

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 6 November 2006

Present: Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Professor S Bassnett
Professor L Bridges
Professor A Caesar
Mr B Duggan
Professor J Jones
Professor R Lindley
Professor M Luntley
Professor S B Palmer
Professor H Thomas

Apologies: Professor Y Carter, Professor M Smith, Professor M Whitby

In Attendance: Academic Registrar, Director of Communication, Director of Estates, Director of Finance, Deputy Registrar, Registrar, University Secretary, Ms N Snodgrass.

69/06-07 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2006 be approved.

70/06-07 Assessment and Feedback (minute 53/06-07 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That proposals for the review and improvement of assessment and feedback procedures throughout the University would be brought forward for consideration at the next meeting of the Steering Committee to be held on 13 November when the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) would be in attendance.

71/06-07 Royal College of Nursing Research Institute and Distance Learning Unit (minute 29/06-07 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the University had been successful in its bid for the acquisition of the Royal College of Nursing Research Institute and Distance Learning Unit, noting that the University's bid was subject to the satisfactory resolution of the due diligence process to be conducted with the RCN.

RESOLVED:

That the Steering Committee record its congratulations to the School of Health and Social Studies and all members of staff involved in the preparation of the successful bid proposal.

72/06-07 Postgraduate and Undergraduate Enrolments: October 2006 (minute 55/06-07 refers)

RESOLVED:

That the Director of Academic and Student Affairs, the Director of Finance and the Academic Registrar bring forward an interim report on progress made in addressing the following for consideration by the Steering Committee by the end of the calendar year:

- (a) The provision of advice to departments on transparent accounting to ensure that all departments are aware of the full cost implications of shortfalls against targets for individual categories of students and in particular overseas undergraduates;

- (b) The issues raised at the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 30 October relating to the number of stages and units involved in the setting and monitoring of student number targets with academic departments and the need to engage devolved units more fully in the review and approval process.

73/06-07 EPSRC Knowledge Transfer Challenge 2006 (minute 28/06-07 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the University's submission in the 2006 EPSRC Knowledge Transfer Challenge had been unsuccessful.

RESOLVED:

That Research Support Services contact the EPSRC to seek feedback on the selection process for the 2006 EPSRC Knowledge Transfer Challenge and the assessment panel's consideration of the University's submission in this competition.

74/06-07 Higher Education Policy Institute Survey (minute 68/06-07 refers)

RECEIVED:

The report from the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) on the results of the recent HEPI survey on the academic experience of students in English HEIs (SC.41/06-07).

REPORTED: (by the Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies)

That the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey developed by the Higher Education Academy and the University's potential participation in this survey would be a topic for discussion at the next meeting of the Board of Graduate Studies to be held on 16 November.

75/06-07 International Issues

RECEIVED:

A briefing paper on issues relating to the potential impact of the Bologna process in the context of the University's international strategy (SC.42/06-07) together with an oral report from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International Affairs and Equal Opportunities).

Note: A revised version of paper SC.42/06-07 was tabled at the meeting.

76/06-07 Graduate Issues

CONSIDERED:

A paper providing an update on graduate issues within the University, including the progress of identification of potential spaces for the provision of postgraduate study space and developments and issues in regard to postgraduate admissions and postgraduate funding (SC.43/06-07) together with an oral report from the Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the issues outlined in paper SC.43/06-07 relating to postgraduate funding be referred back to the four Faculties prior to consideration by the relevant University Committees.
- (b) That the remaining issues identified in paper SC.43/06-07 be brought back for consideration by the Steering Committee at a future meeting following wider dissemination to and discussion by appropriate University bodies.

77/06-07 RCUK Efficiency and Effectiveness of Peer Review Project (minute 60/06-07 refers)

RECEIVED:

A paper prepared by the Director of Research Support Services outlining the procedures to be undertaken and key issues to be considered in the development of the draft University response to the Research Councils UK consultation on the RCUK Efficiency and Effectiveness Peer Review Project (SC.38/06-07).

78/06-07 Wolfson Foundation CURL Library Programme 2007

RECEIVED:

A letter from the Wolfson Foundation providing details of the second call for proposals for funding to support capital developments for University libraries in membership of the Consortium of University Research Libraries (CURL) (SC.46/06-07).

REPORTED: (by the Registrar)

That the University would be preparing an outline proposal for funding under the second round of the Wolfson Foundation CURL Library Programme for consideration by the Steering Committee prior to submission to the Foundation by the deadline of 5 January 2007.

79/06-07 Membership of Senate Committees

RESOLVED: (on behalf of the Senate)

- (a) That Ms S Ridgeway, an external member of the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Medicine, be appointed to serve as the lay member on the Fitness to Practise Committee Panel for the MB ChB.
- (b) That the following members of staff be appointed to the membership of the Graduate Appeals Committee Panel:
 - Dr A Cooley (as a representative from the Board of the Faculty of Arts for the Spring Term 2006/07, alternating with Dr Z Newby who will serve for the Autumn and Summer Terms)
 - Dr A Stokes and Dr D Simkiss (as representatives from the Board of the Faculty of Medicine in place of Dr H Hearnshaw and Dr T Pawlikowska respectively).
- (c) That the following members of staff be appointed to the membership of the Board of Graduate Studies:
 - Dr S Allan (as a representative from the Board of the Faculty of Arts for the Summer Term 2006/07, alternating with Dr M Kooy who will serve for the Autumn and Spring Terms)
 - Dr P O'Hare (as a representative from the Board of the Faculty of Medicine for the Summer Term 2006/07, alternating with Professor M Thorogood who will serve for the Autumn and Spring Terms).
- (d) That Dr J Arroyo be appointed to the membership of the Board of Undergraduate Studies to fill the existing vacancy in the representatives from the Board of the Faculty of Arts.
- (e) That Dr H Schmitz be appointed to the membership of the Undergraduate Appeals Committee Panel for the Board of the Faculty of Arts.
- (f) That Dr J Kidd, Dr N Johnson, Dr C Rodgers and Dr H Randeve be appointed to the membership of the Panel for the Investigating Committee into Cases of Suspected Cheating as representatives of the Faculty of Medicine in place of Mr P Ferry and Dr C Marguerie.

80/06-07 Improving the University's Performance in the Shanghai Jiao Tong University Academic Ranking of World Universities (minute 34/06-07 refers)

RECEIVED:

A paper providing an analysis of the results of the 2006 Shanghai Jiao Tong University Academic Ranking of World Universities, including strategies for improving the University's performance in this international league table (SC.47/06-07).

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