

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 19 July 2004

Present: Vice-Chancellor
Professor Dyson
Professor J Jones
Professor McCrae
Professor Palmer
Professor Thomas
Professor Whitby

Apologies: Professor Carter, Professor Easton, Mr R Jones, Professor Luntley, Professor Lauder, Professor McFarlane.

In Attendance: Registrar, Finance Director, Academic Registrar, Director of Academic and Student Affairs, Director of Personnel Services, University Secretary, Miss E Clewlow, for item 510/03-04 Director of Warwick HRI, 511/03-04 Director of the International Office, 513/03-04 Director of Research Support Services.

506/03-04 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2004 be approved.

507/03-04 Research Councils UK Academic Fellowships (minute 498/03-04 refers)

REPORTED:

That Research Councils UK had awarded a total of four hundred fellowships under the Academic Fellowships Scheme of which fourteen fellowships had been awarded to the University.

508/03-04 Degree Congregation

REPORTED: (by the University Secretary)

That an invitation to submit nominations for the award of Honorary Degrees at the 2004/2005 Degree Congregation was about to be issued to which members of the Committee were invited to respond.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee record its thanks to all members of University staff who had contributed to the success of the Summer Degree Congregations.
- (b) That members of the Committee submit suggestions for the refinement of arrangements for future Degree Congregations to the University Secretary or the Director of Academic and Student Affairs for consideration at a forthcoming follow-up meeting.

509/03-04 Vice-Chancellor's Business

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on his summer itinerary which would include visits on behalf of the University to Asia, including Singapore, and to the AC21 International Forum.

RESOLVED:

That confirmation of support from Advantage West Midlands be awaited before the University formally indicate its willingness to host the third AC21 International Forum in 2006.

510/03-04 Warwick HRI

The Vice-Chancellor welcomed Dr Simon Bright, Director of Warwick HRI, to his first meeting of the Committee.

CONSIDERED:

A progress report on Warwick HRI (SC.286/03-04) together with an oral report from the Director of Warwick HRI.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Director of Warwick HRI work with the Registrar and the Director of Personnel Services to bring forward a proposal for the integration of Warwick HRI into the University.
- (b) That the Director of Warwick HRI work with Professor Jones to ensure that the development of the research strategy of Warwick HRI was co-ordinated with that of the University and took account of the work being undertaken to assimilate the implications of the Science and Innovation Investment Framework.
- (c) That the Director of Warwick HRI bring forward an interim update report on Warwick HRI in between the quarter end financial reports on the Department's devolved budget.

511/03-04 International Issues

CONSIDERED:

A briefing on international issues (SC.275/03-04) together with an oral report from the Director of the International Office.

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That he had asked Professor Lord Robert Skidelsky to prepare a paper on the potential opportunities for the development of University activities in Russia.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That, while open to creative partnerships which generated capacity, the University would not seek to offer its mainstream academic programmes through franchise arrangements.
- (b) That the Committee record its thanks to Dr Gribbon for his contribution to the University, over many years, as Director of the International Office and wish him well in his new role with the Open University.

512/03-04 Implementation of the Framework Agreement

CONSIDERED:

An update on the implementation by the University of the Framework Agreement on pay and conditions in Higher Education and notification of the conditional release of funding from the HEFCE for the Rewarding and Developing Staff initiative (SC.281/03-04) together with an oral report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

RESOLVED:

That the Director of Personnel Services bring forward a paper on the institutional issues relating to the implementation of the Framework Agreement to inform an extended discussion on HR issues by the Committee early in the Autumn.

513/03-04 Science and Innovation Investment Framework

CONSIDERED:

A summary of the Government's ten year framework for investment in science and innovation (SC.274/03-04) together with an oral report from the Director of Research Support Services.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Professor Jones and the Director of Research Support Services work with the Research Opportunities Group to bring forward for consideration by the Committee in September an analysis of the potential opportunities which could be developed by aligning the University's research capacity and interests with the priorities identified in the Science and Innovation Investment Framework.
- (b) That the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Professor Jones meet with the Government's Chief Scientific Advisor to discuss the Science and Innovation Investment Framework and extend an invitation to him to visit the University later in the year.

514/03-04 Treasury Spending Review

RECEIVED:

Extracts from the 2004 Treasury Spending Review relating to education (SC.280/03-04).

515/03-04 RAE 2008

RECEIVED:

Notification from the Funding Councils of the units of assessment and recruitment of panel members for the Research Assessment Exercise, RAE 03/2004 (SC.279/03-04) together with an oral report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor noting that steps were being taken to encourage the nomination of members of staff for membership of RAE panels and applications to be panel chairs.

516/03-04 Cancer Research Protocol

RECEIVED:

Universities UK Information Note, I/04/72, UUK and Cancer Research UK Joint Protocol on Tobacco Industry Funding to Universities (SC.277/03-04).

517/03-04 Admissions Update

- (a) University data on home and overseas undergraduate applications by course for entry in October 2004 as at the end of June 2004 (SC.284/03-04) together with an oral report from the Academic Registrar.
- (b) University data on home and overseas postgraduate intake projections compared with the University Financial Plan (SC.285/03-04) together with an oral report from the Academic Registrar noting that further work was being undertaken to refine and improve the analysis and presentation of data.

518/03-04 Teaching Quality Information

RECEIVED:

A revised timetable from Higher Education Research Opportunities (HERO) for the publication of Teaching Quality Information (SC.283/03-04)

519/03-04 Study Leave Administration Arrangements

CONSIDERED:

Revised proposals for the administration of the University's study leave arrangements (SC.272/03-04).

RESOLVED:

That the proposals for the administration of the University's study leave arrangements be approved as set out in paper SC.272/03-04 subject to minor revision along the lines discussed during the meeting.

520/03-04 Advisory Board for the Centre for Lifelong Learning

CONSIDERED:

A draft constitution and terms of reference for the Advisory Board of the Centre for Lifelong Learning (SC.278/03-04).

RESOLVED:

That the constitution and terms of reference for the Advisory Board be approved as set out in paper SC.278/03-04 subject to the revision of the constitution to include the Registrar and to provide for the invitation of named rather than ex officio members of the Further Education community to serve as members of the Advisory Board.