

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 20 February 2017

- Present: Professor Stuart Croft (Vice-Chancellor and President (Chair)), Professor A Clarke (Chair of the Faculty of Medicine), Ms R Drinkwater (Group Finance Director), Professor C Ennew (Provost), Ms A Galvão (Associate Professor of Economic Modelling and Forecasting, WBS), Professor S Gilson (Chair of the Faculty of Arts), Professor C Hughes (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)), Professor D Leadley (Academic Member of the Senate), Professor M Nudds (Chair of the Faculty of Social Sciences), Professor J Palmowski (Academic Vice-President, until 11am), Mr L Pilot (President of the Students' Union), Ms R Sandby-Thomas (Registrar), Professor P Thomas (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)), Professor L Young (Academic Vice-President).
- Apologies: Dr M Glover (Academic Registrar), Mrs P Glover (Secretary to Council), Professor M Shipman (Chair of the Faculty of Science), Professor S Swain (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement)).
- In Attendance: Mr J Breckon (Director of Estates), Ms J Horsburgh (Strategy Director (Secretary)), Dr L Hough (Assistant Director, Head of Admissions Services, for item 220/16-17), Ms G McGrattan (Director, People Group), Mr J Phillips (Director of Health and Safety, for item 221/16-17), Mr I Rowley (Director of Development, Communications and External Affairs), Mrs C Wightman (Administrative Officer (Governance) (Assistant Secretary)).

212/16-17 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the open and restricted minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2017 be approved subject to the requested amendment (deletions ~~struck through~~, additions underlined) to minute 206/16-17 *University Long-Term Strategy and Campus Master Plan.

213/16-17 Conflicts of Interest

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That, should any members or attendees of the Steering Committee have any conflicts of interest relating to agenda items for the meeting, they should be declared in accordance with the Committee of University Chairs (CUC) Higher Education Code of Governance (2014).

NOTE: No declarations were made.

214/16-17 In Memoriam - Professor Deborah Lynn Steinberg

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That the University was deeply saddened by the news that Professor Deborah Lynn Steinberg from the Department of Sociology, had passed away on Monday 6 February 2017.

RESOLVED:

That the sincere condolences of the Steering Committee be extended to Professor Steinberg's family.

215/16-17 Local Enterprise Partnership Correspondence with Prime Minister

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

- a. That the Chairs of various Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), including the Coventry and Warwickshire LEP, had written to the Right Honourable Theresa May MP, the Prime Minister, setting out the credentials of the higher education sector as a key export strength within the UK economy and requesting a meeting with Mrs May to discuss how to build on the export success of the sector in attracting overseas students.
- b. That the response from the Prime Minister's Office had declined the request for a meeting and had noted that the UK would remain open to genuine international students.

216/16-17 British Council Alumni Award Finalists

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That nine Warwick alumni from across the world had been selected as finalists in the British Council's Alumni Awards, which celebrate the outstanding achievements of graduates of British universities and showcase the impact and value of a UK higher education, noting that award winners and finalists are leaders in their fields who have used their experience of studying at a UK university to make a positive contribution to their communities, professions and countries.

217/16-17 Sir Michael Barber to Chair Office for Students

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That the Department for Education had announced that Sir Michael Barber, Chief Education Adviser at Pearson, and a leading thinker and practitioner on public service delivery, was the preferred candidate to become Chair of the new Office for Students, noting that the appointment would be subject to a pre-scrutiny hearing by the Education Select Committee.

218/16-17 School Sponsorship Plan Accelerated

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That the OFFA Director of Fair Access to Education, had asked universities to strengthen their links with schools if they wish to charge tuition fees of £9,000 or more from 2018, noting that a guidance note published on 6 February urged universities to set out clearly how they were working with schools to raise attainment.

219/16-17 Potential French Collaborations with UK Universities

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

- (a) That a network of leaders of French Higher Education institutions had visited the UK in the week commencing 13 February 2017, to invite potential collaborations with British universities and encourage selected institutions to consider setting up a presence in Paris.
- (b) That, whilst the University of Warwick had been mentioned in various press reports, this was simply as part of a press briefing on the part of the consortia of French universities, given that the University had been approached.
- (c) That any proposal for the University to have a presence in any satellite location would need to be considered in light of the University's strategic priorities.

220/16-17 *Understanding the University of Warwick's Market Position Past, Present and Future: Key Findings

CONSIDERED:

A report (SC.86.16-17 {restricted}) by the Academic Vice-President (Professor J Palmowski) and the Assistant Director, SROAS (Policy and Strategic Projects) to inform the Steering Committee of the key findings in relation to work undertaken to examine the University's past, present and potential future market position in terms of student recruitment.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the thanks of the Committee be extended to the Strategic Planning and Analytics team, the Marketing Communications team and the Student Recruitment Outreach and Admissions Service (SROAS), for the work that had gone into the preparation of the report.

221/16-17 *Health and Safety Actions

CONSIDERED:

A report (SC.87.16-17 {restricted}) by the Director of Health and Safety to inform the Committee of the actions which need to be taken by senior management to address gaps in Health and Safety Management across the University, as identified in the report submitted to the Committee on 23 January 2017 (SC.73/16-17).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the actions identified within the report be approved.
- (b) That the Committee members would endorse the interim message (as per the five key points in the report) from the Vice-Chancellor to all Heads of Department pending the completion of the actions within the report.
- (c) That the Director of Health Safety would bring progress against the action plan back to a future meeting of the Steering Committee and would flag any necessary matters through the Registrar in the intervening period.

222/16-17

*Update from Council on Strategy

CONSIDERED:

A presentation from the Chair and the Strategy Director to consider the key elements of University distinctiveness, from the recent Council discussion.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

As at 6 March 2017