

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 3 June 2013

Present: Deputy-Vice-Chancellor,  
Professor A Caesar,  
Professor S Croft,  
Professor Christina Hughes,  
Professor Christopher Hughes,  
Professor T Jones,  
Professor J Labbe,  
Professor J Palmowski,  
Mr N Swain,  
Professor M Taylor,  
Professor P Thomas,  
Professor P Winstanley.

Apologies: Vice Chancellor, Professor S Swain, Professor L Young,

In Attendance: Registrar and Chief Operating Officer , Deputy Registrar, Academic Registrar,  
Deputy Academic Registrar, Group Finance Director, Director of Development and  
External Affairs, Director of Estates, Executive Officer (Vice-Chancellor's Office),  
Administrative Officer (Governance), Director (Institute of Advanced Study (for item  
341/12-13).

334/12-13 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2013 be approved.

335/12-13 Global Universities Summit

REPORTED: (by the Deputy-Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the University had hosted the 2013 Global Universities Summit in London on 28-30 May 2013.
- (b) That the event, which had featured speeches from the Rt. Hon. Dr Vince Cable MP, and the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, had been a great success and had attracted interest from the international media.
- (c) That thanks be extended to Ms Catherine Ahearne, Mr Ed Harcourt, Mr Alex Miles and Mr Ian Rowley, who had been instrumental in ensuring the smooth running of the Summit.

336/12-13 QAA Report on Teaching and Learning

REPORTED: (by the Deputy-Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the QAA's Report on Teaching and Learning at Warwick had been published, and that it confirmed the initial QAA finding, representing an excellent outcome for the University.
- (b) That the Report commended the enhancement of learning opportunities and identified a number of examples of good practice including: the resources available to all staff to support their professional development, and the 2011 Institutional Review of Teaching and Learning.

- (c) That the review also highlighted the integrated work of the Library, the Institute of Advanced Teaching and Learning (IATL), the Learning Development Centre (LDC), and the Student Careers and Skills service to facilitate innovation in teaching and learning.

337/12-13 Monash-Warwick Joint PhD Programme

REPORTED: (by the Deputy-Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the Monash-Warwick Alliance had launched a transnational joint PhD programme.
- (b) That the partnership offered funding of up to £500,000/ AUD 750,000 over the next three years for 30 students to study under research leaders addressing the research challenges the Alliance was tackling.
- (c) That the joint degrees would initially be offered in a range of areas from the faculties of Science, Arts, Engineering and Information Technology, with the first cohort of students expected to start in September 2013.

338/12-13 Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence

REPORTED: (by the Deputy-Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the winners of the Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence (WATE) 2012/13 had been announced as Ms Christine Smith from the LDC, Mr Antony Brewerton from the Library, Professor Robin Naylor from Economics, and Dr Louise Gracia and Mr Ashley Roberts from Warwick Business School.
- (b) That the awards aimed to recognise and reward members of staff who had made an exceptional impact on the student learning experience and enhanced the profile of teaching excellence at the University.
- (c) That the winners would each receive £5,000 to further enhance their teaching practice and would receive their awards at the Summer Degree Congregation.

RESOLVED:

That the congratulations of the Committee be extended to the winners.

339/12-13 2013 Orwell Prize

REPORTED: (by the Deputy-Vice-Chancellor)

That Professor Andrew Williams, Director of the Centre for Human Rights in Practice, had won the prestigious 2013 Orwell Prize for political writing.

RESOLVED:

That Professor Williams be congratulated on this achievement.

340/12-13 Freedom of Information: pre-publication research exemption

REPORTED: (by the Deputy-Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That Universities UK (UUK) had announced that the exemption from Freedom of Information (FOI) requests for pre-publication research, for which it had been actively lobbying, was included in the Intellectual Property Bill introduced to Parliament on 9 May 2013.

- (b) That as recommended by the Justice Select Committee, the Bill been designed to achieve parity with the protection offered by the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act.
- (c) That UUK would be calling on institutions as the Bill progressed, to ensure that the provisions received support from MPs and Peers during its passage through Parliament.

341/12-13 Institute of Advanced Study Annual Report

RECEIVED:

A paper updating the Committee on the key issues and developments relating to the Institute of Advanced Study (SC.196/12-13).

REPORTED (by the Director, Institute of Advanced Study)

- (a) That the Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) had made two new appointments to the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Scheme 2013-15, and that both appointees were currently serving fellows at the University of Oxford.
- (b) That the Global Research Fellowship Scheme 2012-17 had attracted international interest, with a competition currently underway to allocate the last of fourteen fellowships.
- (c) That the IAS's pump-priming schemes had been especially successful this year, and it was anticipated that over £20 of income would be gained per each £1 of expenditure.
- (d) That the IAS was currently working on the implementation of the first University of Warwick Book Festival on 15 June 2013; the "Voices of the University" Oral History Project, due for completion of phase one by 30 September 2013; and the launch of "Exchanges", an open access research journal focused on early career researchers.
- (e) That the primary focus of the IAS's five-year plan was the enhancement of public engagement, with the proposal of new initiatives such as an internal Public Engagement Fellowships scheme together with a Public Engagement Hub.
- (f) That in the long-term, the IAS was keen to build strong partnerships with external donors to ensure future growth, and that there were a number of products of research likely to attract interest, such as Medicine for Children in Tropical Africa.

(by the Dean, Warwick Medical School)

- (g) That GE-Health had expressed interest in employing placement-year students undertaking the BSc in Human Health, and that reciprocal action by the University, such as the provision of research fellows, could result in long-term benefits.

