

Meeting: Academic Assembly Accountability and Transparency Working Group

Date and Time: Friday 3rd May 2019, 10.15-12.05

Venue: 1W 2.02

Chair: Robert Kelsh

Present: Sabina Gheduzzi (SG)
Hartmut Logemann (HL)
Elke Pawlowski (EP)
Theo Papadopoulos (TP)

Apologies: None

Secretary: Sarah White (SW)

1.	OPENING	ACTION
	None	
2.	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	
	These were agreed with no amendments	
3.	MATTERS ARISING	
	As below.	
4	HEAD OF GOVERNANCE	
	<p>We met with Dr Wharton, Interim head of strategic governance, 12 April.</p> <p>We received an email from Ruth Foreman 12 April rejecting our request re participation of the University community in the recruitment of the Head of Strategic Governance, and the suggestion that a member of this working group join the recruitment panel. However, in a subsequent meeting with CoC, CoCESG and CoAA (see below) it was agreed that the candidates should be given the opportunity to hear the perspective of a representative of AA as part of the selection process.</p>	
5.	COMMUNICATION WITH ACADEMIC ASSEMBLY	
	<p>We submitted a report on our activities to be presented to AA on 7 May.</p> <p>When presenting this report we will invite suggestions from the Assembly as to how they would like us to communicate with them.</p> <p>SW will send one slide to AA for us to speak to in our presentation.</p> <p>There is no constitutional clarity about the status of working groups. We will put a paper to a future Academic Assembly meeting suggesting that this be rectified.</p>	
6.	COUNCIL EFFECTIVENESS STEERING GROUP (CESG)	
	<p>RK, SG and TP met with the new Chair of Council, Pam Chesters, plus the Chair of Academic Assembly and Chair of the CESG on 25 April. CoC and CoCESG welcomed our input to their discussions. They noted that there will soon be a new CESG grid posted and the CESG will then invite us to meet them to discuss it.</p>	

	The Chair of Council had noted our observation that Minutes of Council had not been posted on the website for nearly a year, and has undertaken to ensure this situation is corrected.	
7.	RELATIONS WITH VC RK and SW had a cordial and encouraging meeting with the VC on 30 April.	
8.	OUR COMMUNICATIONS Our Team-page is now live. We have yet to receive a response regarding the blog (requested 1 April). We sent an email to AA on 17 April informing about our webpage. This has not yet been circulated by the email list-holders.	TP/SW
9.	REFLECTIONS ON ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND GOVERNANCE: NORMS, INSTITUTIONS AND PRACTICES FOR A DEMOCRATIC UNIVERSITY We discussed outline ideas for the lunchtime sandpit on governance, June 7. This might begin with discussion how University of Bath governance happens now. We will then explore different proposals for university governance models like those in the Murray et al.'s (2013) document on the democratisation of governance of Scottish universities, and discuss what might be pros and cons. TP and HL will discuss content further and bring an outline to our next meeting. SW to set up on Eventbrite, 12.30-14.00, 1 WN2.34 and submit to staff University homepage.	TP TP/HL SW
10.	SENATE Members of Senate who are members of the WG noted concerns about lack of transparency in decision-making at the recent Senate meeting. They will pursue this in Senate.	
11.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS None	
12.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING 17 May 12.15 – bring own lunch	