

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 10 May 2004

Present: Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair)
Professor Carter
Professor Dyson
Professor Easton
Professor Jones
Mr R Jones
Professor Luntley
Professor McCrae
Professor McFarlane
Professor Palmer
Professor Thomas

Apologies: Professor Whitby, Acting Registrar.

In Attendance: University Secretary, Finance Director, Academic Registrar, Director of Personnel Services, Director of Communication, Ms A Goodall, Miss E Clewlow, for item 381/03-04 Assistant Registrar (Planning), for item 382/03-04 Research Development Manager (Chemistry, Maths, Statistics).

375/03-04 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2004 be approved.

376/03-04 Accommodation/Capital Issues (minute 362/03-04 refers)

REPORTED: (by the University Secretary)

That the meeting between University representatives and local authority planners which had taken place on 29 April to discuss the proposals for the University's Development Plan had been broadly positive.

377/03-04 Higher Education Sector

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

- (a) That he and a small number of other Vice-Chancellors had attended a reception held by the Minister for Science and Innovation for the Chinese Premier, Wen Jiabao.
- (b) That he was working with the Development and Alumni Relations Office to maximise the impact of the opportunities through which the University might raise its regional, national and international profile.
- (c) That Mr Kouji Ohboshi, corporate advisor to Japan's largest mobile telecommunications network, would be paying a special visit to the University on 11 May to give a talk hosted by the Warwick Business School in the Ramphal Lecture Theatre to which all members of the University were invited.

378/03-04 Links with Singapore

CONSIDERED:

A briefing paper on the potential development of the University's links with Singapore (SC.200/03-04) together with an oral report from the Academic Registrar noting that a group of members of the University would be visiting Singapore on 19-23 May following which reports from the members of the group would be brought forward for initial consideration by the Steering and Strategy Committees.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the briefing paper on the potential development of the University's links with Singapore be approved for further dissemination within the University as set out in paper SC.200/03-04 subject to revision along the lines discussed at the meeting and the incorporation of any further comments submitted by members of the Committee to the Academic Registrar and the Executive Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor.
- (b) That a representative of the Department of Computer Science be sought to join the group of members of the University due to visit Singapore on 19-23 May.
- (c) That the feasibility be explored of organising an open meeting to provide members of the University with opportunities for discussion of the potential development of the University's links with Singapore informed by the views of the group who would visit Singapore in May.

379/03-04 London Office

REPORTED: (by the Director of Communication)

That, in the light of discussions with the Vice-Chancellor, on 12 May, he and the Estates Officer were visiting a potential future location for the University's office in London as an alternative to the current venue in Tufton Street.

380/03-04 HEFCE Rewarding and Developing Staff

CONSIDERED:

A draft University request to the HEFCE for the release of funding under Phase 2 of the Rewarding and Developing Staff initiative incorporating the University's Human Resources Strategy (SC.197/03-04) together with an oral report from the Director of Personnel Services.

RESOLVED:

That the request for the release of funding under Phase 2 of the Rewarding and Developing Staff initiative be approved for submission to the HEFCE as set out in paper SC.197/03-04 subject to the incorporation of any further comments submitted to the Director of Personnel Services by members of the Committee outside the meeting in advance of the deadline for submission of 17 May.

381/03-04 RAE 2008: Panel Configuration and Recruitment

CONSIDERED:

A draft University response to the HEFCE consultation on Panel Recruitment and Configuration for the Research Assessment Exercise 2008 (SC.198/03-04)

RESOLVED:

That University response to the consultation on Panel Recruitment and Configuration for the Research Assessment Exercise 2008 be approved for submission to the HEFCE as set out in paper SC.198/03-04 subject to minor revision along the lines discussed at the meeting.

382/03-04 Research Councils UK Academic Fellowships

CONSIDERED:

A draft University application to the Research Councils UK (RCUK) Academic Fellowships Scheme (SC.199/03-04) to fund thirty fellowships grouped around the following research themes:

Medicine and Health
 Life Sciences
 Globalisation
 Humanities
 Science at Small Scales
 Knowledge and Behaviour.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the University application for funding under the Academic Fellowships Scheme be approved for submission to RCUK as set out in paper SC.199/03-04 subject to the addition of a covering letter indicating that the themes prioritised by the University included areas in which the University was seeking to encourage strategic development as well as areas of existing research strength.
- (b) That, while the Estimates and Grants Committee would consider departmental bids to share the costs of supporting any RCUK Academic Fellowships which might be awarded, it was expected that in addition to producing strategies for the absorption of posts funded under the Scheme:
 - (i) Non-devolved departments would contribute to the support of such posts from their own resources.
 - (ii) Departments with devolved budgets would absorb the entire cost of such posts within their devolved budgets.

383/03-04 Warwick Medical School: Appointment of Associate Deans

CONSIDERED:

A memorandum from the Vice-Dean of the Warwick Medical School proposing the appointment of Associate Deans for Research and Education in the Warwick Medical School (SC.196/03-04).

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) That the revisions to the organisational structure of the Warwick Medical School to provide for the establishment of the posts of Associate Dean for Research and Associate Dean for Education, without additional honoraria, be approved; it being noted that appointments to these positions would be the responsibility of Dean of the Leicester Warwick Medical School.
- (b) That the Council delegate responsibility for approval of the organisational structure of academic departments to the Senate in those cases where proposals had no fiscal implications for departments.

384/03-04 Institute of Health

CONSIDERED:

A proposal from the Director of the Institute of Health to re-name the Institute of Health in honour of Professor Emerita Meg Stacey (SC.201/03-04).

RESOLVED:

That Professor Dyson, the Vice-Dean of the Warwick Medical School, the Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Social Studies and the University Secretary liaise with the Director of the Institute of Health to identify the most appropriate way in which the University and the Institute of Health might remember and honour Professor Stacey.

385/03-04 Naming of Academic Buildings on the Gibbet Hill Site

CONSIDERED:

A proposal from the Chair of the Accommodation Review Group and the Vice-Dean of the Warwick Medical School for the naming of the Gibbet Hill academic building formerly occupied by the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics and now largely allocated to the Warwick Medical School.

RECOMMENDED:

That the building currently known as the Medical School Building be re-named the Medical Teaching Centre and that the Gibbet Hill academic building formerly occupied by the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics be named the Warwick Medical School Building.

386/03-04 Centres for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

REPORTED: (by the Academic Registrar)

That, following the receipt of further guidance from the HEFCE on the number of bids for Centres for Excellence in Teaching and Learning permitted per institution, the University would need to withdraw one of the four bids it had previously submitted.

RESOLVED:

That Professor Whitby and the Academic Registrar act on behalf of the Committee in identifying which of the four University bids for Centres for Excellence in Teaching and Learning should be withdrawn.