

THE COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2017

Present: The Chair of the Council (Mr J. Greenwell), The Treasurer (Mr M. Williams), the Vice-Chancellor (Professor D. Richardson), the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Professor F. Lettice), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Professor N. Ward), Independent Members (Mr S. Blease, Mr J. Clayton, Mr G Jones, Miss G. Maclean, Ms L. McGillivray, Dr K Skoyles, and Dr W. Thomson), Members appointed by the Senate (Professor N Boodhoo and Ms H. Lewis), Member appointed by the Support Staff (Mr C. Brown) and the Student Representatives (Ms A Rust and Mr T Antoniou-Phillips)

With: The Registrar and Secretary (Mr B Summers), the Director of Finance, Planning & Governance (Mr I. Callaghan), the Head of Corporate Communications (Mr A. Stronach), the Assistant Registrar (Ms L. Williams) and the Senior Administrative Assistant (Mrs R. Phillips).

In attendance: The Executive Deans of Faculty (Professor J Collier, Professor D. Edwards, and Professor Y Tasker)

Apologies: Professor P Gilmartin

45. MINUTES

Confirmed
the minutes of the Council meetings held on 16 January 2017.

46. STATEMENTS BY THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL

The Chair made the following statements:

1. The University received a very successful visit from Her Majesty the Queen on 27 January 2017;
2. He congratulated the UEA Team on their success in the Derby Day versus University of Essex;
3. He had attended the Equality & Diversity Committee and had requested that the Head of Equality and Diversity, the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences deliver a presentation at a future meeting of Council discussing the annual context and the Higher Education climate. It is anticipated that this presentation will come to the June meeting of Council.

47. MEETINGS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF COUNCIL

The following meetings had taken place since the last meeting of Council:

1. 25 January 2017: Learning and Teaching Committee
2. 27 January 2017: Audit Committee
3. 28 February 2017; Equality and Diversity Committee
4. 1 March 2017: Senate

The Chair had attended the Equality and Diversity Committee as per the previous minute. Stephen Blease had attended Senate as an Observer and confirmed the high standard of the discussions that took place at that meeting.

48. REPORT AND STATEMENTS FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Part of this minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has recently delivered his budget which identifies additional investment in the research pipeline. This will predominantly be for STEM subjects and is anticipated to fund an additional 1,000 PhD studentships. These may be allocated alongside the science and innovation audits that are currently taking place and the industrial strategy that is being delivered in conjunction with the LEP. The introduction of Doctoral loans was also confirmed. The HE Bill has been returned to the Commons from the Lords with amendments that are considered to be generally positive to the sector. Potentially the most significant amendment is to de-couple the link between fees and performance in the TEF but it remains to be seen how the government will respond. A number of risks and opportunities will be considered at the next ET Strategy Day and the University Policy Half Day with ultimate consideration at a future Council Strategy Day regarding developments in the Higher Education sector including:

- Degree apprenticeships;
- Two year degrees;
- Part-time provision;
- Online provision.

These discussions will identify those that the University will wish to develop further potentially through subsidiary companies or joint ventures to manage risk and reputation.

A Disabled Access Day took place last weekend and the experience was positive notwithstanding the age and architecture of the campus. Technological solutions to support for disabled students and staff were also demonstrated including lecture capture.

Paul Zuckerman, as Chair of the Sainsbury Centre Board comes to the end of his term of office at the end of this academic year. The University will be seeking to identify a replacement and will also be reviewing the composition of the Board to ensure there is transparency in appointment processes and that potential skills gaps are addressed.

The experience of the Higher Education Bill and its travel through the House of Lords has identified a need to be more proactive in relationships with members of the Upper House. On that basis existing relationships are being reviewed to ensure that all appropriate contacts are identified.

The new United States office was recently opened and this provided an opportunity to meet alumni based in the United States – of which there are a significant number partly as a result of the long-standing exchange and visiting student programmes. The office in Washington DC is well located and the University are in contact with 3,000 of the 6,000 alumni resident in the US. The office is aiming to explain the benefits of a UK higher education experience to potential American students.

COU-M3
13.03.2017
Min. 48

There has been additional information regarding the TEF which suggests that those institutions offering HE in FE are doing well. The government may wish to foreground this success.)

*49. UEA PLAN

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

*50. REPORT FROM THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Considered

a confidential report from the Governance Committee meeting held on Monday 16 January 2017 to incorporate an updated Schedule of Delegated Authority and discussion of the extent to which the Cadbury Code impacts the University governance (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. COU16D043)

*51 STUDENT RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

*52. RESEARCH MATTER

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

*53. REPORT FROM THE FINANCE GROUP

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

54. UNION OF UEA STUDENTS – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2016

Received

a report from the Registrar and Secretary in respect of the financial statements for the Union of UEA Students for 2016. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. COU16D047)

(It was noted that there were no immediate concerns arising from this report but that the Students' Union does face cost challenges in common with the University. There were two particular concerns: the increased pension deficit and the need to refurbish social space. The University will investigate the extent to which support may be made available with regard to social study space.)

55. UEA POLICY FOR APPROVING THE INTEGRITY OF UEA RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE RELATED ACTIVITIES AND FUNDING

Reported

that a new policy had been developed and had been reviewed by the University Research Executive on 20th October 2016, the University Enterprise Executive

COU16M005

COU-M4
13.03.2017
Min. 55

on 5th December, the University PGR Executive on 8th December 2016 and by Senate on 1 March 2017. It was recommended for approval. Once approved the policy would be incorporated within UEA's framework for managing research integrity.

Considered and approved
the attached policy. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. COU16D051)

56. NEXT MEETING

Reported
that the date of the next Council meeting would be on 15 May 2017.

57. DATES OF MEETINGS 2016-2017

Reported
that the dates of future Council meetings were as set out below:

Monday 15 May 2017 – 10.30am
Monday 26 June 2017 – 10.30am

58. HEFCE

Received

- (1) the letter from HEFCE on Annual Provider Review Preliminary assessment. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. COU16D049)
- (2) the letter from HEFCE on Prevent Duty Annual Reporting: Monitoring outcome. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. COU16D050)

59. ITEMS FOR REPORT

Received
the report. COU16D048

(1) Sealings