shard, which was due for completion in early November, with an opening date in January 2015.
- (iv) That WBS had been awarded the Bronze Gender Equality Mark by the Equality Challenge Unit and the Department of Computer Science had been awarded the Athena Swan Bronze Award, meaning that all STEM departments were now in possession of an award, making Warwick one of only three UK universities to have achieved this.
- (v) That Warwick had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Carnegie Mellon University to create a \$10m research and education collaboration.
- (vi) That the University had risen to 61st in the world in the QS World University Rankings and to 103rd in the THE world rankings, a jump of 38 places, meaning that Warwick rankings had increased in every significant league table in the current year.
- (vii) That that overall institutional satisfaction in the National Student Survey (NSS) had risen 2% in 2014, with institutional level outcomes either remaining the same or improving across all question categories, noting that he wished to thank everyone who had been involved in achieving this positive result.
- (viii) That the BBSRC had announced that Warwick, Birmingham and Leicester had been awarded £13m for a "Doctoral Training Partnership" to provide research training to support the Midlands bioeconomy, noting that the Partnership, led by University of Warwick, had received the award for their Midlands Integrative Biosciences Training Partnership (MIBTP) which will train an additional 260 PhD research students over the next 5 years (130 will be funded directly by the BBSRC and 130 by matched-funding from the three universities).
- (ix) That the Warwick Manufacturing Group (WMG) had welcomed the Vice-Premier of China, along with a delegation of senior officials including the Chinese Ambassador to the UK, and Sir Sebastian Wood, Britain's Ambassador to China.
- (x) That the start of the inaugural academic year for the new WMG Academy for Young Engineers had seen hundreds of school pupils and teachers being the first to experience the new school, just 10 minutes' walk from campus.

- (xi) That on US Independence Day, Paul Prescott (Associate Professor, Department of English at Warwick) and Paul Edmondson (Head of Research and Knowledge, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust) began an epic road trip all around North America in a unique project entitled “Shakespeare on the Road” to capture a comprehensive picture of Shakespeare’s place in contemporary American culture.
- (xii) That the Manet painting, “The Execution of Maximilian”, was currently being exhibited in the Mead Gallery exhibition “Unreliable Evidence”, noting the high quality ‘offer’ by the Warwick Arts Centre which contributed to the success of the bid to exhibit the painting.

(by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (xiii) That Council members would be offered the opportunity to visit the WMG Academy in due course, as well as potentially holding a future meeting of the Council at the WBS London Base at The Shard.

(by the Pro-Chancellor)

- (xiv) That the opening of the WMG Academy for Young Engineers was an important landmark, as well as a significant achievement in addressing the nation’s skills issue.

(e) Teaching and Learning Offer

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (i) That progress was being made on enhancing the teaching and learning offer for students, noting that building work was due to commence on the new Teaching and Learning Building in February 2015.
- (ii) That a bid had recently been submitted to HEFCE for STEM capital funding, noting that the funding would enable the University to install 3D projection in lecture theatres and live streaming of laboratory demonstrations in the Teaching and Learning Building, with news on the outcome expected by December.

(f) Financial Position

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (i) That the University was expected to attain a satisfactory surplus in the current year, sufficient to keep the University on course.
- (ii) That the Development and Alumni Relations Office had passed its 50 Forward fundraising target thanks the generosity of many donors.

(g) Gender

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (i) That a set of new initiatives would be announced later in the autumn term to provide a further push on gender equality, to support the development and careers of women and ensure even greater equality of experience and opportunity at Warwick.

- (ii) That work was ongoing to consider gender diversity in relation to the Science and Engineering curriculum.

(by Professor P Thomas)

- (iii) That gender equality was becoming an increasingly important factor in funding bids, particularly around diversity in the student body in the STEMM subjects.

10/14-15 Registrar and Chief Operating Officer's Business: Procedure for the Appointment of the Successor to the Vice-Chancellor

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (a) That the process to search for and select Warwick's next Vice-Chancellor and President would begin in the Spring Term of 2015.
- (b) That in accordance with Statute 5 and Ordinance 1, a joint committee of the Council and the Senate would be established to consider and make a recommendation for the appointment, noting that the Committee would be chaired by the Pro-Chancellor.
- (c) That there would be three lay members and nominations to serve would be sought in due course.
- (d) That the academic members would not include more than one of the serving Provost or Pro-Vice-Chancellors and would not include more than one of the serving Chairs of the Boards of the Faculties and serving Heads of academic departments.
- (e) That, by custom, the student representative would be the serving President of the Students' Union.
- (f) That any recommendation from the Joint Committee would be made to a joint sitting of the Senate and the Council to be held no earlier than the Summer of 2015, with the appointment expected to take effect from the Spring of 2016.
- (g) That the Pro-Chancellor would write to the University community as a whole in due course.
- (h) That there would be an opportunity for the Council to discuss arrangements later in the current year.

