

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 21 July 2014

- Present: Vice-Chancellor and President (Chair),  
Professor A Caesar,  
Professor Christopher Hughes,  
Professor T Jones,  
Professor M Taylor,  
Professor P Thomas  
Professor P Winstanley.
- Apologies: Provost, Professor A Coats, Professor Christina Hughes, Professor J Palmowski, Mr B Sundell, Professor S Swain, Professor L Young.
- In Attendance: Registrar and Chief Operating Officer (Secretary), Deputy Registrar, Academic Registrar, Interim Director of Estates, Director of Development, Communications and External Affairs, Director of Human Resources, Director of Fundraising (for item 299/13-14), Director of Corporate Relations (for item 302/13-14), Programme Director, External Affairs (for item 302/13-14), Executive Officer (Vice-Chancellor's Office), Assistant Registrar (Governance).

Note: The Chair thanked Mr B Sundell for his participation and contribution to the Committee and wished him well for the future, noting that, apologies notwithstanding, this would have been his last meeting in his capacity of President of the Students' Union.

290/13-14 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the open and restricted minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2014 be approved.

291/13-14 Sir Nick Scheele

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (a) That the University had recently been informed with great sadness of the death of Sir Nick Scheele, who not only served the University as Chancellor but was also a generous supporter of the University's academic activities.
- (b) That the University's sincere condolences had been conveyed to Sir Nick's family and a tribute would be posted on insite later in the day.

292/13-14 Cabinet Reshuffle

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (a) That following the recent cabinet reshuffle, Greg Clark MP had been announced as the new Minister of State for Universities and Science, noting that Mr Clark's former Special Adviser is a Warwick graduate.
- (b) That in addition to taking over David Willetts' portfolio, Mr Clark would keep his existing responsibility as Minister of State for Cabinet Office with responsibility for cities and local growth policy.

- (c) That the future agenda for Universities and Science was not clear, in view of the potentially divergent HE policies of the Coalition Government in the run up to the next General Election.
- (d) That other cabinet appointments included:
  - (i) George Freeman MP in a new post as Minister for Life Sciences, split between BIS and the Department of Health, noting that Mr Freeman had been appointed as an adviser to David Cameron on life sciences in 2011, in which capacity he was involved in the development of the government's Strategy for UK Life Sciences.
  - (ii) Nicky Morgan MP as the Secretary of State for Education, and Minister for Women and Equalities.
  - (iii) Nick Boles MP as Minister in BIS with responsibility for further education, apprenticeships, adult skills, workplace training and lifelong learning.
  - (iv) Nick Gibb MP as Minister of State at the Department for Education.

293/13-14 Summer Degree Congregations 2014

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to all those members of the University involved with the successful running of the Summer Degree Congregations, which took place between 14 and 19 July 2014.

294/13-14 Outstanding Student Contribution Awards

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (a) That the winners and commendees of the Outstanding Student Contribution Awards (OSCA) had been announced, noting that the majority of the winners were commended and presented with their awards during the Summer degree ceremonies.
- (b) That OSCAs were awarded to students in recognition of their significant contribution, during their time at Warwick, to the University community, the internationalisation agenda or for demonstrating entrepreneurial flair benefitting the University or a local organization.

295/13-14 Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence for Postgraduate Research Students (WATE PGR) 2014

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

That the winners and commendees of the Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence for Postgraduate Research Students (WATE PGR) 2014 had also been celebrated as part of the Summer degree ceremonies, in recognition of the excellent teaching by postgraduate research students at Warwick.

296/13-14 Research Impact and Public Engagement Awards

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (a) That the winners of the 2014 Research Impact and Public Engagement awards were announced recently in recognition of the time, hard work and consideration put in by colleagues in engaging the public with the benefits of their research.
- (b) That the awards built on the Arts Impact Awards and the Research Impact Awards in the Social Sciences faculty by spanning across all four faculties, and including, for the first time, a Public Engagement category.

297/13-14 London Mathematical Society Award Successes

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

That Professor Caroline Series, Professor Miles Reid and Professor Martin Hairer from Warwick Mathematics Institute had received prestigious awards from the London Mathematical Society (LMS), noting that only four senior prizes were awarded by LMS in total in 2014.

RESOLVED:

That the congratulations of the Committee be extended to these colleagues.

298/13-14 WMG Research Programme

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (a) That a £65m, match-funded research programme had recently been announced by the government for WMG at the University, in partnership with Jaguar Land Rover.
- (b) That the Advanced Propulsion Research Laboratory (APRL) would link people, research and world-leading infrastructure to create next-generation technologies in propulsion systems that were central to the future competitiveness of the automotive industry.

