

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Senate Steering Committee held on Monday, 18 January 2016

- Present: Professor Sir Nigel Thrift (Vice-Chancellor and President (Chair)), Ms R Drinkwater (Group Finance Director), Professor S Gilson (Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Arts), Professor Christopher Hughes (Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences), Professor T Jones (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Science, Engineering and Medicine)), Mr I Leigh (President of the Students' Union), Professor J Palmowski (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate and Transnational Education)), Mr K Sloan (Registrar and Chief Operating Officer), Professor M Shipman (Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Science), Professor C Sparrow (Academic Member of the Senate), Professor S Swain (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Arts and Social Sciences)), Professor P Thomas (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (People and Public Engagement)), Professor L Young (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Planning and Resources)), Professor P Winstanley (Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine).
- Apologies: Professor A Coats (Academic Vice-President (Monash-Warwick Alliance)), Professor Stuart Croft (Provost), Professor Christina Hughes (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning)).
- In Attendance: Dr M Glover (Academic Registrar), Ms J Horsburgh (Deputy Registrar (Secretary)), Dr E Hough (Assistant Registrar (Governance) (Assistant Secretary)), Ms G McGrattan (Director of Human Resources), Mr I Rowley (Director of Development, Communication and External Affairs), Ms Roberta Wooldridge Smith (Deputy Academic Registrar).

137/15-16 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the open and restricted minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2016 be approved.

138/15-16 Chair's Business: Internet of Things Research Hub

REPORTED: (by the Vice Chancellor and President)

That WMG had played a significant role in a new £23 million interdisciplinary research hub designed to drive forward UK research in the Internet of Things, noting that Warwick was one of nine UK universities in the PETRAS consortium, who would work together over the next three years to explore critical issues in privacy, ethics, trust, reliability, acceptability, and security.

139/15-16 Rankings Success

REPORTED: (by the Vice Chancellor and President)

- (a) That the University had been ranked 45th in the World's most international universities by the Times Higher Education.
- (b) That Warwick had been placed third in the institutions most-often targeted by Britain's top graduate employers in the annual rankings published by High Fliers Research, a rise of four places from last year.

140/15-16 In Memoriam: Judy Rawson

REPORTED: (by the Vice Chancellor and President)

- (a) The University had been informed of the sad news of the death of Judy Rawson, who served for most of her career at Warwick in the Department of Italian.

(by the Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Arts)

- (b) That Dr Rawson had been a founding member of the department, and that last year he had arranged for some of her research papers (on the anti-fascist writer Ignazio Silone) to be housed in the Modern Record Centre.

141/15-16 Key Performance Indicators: Academic Statistics Yearbook 2015/16 and Draft KPIs

RECEIVED:

A paper noting the key points on the Academic Statistics Yearbook for 2015/16 and the draft KPIs being presented to the Council, along with a copy of the University's Academic Statistics Yearbook for 2015/16 (SC.61/15-16).

REPORTED: (by the Deputy Registrar)

- (a) That both the Yearbook and the draft KPIs would be presented to the Council at its meeting on 10 February 2016.
- (b) That work was underway to further orient the goals to the University Strategy, noting that these would become more granular as the strategy work progressed.

(by the Group Finance Director)

- (c) That the figure for research income in 2010/11 needed checking as it looked incorrect.

(by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (People and Public Engagement))

- (d) That the Community Engagement goal had been omitted from the report, following the identification the previous year that the metrics used needed to be more reliable than the existing data available.

(by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate and Transnational Education))

- (e) That the consideration of those criteria used to judge community engagement be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the paper (SC.61/15-16) on the Academic Statistics Yearbook for 2015/16 and the draft KPIs be noted.

142/15-16 Senate Business

CONSIDERED:

The items of business for the meeting of the Senate to be held on 27 January 2016.

REPORTED: (by the Deputy Academic Registrar)

- (a) That the strategic item for discussion at the meeting of the Senate to be held on 27 January 2016 was the Competition and Markets Authority and Consumer Protection Law.
- (b) That Professor Aileen Clarke had been appointed as a representative of the Senate on the Council for the period 1 August 2015 – 31 July 2018.
- (c) That she wished to withdraw the report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee (S.30/15-16) as the wrong version had been provided, noting that an updated report would be circulated electronically as soon as possible.
- (d) That an amendment would be made to the report on Awards and Distinctions, with reference to item ss), noting that this award had been made to the Warwick Mathematics Institute.
- (e) That revisions to Ordinance 16 had been considered at the October meeting of the Senate and that further revisions had been proposed in response to guidance on Consumer Law, noting that this meeting of the Senate would provide the second reading of both sets of revisions.

(by the Deputy Registrar)

- (f) That further to the approval by the Steering Committee of the action plan and risk assessment for the Prevent agenda (paper S.25/15-16), the submission to the HEFCE of the self-assessment of preparedness could now be updated in terms of the status and anticipated time scales, and would include references to the student support review, noting that the Senate would receive the updated version.

RESOLVED:

That the items of business for the meeting of the Senate to be held on 27 January 2016 be approved, as set out in the papers circulated for consideration by Senate Steering.

143/15-16 *Revisions to Regulation 29 and the External Speakers Approval Process

CONSIDERED:

A paper outlining proposed revisions to University Regulation 29 and the external speakers approval process in response to the Prevent Duty Guidance for Higher Education Institutions in England and Wales (SC.62/15-16 {Restricted}).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That consideration be given to the creation of a procedural note to aid departments in compliance with the external speaker approval process.
- (b) That consideration be given to the delegation of authority to Heads of Department in compliance with the external speaker approval process.
- (c) That the proposed revisions to University Regulation 29 as set out in paper SC.62/15-16 be recommended to the Senate for approval.
- (d) That the revised external speakers request form be approved.

144/15-16 *Report from the Budget Steering Group – Financial Performance Q1, 2015/16

CONSIDERED:

A paper providing members of the Steering Committee to consider the Financial Performance report from Budget Steering Group to FGPC and to identify any issues that the Steering Committee wished to be brought to the attention of the FGPC (SC.63/15-16 {Restricted}).

RESOLVED:

That the first quarter financial performance, as set out in paper BSG.18/15-16, and the actions taken by the Budget Steering Group be noted.

145/15-16 *Report from the Campus and Commercial Services Group

RECEIVED:

A report from the Campus and Commercial Services Group Executive Committee summarising the discussions and actions undertaken by the CCSG Executive Committee during the first four months of 2015/16 (SC.64/15-16 {Restricted}).

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Campus and Commercial Services Group Executive Committee (SC.64/15-16 {Restricted}) be noted.

146/15-16 Thanks to Professor Sir Nigel Thrift

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (People and Public Engagement))

That this was the last Steering Committee for the Vice-Chancellor and President, and that she therefore invited the members and attendees to extend to him their sincere thanks and best wishes.

RESOLVED:

That the thanks and best wishes of the Steering Committee be extended to Professor Sir Nigel Thrift.