11/14-15 Registrar and Chief Operating Officer's Business: Campus Movement Plans

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (a) That the road works on and around the University campus, in collaboration with Coventry City Council, had posed a significant issue and challenge over recent months, noting however that the total number of days affected by significant traffic issues had nevertheless been low.
- (b) That it was anticipated that Gibbet Hill Road would reopen by the end of October 2014, with the works to construct a roundabout at the junction of Gibbet Hill Road and Kenilworth Road commencing subsequently.

12/14-15 Registrar and Chief Operating Officer's Business: Disestablishment of Warwick Institute of Education

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

That the disestablishment of the Warwick Institute of Education had come into effect from 31 July 2014 (papers C.13/14-15 and C.14/14-15 refer).

13/14-15 Code of Corporate Governance, Statement of Primary Responsibilities and Delegated Authorities

(a) Code of Practice on Corporate Governance

CONSIDERED:

The University's Code of Practice on Corporate Governance, including proposed amendments to the constitution of Council committees and University bodies (C.03/14-15).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (i) That the proposed changes to the constitution of Council and Joint Council/ Senate Committee Memberships, as set out in Appendix 8 of the paper, reflected the reduction in the size of the Council.
- (ii) That following the implementation of recommendations arising from the 2012/13 Council Effectiveness Review (CER), the Nominations Committee had sought to draw in expertise on Committees from a wider pool than lay Council membership, as appropriate.
- (iii) That it was proposed that governance around campus development and capital planning be enhanced by re-scoping the terms of reference of the Building Committee, to be renamed the University Estate Committee (UEC), together with revisions to its Sub-Committees.
- (iv) That it was proposed that the Environment and Amenities Committee be disestablished, with its main responsibilities assumed by the UEC and its Sub-Committees, embedding matters for consideration within strategic and operational discussion.
- (v) That it was proposed to disestablish the Intellectual Property Committee, its terms of reference fitting better within the proposed broader revised terms of reference of the Research Committee.
- (vi) That proposed changes would be implemented over the coming year, with a post-implementation review carried out following the transition period.
- (vii) That consultation would continue with the Senate regarding proposed changes to the Steering Committee.

(by the Pro-Chancellor and Chair)

- (viii) That proposals were in line with the recommendations from the CER.
- (ix) That he had been consulted in the development of the proposals, together with the Vice-Chair of Council and the Treasurer.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the University's Code of Practice on Corporate Governance be approved as set out in paper C.03/14-15.
- (ii) That the proposed revisions to Ordinance 4, on the Appointment of Lay Members of the Council, to reflect changes in the membership and Terms of Reference of the Nominations Committee, be approved for the first time as set out in Appendix 6 of paper C.03/14-15.
- (iii) That the delegation of authority to the University Steering Committee to approve all staff and student related policies, except where there was an explicit requirement to seek the approval of the Senate, or where adopting the policy would have a significant impact on the financial or budgetary position of the University (where the approval of FGPC would be required), be approved as set out in paper C.03/14-15.
- (iv) That the proposal to disestablish the Intellectual Property Committee be approved as set out in paper C.03/14-15.

(b) Statement of Primary Responsibilities

CONSIDERED:

The University's Statement of Primary Responsibilities (C.04/14-15).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

That the on-going review of the Chairs of University Committees (CUC) Guide for Members of HE Governing Bodies in the UK, due for publication in 2014, could potentially result in the requirement to revise and re-present to the Council the Statement of Primary Responsibilities.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the presentation slides delivered by the University's Solicitors during the briefing session for members of the Council on 8 October 2014, be circulated to members for reference.
- (ii) That the Statement of Primary Responsibilities be approved and adopted, as set out in paper C.04/14-15.

