
Meeting: COUNCIL/SENATE/STUDENTS' UNION COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Tuesday 14th November 2017 at 2.15pm

Venue: 4 West Boardroom

Present: Professor Dame G Breakwell (Chair) President & Vice-Chancellor

Ms A Brady	Student Representative
Mr M Cigerli	Student Representative
Mr B Davies	President, Students' Union
Ms A Goodman	Elected by Council
Professor P Lambert	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching)
Miss C Page	Education Officer, Students' Union
Dr J Troyer	Elected by Senate
Mr R Tyrrell	Student Representative

In Attendance: Dr J Harris Director of Academic Registry
Mr A McLaughlin Chief Executive, Students' Union
Mr A Payne Director of Student Services
Mr M Pender Secretary
Mr W Galloway Sport Officer, Students' Union (for minute no. 1140(3))

Apologies: Professor C Mitchell Elected by Senate
Dr A Nightingale Elected by Council

ACTION**1136. MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Chair welcomed members to the first meeting of the 2017/18 session. The Membership and terms of reference of the Committee, as detailed in Paper CSSU17/18-1, were noted.

The Students' Union President asked whether the Committee could do more to support the work of the Students' Union Top Ten issues, and whether broader student issues could be discussed at meetings. During the ensuing discussion the following points were made:

- The terms of reference of the Committee were very broad and so any matter of concern relating to the University could be raised and discussed;
- Some of the SU's Top Ten issues could be considered by ULTQC instead, which would create more room on the agenda for other issues to be discussed;

ACTION

- The standard business received by the Committee annually could be reviewed to see if the Committee's time could be used more efficiently;
- All members of the Committee were welcome to suggest items to be added to the agenda for discussion, and the Students' Union was able to submit items that did not relate to its Top Ten issues.

The Secretary was asked to consider the above points when preparing the agenda for future meetings.

Sec**1137. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2017 (Paper CSSU17/18-2) were approved as a correct record of the proceedings.

1138. MATTERS ARISING**1) Min no 1131(2), Capital projects approval processes**

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor provided a brief overview of the University's process for the progression and approval of capital projects. It was acknowledged that the process was complex and often depended on the strategic importance of the proposal and other competing demands.

It was requested that a document be provided for the next meeting setting out how proposals for capital projects can be initiated and the subsequent steps necessary for their consideration and approval.

PVC(L&T)**1139. UPDATE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING ISSUES**

The Committee received an update from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching) on learning and teaching issues. He reported that the key issue arising from the University's Education Strategy was the transformation of curriculum and assessment at the University. This would shift the focus of the curriculum from unit to programme level and create an inclusive curriculum for all students. Four pilot schemes were currently underway which were advancing well, and the student voice would be key in informing decisions as the project progressed over the coming years. This would include input from focus groups and from the SU Academic Council as well as other ongoing conversations.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching) went on to provide an update on developments in personal tutoring, online unit evaluation and improved study space on campus. It was also reported that the SU and the University were working together on a HEFCE funded project on combatting sexual harassment and online hate crime, which had received a positive response from students and for which a full time project officer had been appointed. It was suggested that the success of this project should be publicised as a means of promoting partnership working between professional services, academics and the Students' Union.

After further discussion the report from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching) was noted.

1140. STUDENTS' UNION BUSINESS

- (1) Outstanding Top Ten Issue from 2016/17: Campaign for the curricula to

ACTION

reflect the diversity of the student body.

The Students' Union President introduced Paper CSSU17/18-3, which summarised the actions taken in respect of the above outstanding Top Ten issue from last year.

AGREED that the paper (Paper CSSU17/18-3) be noted.

(2) Top Ten Issues: Overview and Schedule of Topics for 2017/18

The Students' Union President introduced Paper CSSU17/18-4, which summarised the Top Ten issues which had been agreed as the key priorities for the Students' Union for the year ahead. Each issue would be brought to CSSU for discussion over the course of the year.

AGREED that the Students' Union Top Ten issues, as detailed in Paper CSSU17/18-4, be noted.

(3) Top 10 Issue: Top Ten issue: Secure commitment to a location and timeframe of building full sized 3G sports facilities on campus

The Students' Union Sport Officer introduced Paper CSSU17/18-5, which set out the current position in respect of 3G pitch facilities at the University, and asked for the Committee's support in securing the provision of 3G facilities on campus.

It was reported that this issue had been raised in previous years and a business plan had been submitted. However, due to planning and technical difficulties a 3G facility had not been delivered. It was noted that between 2012/13 and 2016/17 SU sports club membership had grown by over a 1000 students, and there was now not enough grass pitches on campus, and events were often cancelled due to bad weather.

It was reported that one relatively easy option would be to create a 3G training strip between the Sitec hockey pitch and the Rugby 1 pitch, and this would solve most of the issues around all-weather training space. It was acknowledged that the provision of full size 3G pitches would take much more time and effort to deliver.

During the ensuing discussion the following points were made:

- The University's sports facilities were one of the key factors in attracting students to Bath, and these facilities needed to be updated and improved in order for the University to keep pace with its competitors;
- The facilities at the STV had been continually improved over the years (for example the expansion of the gym) and there was usually some enhancement to these facilities every year;
- The Vice-Chancellor commented that there was no lack of willingness on behalf of the University to provide 3G facilities on campus, but for a variety of reasons previous proposals had failed

ACTION

to come to fruition. It was important to move forward effectively on this issue, with a proposal that will secure planning permission, is in an appropriate location and which can be delivered at the right price. The 3G training strip mentioned previously appeared to be the most realistic option at present and would provide impact and improvement in the short term. The Director of Sport was also supportive of this proposal.

- This proposal would need to be considered by the Estates Portfolio Group and considered in light of the campus Masterplan. It would help if there could be greater clarity on the likely usage of the 3G strip to enable this to progress as quickly as possible.

(4) **Top 10 Issue: Top Ten issue: Improve the quality and quantity of study spaces**

The Students' Union President introduced Paper CSSU17/18-6, which detailed the Students' Union's concerns regarding the quality and quantity of study space on campus. During the ensuing discussion the following points were made:

- It was suggested that greater advertising and signposting of the learning commons was needed to ensure students were aware of them and could find them easily;
- Additional spaces had been created in the Library, but it was acknowledged that more work need to be done in this area;
- The use of areas in existing buildings for student study (such as in the Chancellors' Building) was discussed. It was however noted that the use of such space was governed by fire and Health & Safety regulations which meant that areas which appeared to be usable had in fact to be kept clear;
- The University was constantly looking at the provision of study space on campus, and this was an evolving picture as students become more aware of the facilities currently available. However, space was limited on campus. The new School of Management building did however provide scope for space to be freed up elsewhere and its use as study space would be considered as this space became available.

1141. DATES OF MEETINGS

The programme of meetings for 2017/18 was noted as being as follows:

- Thursday 7th December 2017 at 2.15pm (to be rescheduled)
- Thursday 1st March 2018 at 10.15am
- Tuesday 17th April 2018 at 2.15pm

The meeting concluded at 3.45pm