

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 29 June 2015

- Present: Professor Sir Nigel Thrift (Vice-Chancellor and President (Chair)), Professor R Ball (Chair of the Faculty of Science), Professor S Croft (Provost), Professor Christina Hughes (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning)), Professor Christopher Hughes (Chair of the Faculty of Social Sciences), Professor J Palmowski (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate and Transnational Education)), Professor T Jones (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Science, Engineering and Medicine)), Professor S Swain (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Arts and Social Sciences)), Professor P Thomas (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (People and Public Engagement)), Ms C Turhan (President of the Students' Union) Professor P Winstanley (Chair of the Faculty of Medicine), Professor L Young (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Planning and Resources)).
- Apologies: Professor A Coats (Academic Vice-President (Monash-Warwick Alliance)), Professor M Freely (Chair of the Faculty of Arts), Professor M Taylor (Dean of the Warwick Business School).
- In Attendance: Ms R Drinkwater (Group Finance Director), Dr M Glover (Academic Registrar), Ms J Horsburgh (Deputy Registrar), Dr E Hough (Assistant Registrar, Governance (Assistant Secretary)), Ms G McGrattan (Director of Human Resources), Mr K Sloan (Registrar and Chief Operating Officer (Secretary)).

337/14-15 Apologies and Conflicts of Interest

338/14-15 Minutes

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the open minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 15 June 2015 be approved.
- (b) That the restricted minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 15 June 2015 be approved, subject to a correction noted in the meeting.

339/14-15 BIS Funding Cuts

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (a) That the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills was to have £450m of funding cut from its budget for 2015/16, noting that the University was yet to receive notification from HEFCE identifying how these cuts would impact on the University's individual allocation.
- (b) That while the University had exercised prudence in its planning assumptions, in anticipation of the likelihood of some cuts, more substantial cuts were expected in future years.

340/14-15 THE Leadership and Management Awards

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

That Warwick's Student Admissions and Recruitment Office (SARO) had been awarded Outstanding Student Admissions Team at the Times Higher Leadership and Management Awards on 18 June 2015.

RESOLVED:

That congratulations be extended to all those members of staff in SARO and the wider University who had contributed to this success.

341/14-15 Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (a) That this year's Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence had been won by Naomi de la Tour (IATL), Clare Rowan (Classics and Ancient History), Dallal Stevens (Law) and Margaret Shewring (Theatre and Performance Studies).
- (b) That the awards recognised those who had made an exceptional impact on student learning, noting that winners would receive their awards at the degree congregations in July.

RESOLVED:

That congratulations be extended to the WATE winners and also those who had been highly commended.

342/14-15 Lifetime Achievement Business Award for Professor Lord Bhattacharyya

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

That Professor Lord Kumar Bhattacharyya had been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award in the Coventry Telegraph Business Awards with, noting that this recognised his contribution to enhancing the region's long-standing reputation for research and innovation in the automotive sector.

RESOLVED:

That congratulations be extended to Professor Lord Bhattacharyya on this achievement.

343/14-15 City of Culture Bid

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

- (a) That the University was backing the city of Coventry in its bid to become UK City of Culture in 2021.
- (b) That the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer was a member of the Steering Group established in support of the bid, Alan Rivett and colleagues from the Arts Centre were continuing to support sub-group activities, and Mary McGrath (External Affairs) had joined the fundraising group.

344/14-15 Extra Day of Annual Leave

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor and President)

That all members of staff had been awarded an extra day of annual leave on 23 December 2015, as a token of thanks to mark the end of the University's 50th anniversary year.

345/14-15 *Financial Performance – Quarter 3, 2014/15

CONSIDERED:

A report on the University's financial performance in the third quarter of this financial year (SC.162/14-15, {restricted}).

RESOLVED:

That the report on the University's financial performance in the third quarter of this financial year (SC.162/14-15, {restricted}) be noted.

346/14-15 *Financial Plan 2015/16

CONSIDERED:

A report presenting the draft Financial Plan 2015 and the associated HEFCE return (SC.163/14-15, {restricted}).

RESOLVED:

That the report presenting the draft Financial Plan 2015 and the associated HEFCE return (SC.163/14-15, {restricted}) be noted.

347/14-15 Good practice in knowledge exchange: Request for evidence by 6 July

RECEIVED:

A request for evidence from the HEFCE, to contribute to a guide to good practice in knowledge exchange; the guide will be aimed at higher education institutions to help them to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their knowledge exchange activities and performance. This information will also contribute to the wider Knowledge Exchange Performance Framework being developed by HEFCE, which was requested by Government in its Science and Innovation Strategy, 'Our plan for growth: Science and Innovation', published in December 2014. The deadline for contributing evidence is Monday 6 July 2015.

348/14-15 UCAS Response to the CMA guidance on Consumer Protection Legislation

RECEIVED:

A briefing on UCAS's response to the CMA guidance on Consumer Protection Legislation (SC.164/14-15); this details a number of updates and improvements to be made to its undergraduate service with effect from the 2016 cycle.

REPORTED: (by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

That the UCAS response should be considered by the working group reviewing the CMA guidance, given that a number of changes to the UCAS processes were outlined.