299/13-14 Development Annual Report

CONSIDERED:

The Development Annual Report (SC.167/13-14).

REPORTED: (by the Director of Fundraising)

- (a) That the 50Forward Campaign was progressing well.
- (b) That following increased engagement with Senior Management and Academic Departments, further partnerships across the university community would be required to achieve further ambitious philanthropic strategic targets.
- (c) That review of the Annual Giving Team's processes had been carried out as part of the Simplify, Collaborate and Deliver programme, an outcome of which being the greater use of analytics to better focus activity.

- (d) That work had been undertaken to raise the profile and visibility within the local community of University-run campaigns.
- (e) That progress on international development work was being made, notably in Hong Kong, Singapore and South Africa.
- (f) That the establishment of the proposed Customer Relations Management (CRM) system would facilitate fundraising-related information sharing across the institution.
- (g) That the 2012-13 Ross Case Survey had classed the University as having 'Established fundraising programmes', which marked an improvement in ranking on the previous year.
- (h) That the percentage of alumni making donations had decreased at Warwick since the last report to the Committee in July 2013, reflecting a trend across the majority of the sector, noting that work was being undertaken to investigate this.
- (i) That the recruitment and retention of high quality staff within the Development team would be of paramount importance over the coming period.
- (j) That conditions for scholarships now routinely included the requirement for award holders to act as ambassadors and attend scholarship publicity meetings, in order to support development activity.
- (k) That the strategic priorities for the Development Office may need prioritisation in the coming year, should a number of major fundraising opportunities arise.

(by Professor M Taylor)

- (l) That the Development Team would be welcome to make use of the Warwick Business School London base at the Shard in line with the wider strategy for the utilisation of the building.

(by Professor T Jones)

- (m) That he welcomed the focus on the incorporation of postgraduate scholarships within fundraising opportunities.

(by Professor A Caesar)

- (n) That the University's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary would provide an excellent opportunity to attract small donors and increase the engagement of academic departments in fundraising activities.

(by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (o) That increased publicity across the University on available scholarships would be beneficial.

(by Professor P Thomas)

- (p) That ring-fenced scholarships could usefully support the University's Equality and Diversity aims.

(by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (q) That the move to thematic Project Progressing Groups would facilitate the participation of the Development Team in the capital planning process.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Development Office be commended on the success of the 50Forward campaign.
- (b) That the Development Annual Report be noted.

300/13-14 \*HESA Funding and Monitoring Data (FAMD) 2012-13: Funding data reconciliation exercise

CONSIDERED:

A paper on the outcome of the HESA funding and monitoring data exercise and the reconciliation exercise carried out by the University (SC.170/13-14 {restricted}).

RESOLVED:

That the paper on the reconciliation exercise of the HESA funding and monitoring data be noted.

301/13-14 Proposed Amendments to Regulations 6 and 15 and to the Student Academic Complaints Procedure

CONSIDERED:

A paper proposing amendments to Regulations 6 and 15 and to the Student Academic Complaints Procedure, to allow the Academic Director within the Graduate School to deputise for the Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies in a number of discrete areas (SC.180/13-14).

REPORTED:

That the Steering Committee was being requested to consider the proposed amendments on behalf of the Senate, noting that the revisions to the Student Complaints Procedure would apply until 29 September 2014 when the new integrated Student Complaints Pathway would be introduced.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed revisions to Regulations 6 and 15 and to the Student Academic Complaints Procedure be approved as set out in paper SC.180/13-14.

302/13-14 \*Corporate Engagement Update

CONSIDERED:

An update on Business Relations Activities at the University (SC.149/13-14 {restricted}).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Warwick Business School report on Student Enterprise be considered by the Business Relations Advisory Group.
- (b) That the Corporate Engagement Update be noted.

303/13-14 HEFCE STEM Teaching Capital Funding 2015-16

RECEIVED:

A letter from HEFCE inviting eligible HEIs and FECs to submit a competitive bid or application for the release of a formulaic allocation for teaching capital funding for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subject areas, on a matched funding basis (SC.173/13-14).

REPORTED: (by Professor P Thomas)

That background work in relation to potentially suitable projects for submission as part of a bid had identified a number of projects, noting that these, together with other options, would be further considered.

304/13-14 Response to Charity Commission Consultation

CONSIDERED:

The University's response to the Charity Commission Consultation (SC.181/13-14)

RESOLVED:

That University's response to the Charity Commission Consultation be approved for submission as set out in SC.181/13-14.