

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 28 July 2008

Present: Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Professor S Bassnett
Professor R Lindley
Professor H Thomas
Mr J Kirby

Apologies: Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor L Bridges, Professor A Caesar, Professor Y Carter, Professor K Lamberts, Professor M Smith, Director of Estates

In Attendance: Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Academic Registrar, Director of Finance, Vice-Chancellor's Executive Officer, Director of Communications and Strategy, Head of Governance Support Services, Mr S Thomson

667/07-08

Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2008 be approved subject to the following amendment:

CONSIDERED:

As now.

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Campus Affairs and Community))

That the internal review of the Centre for Caribbean Studies proposed within the recommendations should be scheduled imminently as a proportion of the administrative work was being undertaken within the Centre for Translation and Comparative Cultural Studies alongside the significant administrative support provided by History.

RESOLVED:

As now.

668/07-08

Letter from HEFCE Board regarding Outcome of the University ELQ Appeal (minute 644/07-08 refers)

RECEIVED:

The response from HEFCE to the University's ELQ Appeal (SC.509/07-08).

RESOLVED:

That, given the very minor adjustment to the University's T Grant that would come as a result of HEFCE's consideration of the University's ELQ Appeal, a further letter be sent from the Vice-Chancellor to the Chief Executive of the HEFCE expressing the University's disappointment and surprise regarding the outcome of the appeal.

669/07-08

Proposed Panel Composition for the Review of the Language Centre (minute 651/07-08 refers)

RESOLVED:

That the proposed composition of the panel for the forthcoming review of the Language Centre be approved as set out in paper SC.515/07-08.

- 670/07-08 Panel for Research Review of Warwick HRI (minute 650/07-08 refers)
- REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)
- That he had approved the proposed nominations for the review and the review meeting could now be scheduled as early as possible in the Autumn Term.
- RESOLVED:
- That the details of the panel members be circulated to members of the Committee for information.
- 671/07-08 Strategic Departmental Review: Biological Sciences (minute 645/07-08 refers)
- REPORTED: (by the Deputy Registrar)
- That the Departmental response to the Review Report would be considered at the meeting of the Steering Committee to be held on 8 September 2008.
- 672/07-08 Departmental Response to Strategic Departmental Review: History (minute 649/07-08 refers)
- CONSIDERED:
- The Departmental response to the Strategic Departmental Review of History (SC.506/07-08) with an oral report from the Head of Department.
- REPORTED: (by the Professor Finn)
- That it would be helpful to include additional departmental named roles within the draft action plan arising from recommendations of the Review.
- RESOLVED:
- That it was an excellent review report but that further attention might be given to succession planning.
- RESOLVED:
- That additional named roles be included in the action plan arising for the reasons discussed at the meeting.
- 673/07-08 Concordat on Contract Research Career Management (minute 653/07-08 refers)
- REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)
- That he would welcome a substantial discussion on this important topic at a future meeting of the Committee.
- 674/07-08 EUA Diversity Survey (minute 654/07-08 refers)
- REPORTED: (by the Registrar)
- That the University would be submitting a response to the survey by the closing date of 8 August 2008 and that the response would be circulated to members of the Committee for information at a later date.

675/07-08

Opening of Warwick DigiLab

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the opening of the Warwick DigiLab on Friday 25 July 2008 had gone very well.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee's thanks be conveyed to all those involved in making arrangements for the opening of Warwick DigiLab.

676/07-08

Teach First

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That at his recent meeting with the Parliamentary Undersecretary for Schools, Lord Adonis, the Minister encouraged consideration of the possibility of the Russell Group using Teach First as part of the widening participation strategies of member institutions and collectively as a group.

677/07-08

IGGY Summer U

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the inaugural IGGY Summer U had been launched with students coming from countries including Hong Kong, Malaysia, Brunei, Lithuania, Bulgaria, South Africa, Israel and England.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee's thanks be conveyed to all of those staff who had been involved in launching IGGY Summer U a year earlier than scheduled.

678/07-08

President of the Students' Union

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the President-elect be welcomed to his first meeting of the Committee.
- (b) That the outgoing President of the Students' Union be thanked for the significant contribution he had made to the business of the Committee over the past year.

679/07-08

Strategic Departmental Review: Theatre Studies

RECEIVED:

The report of the Strategic Departmental Review of Theatre Studies (SC.508/07-08).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar)

That the Departmental response to the Review report would be considered at the meeting of the Committee to be held on 8 September 2008.

680/07-08

AHRC Block Grant Partnership Bid for Postgraduate Studentships

RESOLVED:

That the arrangements for the preparation and submission of the bid to the AHRC Block Grant Partnership for Postgraduates Studentships be approved as set out in paper SC.510/07-08.

- 681/07-08 UKIPO Consultation – The Patent Research Exception
- CONSIDERED:
- UUK I-note I/08/063 regarding the UKIPO consultation on the Patent Research Exception.
- RESOLVED:
- That the Registrar co-ordinate arrangements for the preparation of a draft response to the consultation for consideration by the Committee prior to the closing date of 27 October 2008.
- 682/07-08 University's Response to the FCO ATAS Review
- RECEIVED:
- The University's response to the FCO ATAS Review (SC.513/07-08).
- 683/07-08 Interim Arrangement for the Acting Chief Executive, Coventry City Council
- RECEIVED:
- Details regarding the interim arrangements that had been put in place to cover the responsibilities of the Chief Executive of Coventry City Council following the departure of Ms Stella Manzi (SC.507/07-08).
- 684/07-08 Government Response to Review of Visitor Immigration Routes
- RECEIVED:
- The Government response to the review of visitor immigration routes (SC.512/07-08).
- 685/07-08 Date of Next Meeting
- RESOLVED:
- That the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 26 August 2008 to allow for consideration of the University's Institutional Audit submission prior to it being dispatched to the QAA by 1 September 2008.