Minutes of Meeting

Meeting: COUNCIL
Date and Time: Thursday 24th November 2011 at 4.15 pm
Venue: Council Chamber

Present: Mr P Troughton (Chair of Council)

Sir J Horn-Smith (Pro-Chancellor) Mr T Sheppard (Appointed Member)
Mr K Woodley (Pro-Chancellor) Mr M Hawkesworth (Appointed Member)
Professor G M Breakwell (Vice-Chancellor) Mr R Whorrod (Appointed Member)
Mr P Wyman (Treasurer) Dr F Laughton (Elected by Senate)
Prof K Edge (Deputy Vice-Chancellor) Dr M Hejmedi (Elected by Senate)
Dr S Wharton (Chair of Academic Assembly) Professor G Price (Elected by Senate)
Mr S Appleton (Appointed by Convocation) Professor J Knight (Elected by Senate)
Mr P Freeman (Appointed Member) Dr A Salo (Elected by Academic Assembly)
Dr M Hipkins (Appointed Member) Miss A Harrington (Elected by Non-Academic Staff)
Mrs R Foreman (Appointed Member) Mr D Howells (Students’ Union President)
Mr D Gould (Appointed Member) Mr M Benka (Students’ Union Vice-President)

In Attendance:
Professor B Morley - Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching)
Professor R Eatwell - Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences
Professor D Bird - Dean of Science
Professor R Elliott - Dean and Head of the School of Management
Professor G Hawley - Dean of Engineering and Design
Mrs D Aderyn - Director of Finance
Mr M Humphriss - University Secretary
Dr F Butt - Director for Lifelong Learning
Mr M Whalley - Director of Estates
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
Mrs E Holiday - External Auditor

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Lord Tugendhat, Mr D Medlock, Mr R Hughes, Professor J Millar and Mr I Robinson.

ACTIONS

5888 PRESENTATION: OVERVIEW OF THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

Council received the above presentation from Professor Gary Hawley, Dean of Engineering and Design. This and the associated discussion covered:

- Headlines for 2010/11;
- Staff Profile;
- UG Recruitment and Placements;
- MSc and PGR Student Registrations;
- Research Grant and Contract Income;
- provision of space for the Faculty.
5889  **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 20th October 2011 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

5890  **MATTERS ARISING**

(1)  **Minute 5865(1), Sports Training Village**

Council noted that the latest position in respect of the potential claim against the University by Bovis Lend Lease was set out in Paper C11/12-46, Minute 3266, Finance Committee, 3rd November 2011.

(2)  **Minute 5865(2), University of Bath Masterplan Update**

Council noted that discussions with Bath and North East Somerset Council were ongoing.

(3)  **Minute 5869, Code of Ethical Fundraising Practice**

It was noted that the Code of Ethical Fundraising Practice had been revised to take account of the comments made by Council (Paper C11/12-25).

5891  **REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

The Report of the Vice-Chancellor (Paper C11/12-26) was noted. The Vice-Chancellor reported further on:

(1)  **Paragraph 9, Industrial Action**

Members of UNITE had voted in favour of taking action short of a strike in support of their pay dispute. This meant that the strike action at the University on 30th November 2011 would be restricted to UCU and UNISON.

(2)  **Health and Safety Update**

Council noted that the next health and safety update would be provided in the March edition of the Vice-Chancellor’s Report.

(3)  **2012 Applications**

Council noted that applications for 2012 entry were up 1.46% on the previous year (as of week commencing 20th November 2011). This compared favourably with the national reduction of applications by 12.89%.

(4)  **Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education**

The University had been awarded the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education in recognition of the University’s influential research into child poverty and support for vulnerable people. The awards ceremony would be held at Buckingham Palace on 24th February 2012.

Council congratulated the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) and the rest of the team who had contributed to achieving this significant award for the University.
5892 PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (INTERNATIONALISATION)

Council considered the remit, person specification and recruitment timescale for the post of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Internationalisation) (Paper C11/12-27).

The establishment of the post was welcomed. The Vice-Chancellor confirmed that comparator posts at other higher education institutions had been researched as part of the development of the proposal for the post. It was noted that the post would be advertised in early December with the aim of appointment by Council in March 2012.

