

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 11 February 2013

- Present: Vice-Chancellor,
Deputy-Vice-Chancellor,
Professor A Caesar,
Professor Christina Hughes,
Professor Christopher Hughes,
Professor J Labbe,
Professor J Palmowski,
Professor P Thomas,
Professor L Young.
- Apologies: Professor S Croft, Professor T Jones, Mr N Swain, Professor S Swain, Professor M Taylor, Professor P Winstanley.
- In Attendance: Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Academic Registrar, Director of Development and External Affairs, Director of Estates, Executive Officer (Vice-Chancellor's Office), Director of Delivery Assurance, Administrative Officer (Governance).

228 /12-13 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2013 be approved subject to the following amendment (deletion ~~struck through~~, addition underlined):

213/12-13 Report from the Education Working Steering Group

229/12-13 Report from the Education Steering Group (Minute SC.213/12-13 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

That at its meeting on 6 February 2013, the Senate had agreed that the vision for the 'Centre of Education Studies' and the proposal to establish a broader platform for professional education in the service sector, as set out in paper SC.131/12-13 (Restricted), be referred to the Faculty Boards for consultation.

230/12-13 National Student Survey 2013

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the National Student Survey 2013 had opened for final year undergraduate students.
- (b) That the deadline for responses was 30 April 2013.
- (c) That as an incentive for participation, the University was offering a free prize draw with a first prize of £200.

231/12-13 Conferral of *Regius* Professorship upon Warwick Mathematics Institute

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That Her Majesty the Queen had conferred a *Regius* Professorship upon the Warwick Mathematics Institute to mark the Diamond Jubilee.

- (b) That congratulations be extended to the Mathematics Institute, the award constituting a rare privilege reflecting its exceptionally high quality of teaching and research.

232/12-13 IGGY Conference – Global and Gifted 2013

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the 2013 IGGY Conference, Global & Gifted, would be taking place on campus in July 2013.
- (b) That following the success of the 2012 conference, Global & Gifted had expanded to three days; bringing together leaders in the fields of gifted youth and educational technology to lead discussion on themes including Social Media and Online Learning, Freedom, Safety and Security, and Gaming in Education.

233/12-13 Jobs.ac.uk

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That the Warwick company, Jobs.ac.uk had reached its 15th birthday.
- (b) That since its launch in 1998, the company had delivered significant cost and efficiency savings for the higher education sector and was currently used by over 7,000 organisations in more than 250 countries worldwide.
- (c) That the website had recently experienced record traffic numbers and was attracting in excess of 846,480 unique visitors from around the world each month.
- (d) That congratulations were extended to all current and former Jobs.ac.uk colleagues for the exceptional success of the venture.

234/12-13 Proposed Review of the Warwick Graduate School

CONSIDERED:

A proposed plan for review of the Warwick Graduate School (SC.146/12-13).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (a) That the Warwick Graduate School model had not been reviewed since the School's inception in 1992.
- (b) That the recent expansion of postgraduate teaching, the growth of Continuing Professional Development and the University's research ambitions under *Vision 2015* determined that review in the current academic year was timely.

(by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education (Quality and Standards))

- (c) That the review should clearly acknowledge the volatility of the postgraduate funding environment and consider options for future alternative funding opportunities.

(by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (d) That the role and effectiveness of other graduate schools be encompassed in the review with the purpose of identifying areas of good practice.

(by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research (Life Sciences and Medicine) and Capital Development)

- (e) That the review should consider disciplinary boundaries in addition to funding issues.

(by the Chair of the Faculty of Social Sciences)

- (f) That the representation from the Faculty of Social Sciences should be reviewed given the size of its postgraduate population.

(by the Academic Registrar)

- (g) That the membership of the review group should also reflect the professionally-focussed aspects of postgraduate provision, such as the Warwick Manufacturing Group.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed plan for review of the Warwick Graduate School be approved as set out in paper SC.146/12-13, subject to the amendments recommended by the Committee.

235/12-13 Letter from HEFCE on non-mainstream allocations to support very high-cost STEM subjects

RECEIVED:

A letter from HEFCE outlining arrangements for the additional funding of very high-cost STEM subjects in 2013/14 and 2014/15, based on HESA student records data for 2010/11 (SC.142/12-13).

REPORTED: (by the Academic Registrar)

That the University's proportion of funding under this scheme was not expected to be significantly impacted by HEFCE's changes to the allocation method.

236/12-13 QAA Consultation – Higher Education Review: A more risk-based approach to the quality assurance of higher education

RECEIVED:

A consultation on a draft handbook for Higher Education Review (SC.141/12-13), noting that the University's response was being co-ordinated by the Teaching Quality team, and questions or comments should be directed to these colleagues prior to the closing date of 22 April 2013.