

# Council

Thursday, 12th October 2023 9:30 am

IAAPS | Council

## Attendees

---

### Council Member Attendance

Pamela Chesters – Chair

Jimena Alamo (virtual)

Maria Bond

Teslim Bukoye

Kate Ehrig-Page

Timothy Ford

Alun Griffiths

Dot Griffiths

Alan Hayes

Tim Hollingsworth

Don McLaverty

Catherine Mealing-Jones

Charlotte Moar

Andrew Ross

Paul Shepherd

Amber Snary (virtual)

Ian White

David Moon (Partial Attendance)

## **In Attendance**

Ghazwa Alwani-Starr

Ryan Bird

Julian Chaudhuri

Corinne Evans

Sarah Hainsworth

Cassie Stokes

Martin Williams

## **Apologies**

Calum Mercer

## **7600.0 Welcome and Quorum**

Purpose - For Information

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that the meeting was quorate. It was noted that it was Alun Griffith's first official Council meeting. Council also noted and congratulated Paul Shepherd who had recently been promoted to Professor.

## **7601.0 Declarations of Interest**

Purpose - For Information

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

It was confirmed that no one present at the meeting had any conflicts of interests to declare.

## **7602.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting - C23/24 - 105**

Purpose - For Approval

---

**Decision** by Gregory Noakes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved subject to the following amendments being made:

- Minutes being reformatted to its standard format;
- Under the item on financial matters, 'Minute xxx' should read 'Minute 7578'.

## **7603.0 Actions and Matters Arising**

Purpose - For Noting

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

The Chair noted that Council member exit interviews had been discussed at the Nominations

Committee meeting in June and that it had been agreed that no changes were required to the current practice.

## 7604.0 Role of the Council - C2324 - 106

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

Council noted its:

- Terms of Reference,
- Standing Orders,
- Membership and that of its committees,
- annual work plan.

It was noted that the council committee membership had not incorporated all the changes that had been previously agreed at the July 2023 council meeting.

**Action** by Gregory Noakes

Council Committee Membership Corrections

Action Description - Governance team to make corrections to the Council Committee membership document and reissue.

Action Status - Not Started | Due by - 23 Nov 2023 | Assigned to - Andrew Browning

## 7605.0 Institutional update - C23/24 - 107

Purpose - For Noting

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

Council noted the institutional update report and congratulated the University on achieving its recent triple gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF).

It was questioned if the University was doing an impact assessment for the Marking Assessment Boycott and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) confirmed that they hadn't and would consider doing this.

An update was requested on the progress that had been made with recruitment for Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and Head of Governance roles. It was reported that there had been a strong field of applications for the Vice-Chancellor role and the longlisting had taken place. A candidate has been identified for interim Head of Governance and the University was currently in the process of finalising this. An upcoming meeting of Senior Academic Appointments Committee would be considering the matter of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor role.

It was questioned if the University had identified any building where RAAC concrete was an issue and the Chief Operations Officer reported that one potential area had been identified and isolated while further tests were carried out.

Council noted the overall work being done to develop the estates strategy and confirmed its commitment to ensuring that health and safety concerns were prioritised going forward.

It was questioned if the University had any plans to market the recent TEF results, and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) explained that the Office of Students (OfS) had given strict guidance regarding how this information should be treated before full publication was made.

It was questioned if the University had any plans to carry out a review in response to the Postgraduate Taught survey and it was confirmed that one was planned.

## **7606.0 Admissions and Recruitment - oral update**

Purpose - For Discussion

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

Council noted that there had been extensive discussion on PGT admissions earlier, during the strategy day and that an analysis of the issue had already been requested for the next council meeting.

## **7607.0 Students' Union Articles of Association - C23/24 - 108**

Purpose - For Approval

---

**Decision** by Gregory Noakes

Council approved the proposed Articles of Association for The SU incorporation.

## **7608.0 Redundancy Committee - C2324 - 109**

Purpose - For Approval

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

It was questioned if the University needed a Redundancy Committee and the Chair of Council explained that this committee is currently contained in the University's core governing documents but that one of the aims of the ongoing review was to address this.

Members of the Committee noted that since the introduction of the practice of tracking recurring names, the number of staff who had temporary contracts that were being repeatedly renewed had gone down. This indicates that either these roles have been made permanent or that temporary contracts are being used correctly for temporary use only.

**Decision** by Gregory Noakes

Council approved the cases for redundancy and noted the analysis of fixed term contracts by gender and ethnicity.

## **7609.0 Report from Finance Committee - C2324 - 110**

**Decision** by Gregory Noakes

This was noted without discussion.

## **7610.0 Report from Senate - C2324 - 111**

Purpose - For Noting

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

This was noted without discussion.

## **7611.0 Governance Framework Review - C2324 - 112**

Purpose - For Noting

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

This was noted without discussion.

## **7612.0 Council Effectiveness Review - C23/24 - 113**

Purpose - For Noting

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

This was noted without discussion.

## **7613.0 Nominations Committee - C23/24 - 114**

Purpose - For Noting

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

This was noted without discussion.

## **7614.0 2023/24 Programme of Meetings - C23/24 - 115**

Purpose - For Noting

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

This was noted without discussion.

## **7615.0 Any Other Business**

Purpose - For Noting

---

**Minute** by Gregory Noakes

The Vice-Chancellor noted that the situation with respect to USS pensions was now looking more positive although the possibility of further industrial action could not yet be ruled out. It was agreed that if necessary a small working group would be convened to consider matters should the University need to take an urgent decision.