Meeting: COUNCIL

Date and Time: Thursday 10th July 2014 at 4.15 pm

Venue: Council Chamber

Present: Mr P Troughton (Chair of Council)
Professor Dame Glynis Breakwell (Vice-Chancellor) Mr J Stanion (Appointed Member)
Mr P Wyman (Treasurer) Mr R Whorrod (Appointed Member)
Mr D Medlock (Pro-Chancellor) Professor J Knight (Elected by Senate)
Dr M Carley (Chair of Academic Assembly) Ms K Robinson (Elected by Senate)
Mrs R Foreman (Appointed Member) Dr S Wharton (Elected by Senate)
Mr P Wyman (Treasurer) Mr R Whorrod (Appointed Member)
Mr D Medlock (Pro-Chancellor) Professor J Knight (Elected by Senate)
Dr M Carley (Chair of Academic Assembly) Ms K Robinson (Elected by Senate)
Mrs R Foreman (Appointed Member) Dr S Wharton (Elected by Senate)
Mr P Wyman (Treasurer) Mr R Whorrod (Appointed Member)

Observer:
Mr I Robinson - Chief Executive of the Students’ Union

In Attendance:
Professor J Millar - Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Professor B Morley - Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching)
Professor D Bird - Dean of Science
Professor I Butler - Dean of Humanities & Social Sciences
Professor Gary Hawley - Dean of Engineering & Design
Professor V Hope Hailey - Dean and Head, School of Management
Mr M Humphriss - University Secretary
Mr M Whalley - Director of Estates
Mrs D Aderyn - Director of Finance and Commercial Services
Dr N Kemp - Director of Policy and Planning
Ms A Pater - Head of Secretariat
Mr P Eley (for item 6269) - Deputy Director of Human Resources
Ms D Griffin (for item 6269) - Human Resources Manager

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Mr S Appleton, Professor K Edge, Mr P Freeman, Professor C Grant, Dr M Hejmadi, Sir Julian Horn-Smith and Mr G Maggs.

6264 PRESENTATION: RESEARCH

Council received the third in a series of presentations on research, on this occasion from Prize Fellows Stephanie Diezmann (“Why do fungi make people sick?”), Matt Dickson (on Grammar Schools and Inequality) and Valeska Ting (on Sustainable Energy). Professor Millar explained that the Prize Fellow scheme had been set up to support post-doctoral researchers in their early career research.

6265 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 22nd May 2014 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.
MATTERS ARISING

Minute 6245 – Council noted that the proposed amendments to Ordinance 14.2 were agreed by Senate on 4th June 2014.

REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Council noted the report of the Vice-Chancellor, Paper C13/14 – 106. The nature of the minor amendment agreed with OFFA on the access agreements and the space pressures experienced by some departments were raised in discussion.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Council considered the recommendation of the meeting of the Nominations Committee held on 10th July 2014 in tabled Paper C13/14 – 107. It was noted that three strong references had now been received.

Council AGREED the appointment of Mr Barry Gilbertson as an appointed member of Council from 1st August 2014 for three years.

STAFF SURVEY UPDATE

Peter Eley and Deborah Griffin from Human Resources attended for this item. Council noted the staff survey update contained in Paper C13/14 – 111 and the progress made on the action plan, in particular communication within departments, dissemination of best practice and processes to deal with workplace stress. There was a question from the Chair of Academic Assembly about the focus group for ‘other white/Irish’ staff and further detail would be provided to him.

Council was not asked to agree recommendation 2 as, in the light of discussions at Executive Committee the previous day, further consideration would be given to the timing and methods for re-surveying staff.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Council noted Paper C13/14 – 112 on changes to the higher education regulatory environment, including HEFCE’s new Memorandum of Assurance and Accountability, the new funding agreement and arrangements for institutional designation in advance of new legislation.

COUNCIL EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW UPDATE

Council noted the update regarding the Council Effectiveness Review in Paper C13/14 – 113.

Council AGREED the recommendations of the Effectiveness Review had now been completed.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY STUDENT MONITORING DATA

Council noted Paper C13/14 – 115 summarising the Equality And Diversity Student Monitoring Data for 2012/13.
MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND JOINT COUNCIL/SENATE COMMITTEES

Council received the Minutes of the following meetings of Council and Joint Council/Senate Committees:

Audit Committee 11th June 2014
Council/Senate/SU Committee 15th April 2014
Equality & Diversity Committee 12th June 2014
Finance Committee 26th June 2014
Nominations Committee 22nd May 2014

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Council received a summary report from Executive Committee held in May 2014 (Paper C13/14 – 121)

SENATE

Council received the Minutes of the Senate meeting held on 4th June 2014 (Paper C13/14 – 122)

COURT

Council received the minutes of the meetings of Court held on 2nd April 2014 and 22nd May 2014 (Papers C13/14 – 123A and 123B).

CONVOCATION

Council received the minutes of the meeting of Convocation held on 10th May 2014. (Paper C13/14 – 124).

ANNUAL DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Council noted that:
(1) members of Council and Council Committees would be required to make an annual Declaration of Interests in accordance with Council Standing Order 26;
(2) members of Council would be required to make an annual statement of their adherence to the Declaration of Guiding Principles as agreed by Council on 13th May 2005 (Minute 4940 refers).

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2014/15

The programme of meetings for the next academic year was noted as follows:
Thursday, 23rd October 2014 (Strategy Day – full day)
Thursday, 27th November 2014
Thursday, 26th February 2015
Thursday, 21st May 2015
Thursday, 9th July 2015

All meetings will start at 4.15pm in the Council Chamber unless otherwise stated. The Chair of Council also encouraged all members to attend award ceremonies which would be held on 9th/10th December 2014 in the Assembly Rooms, and on 30th June – 2nd July 2015 in Bath Abbey.
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Presentation of certificates
The Chair thanked retiring members of Council for their service and presented them each with a certificate as a reminder of their time on Council: Jonathan Knight and, in their absence, Peter Freeman and Momna Hejmadi who had all served three years on Council; and David Medlock who was co-opted to Council in 1993 and had served as Pro-Chancellor from 2003 to the present.

This was also Peter Troughton’s last meeting as Chair and Peter Wyman thanked him on behalf of Council for his skilful chairmanship, his guidance and support and in particular for his wit and wisdom.

The meeting concluded at 5.45 pm