Meeting: COUNCIL

Date and Time: Thursday 17th October 2013 at 4.15 pm

Venue: Council Chamber

Present: Mr P Troughton (Chair of Council)
Professor Dame Glynis Breakwell (Vice-Chancellor)
Mr P Wyman (Treasurer)
Prof K Edge (Deputy Vice-Chancellor)
Mr S Appleton (Appointed by the Convocation)
Dr M Carley (Chair of Academic Assembly)
Ms A Goodman (Appointed Member)
Mr M Hawkesworth (Appointed Member)
Dr M Hipkins (Appointed Member)
Mr R Hughes (Appointed Member)
Mr T Sheppard (Appointed Member)
Mr J Stanion (Appointed Member)

Observer:
Mr I Robinson - Chief Executive of BUSU
Ms K McAlister - Executive Assistant, Vice-Chancellor’s Office

In Attendance:
Professor C Grant - Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Internationalisation)
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 - Acting Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences
Professor V Hope Hailey - Dean and Head of School of Management
Mr M Humphriss - University Secretary
Mr M Whalley - Director of Estates
Mrs D Aderyn - Director of Finance and Commercial Services
Mr I Cheetham - Director of Human Resources
Dr N Kemp - Director of Policy and Planning
Mr G Maggs - Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Ms A Pater - Head of Secretariat

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Mrs R Foreman, Mr P Freeman, Professor G Hawley, Dr M Hejmadi, Sir Julian Horn-Smith and Mr D Medlock.

ACTION

6151 PRESENTATION: STUDENTS’ UNION

Council received a presentation from the Students’ Union on their Top Ten Issues for 2013/14. These were (not in priority order):

1. Ensure the role of personal tutors is clear and meets the needs of students.
2. Increase provision for recreational and performance sport through the development of a 3G pitch.
3. Expand the use of anonymous marking across the university.
4. Improve access for disabled students at the university.
5. Develop policies on fairer group work marking.
6. Increase bus services at peak times.
7. Increase provision of fresh and healthy food on campus.
8. Ensure that all students receive constructive feedback that helps them learn.
9. Help students make their finances go further.
10. Improve cash machine facilities on campus.

Council noted that these issues would be discussed in detail by Council/Senate/Students’ Union Committee during the current academic year.

6152 MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS

The membership and functions of Council were noted as in Paper C13/14-1.

6153 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 27th June 2013 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

6154 INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Council noted the very satisfactory Institutional Review report and Action Plan at Paper C13/14 – 4. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching) thanked in particular staff members Ms G van der Velden and Ms G Eggleston, and Ms C Slack and Mr A Pool of the Students’ Union.

6155 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT 2012/13

The Annual Report of the Director of Human Resources was considered and noted (Paper C13/14-8).

The discussion focussed on:

- the appointment and induction of senior academic leaders;
- auto-enrolment for pensions;
- actions from the staff survey;
- the new Health and Safety policy;
- the measures taken by the University to increase the number of female Professors;
- the number of staff on variable-hours contracts, which included student casual staff, external examiners, professional practice experts brought in for specific sessions and summer school staff;
- the increase in recorded sickness absence;
- staff performance review.

6156 AMENDMENT TO CHARTER AND STATUTES

Council approved the proposed wording for the amendment to the Charter and Statutes in Paper C13/14 – 9 and noted this had been approved at Senate the previous day. It was noted that the importance of academic freedom and the student experience at potential partner institutions would be considered as part of the due diligence process. Council also agreed that if the Privy Council made no recommendations for alteration of the wording, a proposal for the amendment of
the Charter may be brought before Court in this form on the recommendation of the Senate and Council.

6157 **UPDATE ON EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW OF COUNCIL**

Council noted the update at Paper C13/14-10 on the progress in response to the recommendations made by the Effectiveness Review of Council. It was noted that Senate had not recommended that there be a student member on Honorary Degrees Committee. It was agreed that a programme of CPD opportunities similar to the pilot would be developed.

6158 **REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

Council considered and noted the report at Paper C13/14-12 and confirmed that it had given due consideration to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit.

6159 **FORWARD PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS 2013/14**

Council considered and noted the forward programme of business for 2013/14 as set out at Paper C13/14-13.

6160 **ORDINANCES – ORATORS FOR HONORARY DEGREES**

Council considered the recommendation in Paper C13/14-14 and agreed to waive Ordinance 14.12 for the appointment of the two non-staff orators mentioned.

6161 **URGENT BUSINESS PROCEDURE REPORT**

Council noted the action taken under the urgent business procedure (Paper C13/14-16).

6162 **OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT ADJUDICATOR - ANNUAL LETTER**

Council noted receipt of the annual letter from the Office of the Independent Adjudicator as set out at Paper C13/14-17.

6163 **ANNUAL ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2013**


6164 **PLANNING PROCESS FOR 2013/14**

Council noted the Planning Process for 2013/14 as set out at Paper C13/14-19.

6165 **CHANGES TO RESEARCH CENTRES: ANNUAL REPORT**

Council noted the annual report of changes to Research Centres as set out at Paper C13/14-20.

6166 **MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND JOINT COUNCIL/SENATE COMMITTEES**

Council received the minutes of the following meetings of Council and Joint Council/Senate Committees:
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Council noted the summary report from Executive Committee (17th July 2013) as set out at Paper C13/14-24.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2013/14

The programme of meetings for the remainder of Council for 2013/14 was noted as follows:

Thursday 28th November 2013
Thursday 27th February 2014
Thursday 22nd May 2014
Thursday 10th July 2014

[Secretary's Note: All meetings will start at 4.15pm in the Council Chamber unless otherwise stated.]