(by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (h) That it would be useful for Campus and Commercial Services and the IAS to work together to consider ways of generating alternative sources of income.

342/12-13 Cabinet Office Behavioural Insights Team

CONSIDERED:

A proposal for the University to bid to become the Cabinet Office's partner in a joint venture to grow and develop the Behavioural Insights Team (SC.206/12-13).

REPORTED: (by the Dean, Warwick Business School)

- (a) That In 2010, the UK government set up a team based in the Cabinet Office, dedicated to applying insights from behavioural science to public policy, and that this Behavioural Insights Team (BIT) had since established a global reputation for developing highly innovative approaches that demonstrated significant impacts.
- (b) That the Cabinet Office was seeking to establish a joint venture company to help it realise the full commercial potential of the business, and had initiated a competition to select a partner to enter into the joint venture arrangement with itself and the BIT employees.
- (c) That given its strong track record in the field of behavioural science, the University had a good chance of being considered favourably for the JV partnership.

(by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (d) That the paper included a draft qualification process being developed by the University's Business Development Directors to help frame and assess new proposals.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal to submit an expression of interest and pre-qualification questionnaire (PQQ) be approved as set out in paper SC.206/12-13, noting that further approval would be sought prior to submitting a final bid in July 2013 should the University be selected from the PQQ process.

343/12-13

Review of the Warwick Chaplaincy and Faith Provision

CONSIDERED:

A report outlining recommendations for developing and enhancing the Warwick Chaplaincy and its services (SC.208/12-13).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (a) That a review of the Warwick Chaplaincy had been initiated in Autumn 2012, in response to the resolution to conduct a future review following the implementation of a new management structure at the Chaplaincy.
- (b) That the review had also been prompted by significant changes in the composition of the University community since the establishment of the Chaplaincy in 1974, and by the changes to the University's strategy and objectives which had created a new context within which to consider the role and contribution of the Chaplaincy.
- (c) That the review panel had commended the overall excellence of the Chaplaincy and that its recommendations focused on identifying areas in which its work could be developed and supported.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the recommendations of the review panel be approved as set out in paper SC.208/12-13.
- (b) That the implementation of the recommendations be delegated to the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer, and that the thanks of the Committee be extended to the panel for its work on the review, and to Mr Darren Wallis for leading it.

344/12-13 Innovation: Health and Wealth (Accelerating Adoption and Diffusion in the NHS)

CONSIDERED:

A paper outlining the draft governance and subscription arrangements for the West Midlands Academic Health Science Network (SC.207/12-13).

REPORTED: (by the Dean, Warwick Medical School)

- (a) That membership of the West Midlands Academic Health Science Network (WM-AHSN) would be secured by an annual subscription from all core partners, which was likely to be in the region of £15-20,000p.a.
- (b) That should the University choose not to subscribe, it would be required to withdraw from the WM-AHSN, which would eliminate funding opportunities for a number of departments across the University and would compromise the recently-submitted NIHR-CLAHRC bid.

RESOLVED:

That the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer would consider from where the subscription should be funded.

345/12-13 Additional Knowledge Exchange Funding through the Higher Education Innovation Fund

RECEIVED:

A paper outlining HEFCE's confirmation of additional Knowledge Exchange funding to the University through the Higher Education Innovation Fund (SC.209/12-13).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (a) That in April 2013, the HEFCE Board had agreed an increase in Knowledge Exchange (KE) funding for a group of institutions at the maximum cap of KE allocations and that this investment was to be targeted at those institutions most clearly demonstrating high performance in knowledge exchange through KE income metrics, and whose contribution to speeding economic recovery may be being curtailed by the allocation cap.
- (b) That HEFCE had since confirmed that it was prepared to allocate an additional £332,424 of KE funding through the Higher Education Innovation Fund to Warwick for 2013/14 and 2014/15 (£664,848 in total), conditional on the submission and approval by HEFCE of an addendum to the previously approved Institutional Knowledge Exchange Strategy.
- (c) That the deadline for submission of the addendum to HEFCE was Friday 14 June 2013.

346/12-13 Appointment to Senate Committees

RESOLVED:

That the following be approved on behalf of the Senate:

- (a) That Dr Anne-Marie Slowther from the Warwick Medical School be appointed to serve on the Research Governance and Ethics Committee, as one of "three senior academic members of staff, appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the Senate, with expertise in relevant areas".

- (b) That Professor John Solomos be appointed to serve on the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences in his capacity as the Head of the Department of Sociology.
- (c) That Professor Robert Lindley be appointed to serve on the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences in his capacity as Director of the Institute of Employment Research (ex officio).

347/12-13 Senate Business

RESOLVED:

That the comments and recommendations of the Steering Committee on the items of business for the meeting of the Senate to be held on 12 June 2013 be approved as set out in the papers circulated for the meeting of the Senate.

348/12-13 QAA Institutional Review

RECEIVED:

A letter from the QAA, acknowledging the comments made by the University in its response to the QAA's Draft Review Report and supporting evidence base, as considered by the Steering Committee at its meeting of 29 April 2013 (SC.210/12-13).

349/12-13 Pre-Audit Review of Data for 2013/14 QR Business Research Element

RECEIVED:

A letter from HEFCE advising the University that it wishes to undertake an audit of the data underpinning the University's 2013-14 QR Business research element (SC.211/12-13).

The University is required to provide the information requested in the letter by 21 June 2013.