14/14-15 Report from the Senate

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED a report on selected items considered at the meetings of the Senate held on 1 October 2014 (C.05/14-15):

- (a) National Student Survey, Student Experience and Employability
- (b) Appointment of Representatives of the Senate to Membership of the Council
- (c) Election of Representatives of the Assembly to Membership of the Senate
- (d) Report on Opportunities in California
- (e) Universities Superannuation Scheme
- (f) Enhancing the Governance of Strategy Implementation, Resourcing, Capital Planning and Institutional Performance
- (g) University Strategy, Strategy Implementation, and Strategic Planning
- (h) Amendment to Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties

- (i) Student and Alumni Deaths

15/14-15 *Report from the Finance and General Purposes Committee (FGPC)

CONSIDERED and ADOPTED, a report from the meeting of the FGPC held on 30 September 2014 (C.06/14-15 {restricted}), together with an oral report from the Treasurer and the Group Finance Director on the following items of business:

- (a) *University Financial Performance in Q4 2013/14
- (b) *Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS)
- (c) *University Investment Funds
- (d) *National Automotive Innovation Campus (NAIC)
- (e) *Advanced Steel Research Hub
- (f) *Extension of the Lease at Wellesbourne Campus for Jaguar Land Rover
- (g) *Increase in Share Capital of Warwick Ventures Limited (WVL) and Warwick *Learning Limited (WLL)

(COMMERCIAL AND IN CONFIDENCE)

16/14-15 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 9 July 2014 (C.07/14-15).

17/14-15 Report from the Research Governance and Ethics Committee

RECEIVED:

The report from the extraordinary meeting of the Research Governance and Ethics Committee held on 2 September 2014 (C.08/14-15).

- (a) The Adrenaline Clinical Trial (PARAMEDIC 2)

18/14-15 Membership of Council and Joint Senate and Council Committees

CONSIDERED:

The membership of Council and Joint Senate and Council Committees for the 2014/15 academic year (C.09/14-15).

RESOLVED:

That the membership of the Council and Joint Senate and Council Committees for the 2014/15 academic year be approved.

19/14-15 Register of Members' Interests

- (a) Charity Commission Guidance: Conflicts of Interest

RECEIVED:

A report containing the latest policy guidance on conflicts of interest for charity trustees, as published by the Charity Commission on 15 May 2014 and considered by the Council at its meeting on 9 July 2014 (C.10/14-15).

(b) Recording of Members' Interests

RECEIVED:

A copy of the Register of Interests of Members of the University Council for the academic year 2014/15 as at 8 October 2014 (C.11/14-15).

REPORTED:

That a copy of the Register of Interests of members of the University Council would be made available on request from the Deputy Registrar's Office, noting that it would be updated, with the latest version periodically posted on the Council members' webpage as amendments were submitted by members of the Council.

20/14-15 Students' Union Officer Elections Statistics 2013/14

RECEIVED:

A report outlining key statistics for the Students' Union elections conducted during the 2013/14 academic year (C.12/14-15).

21/14-15 Amendments to University Ordinances

CONSIDERED:

- (a) For the first time, proposed amendments to University Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties, as noted by the Senate (C.13/14-15).
- (b) For the second time, proposed amendments to University Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties, as approved by the Senate (C.14/14-15).
- (c) For the second time, proposed amendments to University Ordinance 13 on Degrees and Diplomas, as approved by the Senate (C.15/14-15).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposed amendments to University Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties, as noted by the Senate and set out in paper C.13/14-15, be approved for the first time.
- (b) That the proposed amendments to University Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties, as approved by the Senate and set out in paper C.14/14-15, be approved for the second time.
- (c) That the proposed amendments to University Ordinance 13 on Degrees and Diplomas, as approved by the Senate and set out in paper C.15/14-15, be approved for the second time.

22/14-15 Amendments to University Regulations

CONSIDERED:

Proposed amendments to University Regulation 9 Governing the Constitution of Boards of Examiners, as recommended by the Senate (C.16/14-15).

RESOLVED:

That the proposed amendments to University Regulation 9 Governing the Constitution of Boards of Examiners be confirmed.

23/14-15 Dates of Future Meetings

REPORTED:

That the future meetings of the Committee for the 2014/15 academic year were as follows:

Friday, 21 November 2014, 09:15 - 14:00 in the Senate House Council Chamber
Wednesday, 11 February 2015, 17:00 - 18:30 in the Senate House Council Chamber
Wednesday, 20 May 2015, 09:15 - 14:00 in the Senate House Council Chamber
Wednesday, 08 July 2015, 09:15 - 14:00 in the Senate House Council Chamber

As at 10 December 2014