

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 19 May 2008

Present:

Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Professor L Bridges
Professor R Higgott
Mr J Kirby
Professor K Lamberts
Professor M Smith
Professor S Bassnett
Professor L M Whitby

Apologies:

Professor H Thomas, Professor Y Carter, Professor R Lindley, Professor A Caesar

In Attendance:

Registrar, Academic Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Director of Communications, Director of Finance, Vice-Chancellor's Executive Officer, Administrative Officer (Deputy Registrar's Office), Senior Assistant Registrar (Governance), Director of Estates, Director of Student Admissions and Recruitment (for items 530/07-08 and 531/07-08), Director of IT Services (for item 532/07-08), Secretary to the Graduate School (for item 533/07-08)

523/07-08

Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2008 be approved.

524/07-08

Departmental Response to Strategic Departmental Review: Film and Television Studies

CONSIDERED:

The Departmental Response to the Strategic Departmental Review: Film and Television Studies (SC.405/07-08).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the department be congratulated on an excellent review.
- (b) That guidance be provided to academic departments regarding:
 - i) appropriate levels of detail for feedback following examinations.
 - ii) the provision of a second supervisor for PGR students and what role that supervisor should perform.
- (c) That the other recommendations contained in the Strategic Departmental Review report be passed to relevant committees and Officers for consideration and response, noting that progress against the recommendations would be monitored through the established follow-up processes for departmental reviews, including a report to the Steering Committee in April 2009.

525/07-08

Students' Union – Investors in People

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the Students' Union had been awarded with Investors in People accreditation.

- 526/07-08 Chinese Earthquake
- REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)
- That the Chinese Students and Scholars Association had raised £10,000 in the first day of fundraising to help victims of the recent earthquake in China.
- 527/07-08 Sir Richard Young
- REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)
- That the funeral of Sir Richard Young would be held on Friday 23 May 2008, and that the University would be represented at the service.
- 528/07-08 Jason Venezia
- REPORTED: (by the Deputy Registrar)
- (a) That first year student Jason Venezia had died the previous week in the Claycroft residences and that the outcome of the coroner's verdict was awaited.
- (b) That the Deputy Registrar would be attending the funeral, to be held on 23 May 2008.
- (by the Vice-Chancellor)
- (c) That the University had reacted well in what was a very difficult situation.
- RESOLVED:
- That the Director of Student Support, the Security Manager and their teams be thanked for the support given to students and the deceased's family at this time.
- 529/07-08 Undergraduate Open Day
- REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)
- That the recent undergraduate Open Day, held on 10 May 2008, had been a great success.
- RESOLVED:
- That all those involved in the organisation and running of the event be congratulated and thanked for their hard work.
- 530/07-08 Policy Update – Admissions
- CONSIDERED:
- An update on Admissions issues, including postgraduate research applicants, postgraduate taught applicants, MBChB and PGCE applicants and undergraduate applicants (SC.404/07-08)
- RESOLVED:
- That there may be a case for courses in three departments to enter Clearing 2008 but that this would continue to be reviewed in the run up to August.

- 531/07-08 Delivery Partnership
- CONSIDERED:
- A draft response from the Academic Office to a Delivery Partnership consultation on a proposal to alter a number of aspects of the national undergraduate admissions system (SC.402/07-08).
- RESOLVED:
- That the draft response be approved for submission to the Delivery Partnership.
- 532/07-08 Policy Update – IT Services
- CONSIDERED:
- A paper from the Director of IT Services updating the Steering Committee on the proposed strategic roadmap for IT Services (SC.403/07-08).
- RESOLVED:
- That the strategic roadmap outlined in the paper be given the strong support of the Steering Committee.
- 533/07-08 Policy Update – Graduate Issues
- RECEIVED:
- An update on postgraduate issues, including PGR number planning meetings with Departments, the Warwick Collaborative Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme, issues arising from Warwick Postgraduate Research Scholarship allocation, AHRC Block Grant Partnership bid, the development of a PGR network and the PGR employer networking event (SC.401/07-08).
- REPORTED: (by the Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies)
- That the first PGR networking event with employees that had been recently held had been a great success with approximately 200 attendees.
- 534/07-08 TRAC Strategy Group
- RECEIVED:
- Correspondence from HEFCE reporting on the work of the TRAC Strategy Group and an invitation for members to serve on a new group supporting the TRAC Strategy Group, noting that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor had been approached to serve on the new group (SC.400/07-08).
- 535/07-08 Wellcome EPSRC Centres for Medical Engineering
- REPORTED: (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research (Science and Medicine))
- That the deadline for bids for the Wellcome EPSRC Centres for Medical Engineering would pass before the next meeting of the Steering Committee.
- RESOLVED:
- That a one page outline of the bid (including finances) be circulated to the Committee for comments with a view to the bid being approved by Chairs action.

536/07-08

DIUS Consultation on 'Unlocking Britain's Talent'

RECEIVED:

The DIUS publication "A new 'University Challenge': Unlocking Britain's Talent", and informing institutions of a forthcoming HEFCE consultation on proposals for new higher education centres (SC.399/07-08)

537/07-08

Government Draft Legislative Programme 2008-09

RECEIVED:

Correspondence from UUK outlining the Government's Draft Legislative Programme (SC.407/07-08).

KMS/gb/steersshare/minutes200708/May08/19may08