5893 2010/11 ANNUAL ASSURANCE RETURN

Council considered the University’s Annual Assurance Return to HEFCE.

AGREED that the Annual Assurance Return be approved as set out at Paper C11/12-30.

5894 STAFF SURVEY 2011 UPDATE

Council considered and noted an update from the Director of Human Resources on progress with responding to the 2011 Staff Survey and the proposals for next steps as set out in Paper C11/12-31.

The next update on progress would be provided to Council in June 2012. This would include further details of the actions taken by the University in response to the results of the Survey.

5895 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY

(1) Single Equality Scheme

AGREED that the Annual Report on the University’s Single Equality Scheme be approved as set out in Paper C11/12-33.

(2) Equalities and Diversity Committee

Council considered and noted the Annual Report of the Equalities and Diversity Committee (Paper C11/12-34).

(3) Annual Review of Membership of Council 2011/12 Age, Gender, Disability and Ethnicity

Council considered and noted the outcome of the annual review of the membership of Council in respect of age, gender, disability and ethnicity (Paper C11/12-35).

A Member of Council enquired whether the reporting categories for the equalities and diversity survey of membership of Council might be extended to include sexual orientation and religious belief. The University Secretary explained that this might be considered after it had been implemented for staff and student equalities and diversity monitoring. However, any such extension would not include freemasonry because this did not fall within the definition of religious belief.
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Council considered the recommendations of the meeting of the Nominations Committee held on 24th November 2011 (Paper C11/12-36) (tabled).

AGREED that:

i) Court be recommended to re-appoint Mr David Medlock as a Pro-Chancellor for the period of 1st April 2012 to 31st July 2014;

ii) Mr Peter Troughton be re-appointed as Chair of Council for three years from 1st January 2012 to 31st December 2014;

iii) co-opted members of Court be appointed from 1st August 2011 to 31st July 2014 as set out below:

Mr Andrew Miller, Chair of the Partner Organisation Liaison Group
Mr Richard Mawditt

[Note: In accordance with Council Standing Order 23, Mr Troughton declared an interest and withdrew from the meeting for the duration of consideration and recommendation of his re-appointment. In his absence, the meeting was chaired by Mr Peter Wyman].

AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCE 13, DIVISION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING AND ORDINANCE 17, CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OFFICERS AND ACADEMIC STAFF

On the recommendation of Senate, Council considered the amendment of Ordinances 13 and 17.

AGREED that Ordinances 13 and 17 be amended as set out in Paper C11/12-37.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Council received and noted the progress report on improvement actions for October 2011 (Paper C11/12-38).

In relation to the requirements of the UK Border Agency, Council was assured that the University was responding effectively to these requirements (for example, by recruitment of a new post in Registry with specific responsibility for the development and implementation of associated processes).

BRIEFING NOTE: THE UNIVERSITY OF BATH'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Council noted the briefing note on the University's relationships with Schools and Colleges (Paper C11/12-39).

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 (28th September 2011) (Paper C11/12-47).

SENATE

Council noted the minutes of the meeting of Senate held on 19th October 2011 (Paper C11/12-48).

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2011/12

The programme of meetings for the remainder of Council for 2011/12 was noted as follows:

Thursday 1st March 2012
Thursday 17th May 2012
Thursday 28th June 2012

Note: All meetings start at 4.15 pm in the Council Chamber unless otherwise stated.

CHANCELLOR

Council noted that the Chancellor, Lord Tugendhat, had recently advised the Vice-Chancellor and Chair of Council that he intended to stand down as Chancellor not later than the summer of 2013. Accordingly, the Committee on the Office of Chancellor would now be convened to start to consider possible candidates for the role. Members of Council would have an opportunity in due course to offer suggested names for the Committee's consideration. In the meantime, the Chair of Council, on behalf of Council, thanked Lord Tugendhat for the tremendous support he had given for so many years and continued to give to the University.

EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW

The Chair of Council reported that the first meeting of the Effectiveness Review Group had been held earlier in the day. The views of members of Council would be sought as part of the review process in due course. This process would also include research of relevant good practice in other higher education institutions.