

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 12 July 2004

Present: Vice-Chancellor
Professor Carter
Professor Dyson
Professor Easton
Professor J Jones
Mr R Jones
Professor McCrae
Professor McFarlane
Professor Palmer
Professor Thomas
Professor Whitby

Apologies: Professor Luntley.

In Attendance: Registrar, Finance Director, Academic Registrar, Director of Academic and Student Affairs, Director of Personnel Services, Director of Communication, University Secretary, Miss E Clewlow, for item 501/03-04 Director of the Centre for Academic Practice, for item 502/03-04 Research Development Manager (Chemistry, Mathematics, Statistics).

497/03-04 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2004 be approved subject to the revision of minute 486/03-04 on WMS Benefaction to read as follows:

That a US pharmaceutical company had undertaken to endow a Chair in Cardio-Vascular Epidemiology in the Warwick Medical School and to fund an associated research team to undertake a research contract awarded by the company.

498/03-04 Research Councils UK Academic Fellowships

REPORTED: (by Professor Jones)

That the University had been awarded funding under the Research Councils UK Academic Fellowships Scheme for a total of fourteen fellowships grouped around the following research themes:

3 fellowships in Medicine and Health
2 fellowships in Life Sciences
3 fellowships in Globalisation
2 fellowships in Humanities
3 fellowships in Science and Engineering
1 fellowships in Business and Economics.

499/03-04 Lifelong Learning Networks

RESOLVED:

That, in the light of discussions between the Vice-Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor of Coventry University, a joint bid for establishment of a Lifelong Learning Network might be developed in which Coventry would take a lead.

500/03-04 Roadworks on Gibbet Hill Road (minute 495/03-04 refers)

RECEIVED:

An update from the Communications Office on the resurfacing works on Gibbet Hill Road commencing on 19 July (SC.269/03-04) together with an oral report from the Director of Communication noting that the University would be meeting with representatives from local bus companies to discuss the details of diversions and alteration to timetables for bus services to the University.

501/03-04 Teaching Quality Enhancement Fund

CONSIDERED:

A draft University application to the HEFCE for the release of funding from the Teaching Quality Enhancement Fund (SC.246/03-04 {revised}) together with an oral report from Professor Whitby.

RESOLVED:

That, subject to amendments along the lines discussed at the meeting, the University application for the release of funding from the Teaching Quality Enhancement Fund be approved for submission to the HEFCE as set out in paper SC.246/03-04 (revised).

501/03-04 Framework of Professional Teaching Standards

CONSIDERED:

A draft University response to the joint consultation from the Higher Education Academy, SCOP, Universities UK and the UK funding bodies 'Towards a framework of professional teaching standards' (SC.268/03-04) together with an oral report from the Director of the Centre for Academic Practice.

RESOLVED:

That the Director of Academic and Student Affairs work with the Director of the Centre for Academic Practice to revise the University's response to the joint consultation 'Towards a framework of professional teaching standards' in the light of discussion at the meeting prior to submission to Universities UK and SCOP by 19 July.

502/03-04 Impact Assessment of External Quality Assurance

CONSIDERED:

An invitation from the HEFCE to participate in the Impact of External Quality Assurance Activity in Higher Education (SC.270/03-04).

RESOLVED:

That the University participate in the assessment of the impact of the External Quality Assurance Activity in Higher Education.

503/03-04 EU Framework Programme

CONSIDERED:

Draft University responses to the Department of Trade and Industry and Universities UK consultations on the future shape of the European Union's 7th Framework Programme (SC.271/03-04).

RESOLVED:

That the University responses to the consultations on the future shape of the European Union's 7th Framework Programme be approved for submission to the Department of Trade and Industry and Universities UK as set out in paper SC.271/03-04.

504/03-04 Asia Exploratory Group

RECEIVED:

An invitation to members of the Committee to attend part of the meeting of the Asia Exploratory Group to be held on 20 July at which the Director of the Education UK Marketing Division would be in attendance (SC.273/03-04, tabled at the meeting).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the draft report to Senate from the Asia Exploratory Group be brought forward for consideration by the Steering Committee on 13 September allowing flexibility for a revised version to be brought forward for consideration by the Committee on 20 September prior to the meeting of the Senate to be held on 22 September.
- (b) That an Open Meeting of University staff be held on the afternoon of 20 September to inform consideration by the Senate of the recommendation being put forward by the Asia Exploratory Group.
- (c) That the Asia Exploratory Group ensure that relevant papers for consideration at the Open Meeting on 20 September and by the Senate on 22 September be circulated in a timely fashion.