Meeting: COUNCIL

Date and Time: Thursday 18th October 2012 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 M Hawkesworth (Appointed Member)
Mr K S Woodley (Pro-Chancellor)  Mr R Whorrod (Appointed Member)
Sir J Horn-Smith (Pro-Chancellor)  Dr F Laughton (Elected by Senate)
Prof K Edge (Deputy Vice-Chancellor)  Dr M Hejmadi (Elected by Senate)
Dr M Carley (Chair of Academic Assembly)  Professor G Price (Elected by Senate)
Mr S Appleton (Appointed by the Convocation)  Dr A Salo (Elected by Academic Assembly)
Mr P Freeman (Appointed Member)  Ms M Morley (Elected by Non-Academic Staff)
Dr M Hipkins (Appointed Member)  Mr C Clements (Students' Union President)
Mr R Hughes (Appointed Member)  Mr A Pool (Students' Union Vice-President)
Mr T Sheppard (Appointed Member)

Observer: Mr I Robinson - Chief Executive of BUSU

In Attendance:

Lord Tugendhat - Chancellor
Professor J Millar - Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Professor B Morley - Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching)
Professor D Bird - Dean of Science
Professor R Eatwell - Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences
Mr M Humphriess - 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
Mr G Maggs - Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Mr I Cheetham - Director of Human Resources
Ms C Milner - Head of Secretariat

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Mr D Medlock, Mrs R Foreman, Professor C Grant, Professor R Elliott, Professor G Hawley and Professor J Knight.

ACTION

6008 PRESENTATION: STUDENTS' UNION

Council received a presentation from the Students' Union on their Top Ten Issues for 2012/13. These were:

1. Increase the number of jobs for students on campus at a living wage.
2. Bring about improvements to cost of and quality of food and drink provision on campus.
3. Ensure the timely provision of lecture notes and contextual solutions on Moodle.
4. Ensure that students receive timely, constructive and meaningful feedback on their work.
5. Increase access to and information about core texts.
6. Ensure students feel well supported whilst on placement.
7. Ensure that student feedback about the quality of teaching is effectively acted upon.
8. Improve bus provision to campus through work with bus companies and the local Council.
9. Engage with local bodies to campaign for improved standards to student accommodation and against planned restrictions to shared housing.
10. Support students to manage their University workload, and create a good work/life balance.

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

AGREED that future issues of the Students' Union Newspaper, Impact, would be circulated to members of Council by post.

6009 MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS

The membership and functions of Council were noted as set out in Paper C12/13-1.

6010 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 28th June 2012 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair, subject to the correction of the attendance record to refer to Dr A Salo.

6011 MATTERS ARISING

MINUTE 5979, SPORTS TRAINING VILLAGE

Council noted that the potential claim against the University by Bovis Lend Lease had been resolved.

6012 REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Report of the Vice-Chancellor (Paper C12/13-3) was considered and noted. The Vice-Chancellor reported further as follows:

(1) Images of Research and Research in the World Brochures

The above brochures had been tabled for information. The Images of Research Brochure was a collection of images from the last four years of the Images of Research Exhibition whereby researchers explained their work using just an image and short description to provide an insight into the University's wide range of research activities. The Research in the World Brochure had been produced to highlight projects funded by the University's Knowledge Transfer Account. These projects highlighted how the University's researchers were working with external organisations to deliver benefits for the economy and society.

(2) Paragraph 10, Pay Negotiations and Industrial Action Update

The ballot results for the trades unions with members at the University were now known. Unison had decided not to take strike action. UCU had a mandate for action short of a strike but had decided not to take such action. Unite had voted in favour of strike action but had decided to consult their members again about the
action to be taken. This consultation would end on 30th October 2012. There were 67 members of Unite at the University. If a strike was called, Unite would have to give the University a minimum of 7 days’ notice.

A member of Council enquired as to progress with the recent recruitment of Professors and Prize Fellows. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) reported that eighteen new appointments would join the University by March 2013 and that six vacancies would be re-advertised.

6013 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT 2011/12

The Annual Report of the Director of Human Resources was considered and noted (Paper C12/13-8). This included details of new/revised policies and procedures approved by Council during the year (either directly or by delegated authority).

The discussion focussed on:

- the high number of women on fixed term contracts. The Director of Human Resources clarified that this was primarily because the University tended to receive more applications from women for research posts which were fixed term because of their linkage to research funding;
- the measures taken by the University to increase the number of female Professors;
- the nature of Statute 25 as a barrier to effective performance management because of the lengthy procedure set out in the Statute. This predicated against timely resolution of performance issues.

6014 PILOT PROGRAMME OF CPD OPPORTUNITIES

Council considered and noted the pilot programme of CPD opportunities as set out at Paper C12/13-9.

6015 FORWARD PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS 2012/13

Council considered and noted the forward programme of business for 2012/13 as set out at Paper C12/13-10.

6016 VACATION POWERS REPORT

Council noted the following action taken under Vacation Powers (Paper C12/13-11):

Revision of title of the Equalities and Diversity Committee to 'Equality and Diversity Committee' with effect from 1st August 2012.

6017 OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT ADJUDICATOR - FIRST ANNUAL LETTER

Council noted receipt of the first annual letter from the Office of the Independent Adjudicator as at Paper C12/13-12.
ANNUAL ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2012


Particular attention was drawn to the environmental impact of traffic created by non-staff/student visitors to the campus, particularly those using the Sports Training Village. The Director of Estates assured Council that this issue would be explored by the Transport Survey 2013 with the aim of introducing measures to address the associated environmental impact (particularly to discourage visitors from leaving their engines running whilst waiting outside the Sports Training Village).

ANNUAL PLANNING TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2012/13


CHANGES TO RESEARCH CENTRES: ANNUAL REPORT

Council noted the annual report of changes to Research Centres (Paper C12/13-15).

MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND JOINT COUNCIL/SENATE COMMITTEES

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

Equalities and Diversity Committee 14th June 2012
Remuneration Committee 28th June 2012

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Council noted the summary report from Executive Committee (23rd May 2012, 20th June 2012 and 11th July 2012) (Paper C12/13-19).

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2012/13

The programme of meetings for the remainder of Council for 2012/13 was noted as follows:

Thursday 29th November 2012
Thursday 28th February 2013
Thursday 16th May 2013
Thursday 27th June 2013

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