

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 21 August 2017

Present: Ms R Drinkwater (Group Finance Director and Chair), Professor A Clarke (Chair of the Faculty of Medicine), Professor C Hughes (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)), Professor M Nudds (Chair of the Faculty of Social Sciences), Professor M Shipman (Chair of the Faculty of Science), Professor S Swain (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement)),

Apologies: Professor S Croft (Vice-Chancellor), Professor C Ennew (Provost), Professor S Gilson (Chair of the Faculty of Arts), Professor D Leadley (Academic Member of the Senate), Professor J Palmowski (Academic Vice-President), Ms Rachel Sandby-Thomas (Registrar), Professor P Thomas (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)), Ms H Worsdale (President of the Students' Union), Professor L Young (Academic Vice-President).

In Attendance: Dr G Carden (Director of Strategic Planning & Analytics and Secretary), Ms K Dixon (Administrative Office (Governance)) (Assistant Secretary), Dr M Glover (Academic Registrar), Ms P Glover (Secretary to Council), Ms G McGrattan (Director, People Group), Professor D Mullins (Director of External and International Relations (WMG)) (for item 414/16-17), Mr G Roberts (Programme and Relationship Manager (WMG)) (for item 414/16-17).

403/16-17 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the open and restricted minutes of the meeting held on 21 August 2017 be approved subject to the following amendments:

398/16-17 *Admissions and Recruitment Update

(j) That the University had previously trialled open days earlier in the year, but the clash with examinations had caused issues with attendance; it was noted that despite potential clashes with competitor universities, the current timeslot proved to be the most convenient attractive to prospective applicants.

400/16-17 *Off-Campus Housing Strategy

(m) That the University employed ~~90~~ 2 full-time senior wardens in addition to 90 volunteers who had specific housing-related objectives to be implemented over the next twelve months.

404/16-17 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.

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405/16-17 *NSS results announced

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

- (a) That Warwick had scored above the sector average for overall student satisfaction in the latest National Student Survey results published on 9th August, with a highest satisfaction score (86.5%) being for Learning Resources.
- (b) That engagement in enhancing the student learning experience in some departments had positively impacted results, but lower scores in a number of areas indicated that attention was required at both departmental and institutional level.
- (c) That the results were in the context of an institutional response rate of only 57%.

406/16-17 REF Main Panel announced

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That the Chairs of the four main panels for the REF 2021 had been announced as Professor John Iredale, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Health, University of Bristol; Professor David Price, Vice-Provost (Research), University College London; Professor Jane Millar OBE, Professor of Social Policy and former Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research, University of Bath; and Professor Dinah Birch CBE, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Impact, University of Liverpool.

407/16-17 Associate Professor Maja Korica rewarded for her outstanding teaching

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That Maja Korica, an Associate Professor at Warwick Business School, had been presented with an award for her Outstanding Contribution to Teaching, after being nominated by students for her commitment and quality teaching.

408/16-17 Associate Professor Pinar Ozcan wins award for research on mobile payments

REPORTED (by the Chair):

That Pinar Ozcan, Associate Professor of Strategic Management, had won recognition for her outstanding research by being selected for *Poets and Quants'* *Best 40 under 40 Professors in 2017*, and having been presented with the Outstanding Published Research Paper Award.

409/16-17 Coventry shortlisted for City of Culture 2021

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That Coventry had been successful in making it to a shortlist of five cities bidding to be City of Culture 2021, with the successful city being announced in December.

410/16-17 In Memoriam: Sheila Fitzgerald

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That the University was deeply saddened by the news of the death of Sheila Fitzgerald, a founder member of the Friends of the Mead, who had organised dozens of exhibitions and events that raised over £25,000 for the University to support the engagement of students and local people in the arts; she was awarded the Chancellor's Medal in January 2012.

RESOLVED:

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

411/16-17 Warwick selected to host sixth cohort of Wolfson Scholars in Humanities

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

- (a) That the University had been selected as a recipient of the prestigious Wolfson Postgraduate Scholarships in the Humanities in 2018, a programme across nine UK universities to fund top PhD students in Humanities.
- (b) That the University had been a recipient of the award since its inception, and after a review of the programme by The Wolfson Foundation, the University would once again be welcoming three Wolfson Scholars in the 2018 academic intake.

412/16-17 Chair's Action

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That On 9 August, Chair's Action was taken to approve the fee schedule recommendations in the Fees Working Group's Report SC.116/16-17, {restricted}, subsequent to further financial scrutiny being undertaken by the Group Finance Director (minute 304/16-17 refers).

413/16-17 Oral Update on Degree Congregations

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

- (a) That there were twelve ceremonies held across six days, with over 4,300 students graduating.
- (b) That it was the first time in Warwick's history that a female presided over the University's ceremonies, with Chancellor Cathy Ashton presiding at both of Monday's ceremonies, as well as the Provost, Chris Ennew, presiding at both of Wednesday's ceremonies.
- (c) That twelve Honorary Degrees were awarded, all to outstanding people, in addition to the University's first joint award to Fred and Etta Reid, a local blind couple who have championed resources and access for blind people in the region.

- (d) That the University's 500th Honorary Degree was awarded to Professor Stephen Bloom.
- (e) That a Benefactor's medal was awarded to Lady Doris Butterworth for her substantial philanthropic work on behalf of the University.
- (f) That a Chancellor's medal was awarded to Sir George Cox for his dedicated service to the University as a member of the Council since 2004 and the Chair of Council since 2011.
- (g) That five WATEs and eight OSCAs were awarded over the six days.

414/16-17 *WMG Degree Apprenticeships Centre

CONSIDERED:

A proposal for the WMG Degree Apprenticeships Centre (SC.159/16-17) {restricted}.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal for the WMG Degree Apprenticeships Centre (SC.159/16-17) {restricted} be recommended for approval to the University Estate Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

415/16-17 *Report from the Fees Working Group

CONSIDERED:

A report from the Fees Working Group (SC.160/16-17) {restricted}

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the increase in the undergraduate re-sit fee be approved;
- (b) That the implementation of a new administration fee for late payments be approved in principle;
- (c) That ~~the~~ delegation to Steering Committee of the ~~for~~ setting of the ~~aforementioned fee for late payments to Steering Committee~~ be recommended to FGPC; [Revised at meeting on 25 September 2017]
- (d) That the alignment of the Home and Overseas fees for the MA in Professional Education be approved;
- (e) That the 2017/18 fee for the MA in Social Science Research be approved;
- (f) That the fees for the London Distance-Learning MA be approved.

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416/16-17 Academic Registrar

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That the Steering Committee extended their thanks and best wishes to Dr Mike Glover as he prepared to take up his new post at the University of Oxford, after fifteen years of service at the University.

417/16-17 *Clearing 2017

RECEIVED:

An oral report by the Academic Registrar on Clearing 2017.

As at 14 September 2017