

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 13 June 2005

Present: Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Professor L Bridges
Professor A Caesar
Professor R G Dyson
Professor J Jones
Mr S Lucas
Professor M Luntley
Professor S B Palmer
Professor M Whitby

Apologies: Professor A Easton, Professor H Thomas, Acting Director of Finance, Director of Academic and Student Affairs.

In Attendance: Academic Registrar, Director of Estates, Director of Personnel, Registrar, University Secretary, Mrs H E Blunt, Ms N Snodgrass, for item 480/04-05 the Assistant Registrar (Space Management and Timetabling), for item 481/04-05 the Director of the Careers Service, for item 486/04-05 the Assistant Director of Personnel (Policy and Projects).

477/04-05 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2005 be approved.

478/04-05 THES Awards 2005 (minute 458/04-05 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Registrar)

That a number of proposals for nominations for the 2005 Times Higher Awards had been received and were currently being reviewed and collated for submission.

479/04-05 The Sunday Times League Table 2005

REPORTED: (by the Registrar)

That the *Sunday Times* had approached several members of staff to invite them to participate in a peer assessment survey for the newspaper's league table due to be published in Summer 2005.

480/04-05 Accommodation and Capital Development Issues

CONSIDERED:

A paper on strategic issues relating to the campus development plan, capital developments and accommodation (SC.310/04-05) together with oral reports from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Accommodation and Research) and the Director of Estates.

REPORTED: (by the Director of Estates)

(a) That he would be attending a meeting on 13 June convened by Coventry City Council to discuss redevelopment plans for the Canley area.

(b) That the refurbishment of Millburn House was expected to begin in the Autumn Term 2005/06, with a view to completion anticipated by Easter 2006.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the University's policy in regard to student accommodation should aim to increase the stock of residential on-campus accommodation over the short to medium term, on the understanding that consideration would continue to be given to the range of letting periods across the totality of the housing stock and that the University Residential Account must not operate at a deficit year on year.
- (b) That the Committee support in principle the location of the following Centres, Schools and Departments within Millburn House, noting that the Accommodation Review Group was giving careful consideration to which existing NMR machines would be relocated to the new NMR Centre:

CETL Capital Centre
NMR Centre
Department of the History of Art
School of Theatre, Performance and Cultural Policy Studies
National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth

- (c) That steps be taken to secure external support for the University Development Plan through a variety of mechanisms including the Faculty Advisory Boards and the University's existing contacts on the UK Research Councils.

481/04-05 Careers Service Update

CONSIDERED:

A report providing an update on strategic developments within the University Careers Service, including the development of the bespoke customer relationship management system *Casigma*, the HEIF 3-funded Work Experience Project and issues relating to the 2005 University League Tables published by *The Times* and the *Guardian* newspapers (SC.302/04-05) together with a report from the Director of the Careers Service.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Director of the Careers Service undertake further analysis of the data drawn from the 2002/03 Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey with a view to addressing subject differentials in destination scores and to establishing success factors in the profiles of those universities which apparently performed more highly than Warwick in the Graduate Destinations indicator.
- (b) That consideration be given to approaching league table compilers with a view to addressing anomalies in DLHE data.
- (c) That the Director of the Careers Service and the Director of Academic and Student Affairs be invited to attend the Faculty of Arts Lunch to be held in the 2005/06 Autumn Term to discuss issues relating to the performance of Arts disciplines in the league table data relating to graduate destinations.

482/04-05 HEFCE Review of Funding Methodology for Teaching

CONSIDERED:

UUK Information Note I/05/77 on HEFCE document 2005/21 'Review of the funding method for teaching: Aims of the new method and progress of the review' (SC.306/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the Registrar, following consultation with Professor Whitby, the Director of Academic and Student Affairs and the Director of Operations and Planning, report back to the Committee at its meeting on 20 June on whether the University would be submitting an institutional response on HEFCE document 2005/21 to UUK.

483/04-05 Universiteit Maastricht Visit: 7 June 2005

CONSIDERED:

A report on the outcomes of the visit of the President of the University of Maastricht to the University of Warwick on 7 June (SC.304/04-05) together with an oral report from the Academic Registrar.

REPORTED: (by the Academic Registrar)

That a meeting of the Students' Unions of the universities invited by Maastricht to form a proposed consortium of European universities (minute 222/04-05 refers) would shortly be held and that the President of the Union of Students had suggested nominations for student representatives to attend this meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee support the continued engagement of the University with the proposed consortium in its current capacity as an observer.
- (b) That the Academic Registrar continue to keep the Committee informed of the progress of development of the proposed consortium.

484/04-05 Access to Higher Education: QAA Consultation

RECEIVED:

UUK Information Note I/05/79 on the QAA consultation on proposals for a common credit framework for Access to Higher Education programmes (SC.308/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That Professor Dyson take forward the preparation of the University's institutional response to the QAA consultation for consideration by the Steering Committee prior to submission to UUK by 1 July and to the QAA by 15 July.

485/04-05 Framework for Achievement: Recognising Qualifications and Skills in the 21st Century

RECEIVED:

UUK Information Note I/05/78 on the outcomes of the joint Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, Learning and Skills Council and Sector Skills Development Agency consultation on a new framework for recognition of post-school qualifications (SC.305/04-05).

486/04-05 Equality Impact Assessment

CONSIDERED:

Oral reports from Professor Dyson and the Assistant Director of Personnel (Policy and Projects) on the schedule for implementation of Equality Impact Assessment procedures within the University.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Director of Personnel (Policy and Projects) prepare a statement on the projected benefits afforded to the University by its undertaking of Equality Impact Assessments for the information of the Committee and the wider University community.

487/04-05 Queen's Birthday Honours 2005

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

(a) That the following had been awarded honours in the Queen's Birthday Honours List:

George Cox (Knighthood, for services to Business)
John Higgins (CBE, for services to the IT Industry)

(b) That Gus O'Donnell, C.B., Warwick alumnus and Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, had been awarded a knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

488/04-05 Appointment of Chair of the NHS Institute

RECEIVED:

UUK Information Note I/05/80 on the appointment of Dame Yve Buckland as Chair of the new NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement (SC.307/04-05).

489/04-05 NHSI Meeting Notes: 24 May 2005

RECEIVED:

Notes from the meeting of the NHS Institute and the University of Warwick held on 24 May 2005 (SC.311/04-05).