

## THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 28 February 2005

Present: Vice-Chancellor (Chair)  
Professor A Caesar  
Professor Y Carter  
Professor R G Dyson  
Professor A Easton  
Professor J Jones  
Mr S Lucas  
Professor M Luntley  
Professor S B Palmer  
Professor H Thomas  
Professor M Whitby

In Attendance: Academic Registrar, Director of Academic and Student Affairs, Director of Communication, Director of Personnel, Registrar, University Secretary, Mrs H E Blunt, Ms N Snodgrass, for item 294/04-05 the Director of Music, for item 295/04-05 (Report from the Academic Resourcing Committee) Professor D Rand.

282/04-05 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2005 be approved.

283/04-05 Warwick in Asia

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on the progress of discussions with the Economic and Development Board of Singapore (EDB) on the Warwick in Asia initiative, noting in particular:

- (a) That the Assistant Managing Director of the EDB and the Managing Director of the EDB would be visiting the University on 1 March and 16 March respectively and that arrangements had been made for the Managing Director of the EDB to attend the meeting of the Council on 16 March to give Council members a broad outline of the proposed project from the perspective of the EDB.
- (b) That arrangements were currently being made for further visits to Singapore in April, including a visit by academic members of staff, with a view to continuing the process of discussion and engagement with the EDB.

284/04-05 White Paper: 14 – 19 Education and Skills

CONSIDERED:

The foreword and Executive Summary of the White Paper: 14 – 19 Education and Skills together with a press release from the Department for Education and Skills (SC.183/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the Director of Communication prepare a letter from the Vice-Chancellor to the Director-General of the CBI indicating the University's concern about the potential reinforcement of the division between academic and vocational courses arising from the proposals set out in the White Paper.

285/04-05 Higher Education Business and Community Interaction Survey 2004

CONSIDERED:

UUK Information Note 1/05/19 on the publication of the latest Higher Education Business and Community Interaction (HE-BCI) Survey 2004 results together with the HEFCE Executive Summary of the survey report and a summary from Research Support Services (SC.179/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the use of data collected from the HE-BCI survey be closely monitored in order to assess the potential impact of survey returns on institutional data used to compile University League Tables.

286/04-05 Additional Student Numbers

CONSIDERED:

A copy of an email from the Director of the West Midlands Higher Education Authority (WMHEA) on regional bids for additional student number allocations from 2006 to 2008 (SC.184/04-05).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the University's HEFCE Regional Adviser be approached as a matter of urgency to establish the accuracy of the information presented in paper SC.184/04-05 with a view to informing discussion at the next meeting of the WMHEA on 3 March.
- (b) That separate discussions be held on the University's strategy in regard to the recruitment of additional Home/EU student numbers.

287/04-05 Part-Time Students and Part-Time Funding in Higher Education

CONSIDERED:

UUK Information Note 1/05/17 on a research project, jointly commissioned by the Student Experience and Finance and Resources Strategy Groups, on part-time students and part-time funding in higher education (SC.178/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching Quality) raise the concerns expressed at the meeting on the issue of funding for part-time education at the next meeting of the Russell Group Pro-Vice-Chancellors (Teaching and Learning).

288/04-05 Teaching Quality Information Website

CONSIDERED:

Circular letter number 04/2005 from the HEFCE providing an update on the progress of implementation of the Teaching Quality Information (TQI) website (SC.180/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching Quality) and the Senior Assistant Registrar (Teaching Quality) prepare a response to the HEFCE on the proposed subject groupings to be used on the TQI website for submission to the HEFCE by the deadline of 18 March 2005.

289/04-05 Higher Education Academy International Strategy

CONSIDERED:

A copy of an email from the Chief Executive of the Higher Education Academy to Vice-Principals, Deputy and Pro-Vice-Chancellors requesting feedback on the international strategy of the Academy (SC.181/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the Committee viewed the proposal that the HE Academy take on an international role to be wholly inappropriate and that the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching Quality) discuss with the Executive Director of the Russell Group a response to the HE Academy from the Russell Group being prepared along the lines discussed at the meeting.

290/04-05 Advisory Board of the Warwick Business School

CONSIDERED:

Proposed revisions to the constitution, membership and terms of reference of the Warwick Business School Advisory Board (SC.187/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the proposed changes to the constitution, membership and terms of reference of the Advisory Board of the Warwick Business School be approved, on behalf of the Strategy Committee, as set out in paper SC.187/04-05.

291/04-05 Constitution of the Campus Life Committee

CONSIDERED:

The current constitution of the Campus Life Committee (SC.186/04-05).

RECOMMENDED: (to the Senate)

That the constitution of the Campus Life Committee be revised to provide for the appointment of the Director of the Arts Centre to membership of the Committee.

292/04-05 Institutional Response to Home Office Immigration Proposals (minute 270/04-05 refers)

CONSIDERED:

The University's draft response to Home Office revised proposals to target abuse of the student visa entry route into the UK and the Home Office five-year strategy for asylum and immigration (SC.185/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the draft response be approved on the understanding that the final submission would be revised to incorporate additional comments from colleagues and points raised at the meeting.

293/04-05 Visit from the Director-General for Higher Education (minute 277/04-05 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That one suggestion for the programme for the Director-General's visit to the University on 21 April 2005 had been forwarded to the University Secretary since the last meeting of the Steering Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the programme for the Director-General's visit to the University on 21 April 2005 include discussion on the University's Research-TV initiative, Post-Qualification Applications, the Bologna Process and current regional and widening participation issues.

294/04-05 University Music Centre

RECEIVED:

A report providing an update on current and projected developments in the University Music Centre, including data on levels of participation in Music Centre activities, information on recent and forthcoming performances and tours by University ensembles and current issues being faced by the Music Centre (SC.182/04-05), together with an oral report from the Director of Music.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee record its thanks to the Director of Music for his informative and detailed report.

295/04-05 Senate Business

RESOLVED:

That the comments and recommendations of the Steering Committee on items of business for the meeting of the Senate to be held on 9 March 2005 be as set out in the papers circulated for the meeting of the Senate.

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29/02/05