

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

SENATE

Minutes of the meeting of the Senate held on Wednesday, 14 March 2018

Present: Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair), Dr J Angouri, Professor A Clarke, S Crookes, Professor C Davis, E Dunford, Professor C Ennew (Provost), Professor M Freely, Dr R Freeman, Professor R Goodwin, Professor L Gracia, Professor L Green, Professor F Griffiths, Professor G Hartshorne, Professor C Hughes, Professor S Jacka, L Jackson, Professor D Leadley, Professor G Lindsay, Professor C Lury, Professor L Roberts, Professor P Roberts, Professor K Seers, Professor M Shipman, Professor J Smith, Professor C Sparrow, Professor S Swain, Professor P Thomas, H Worsdale.

Apologies: Professor M Balasubramanian, Professor Branch, Dr D Britnell, Professor C Constable, R Green, Professor S Hand, Professor C Jenainati, Professor S Kumar, Professor A Lockett, Professor J Millar, Professor M Nudds, Professor A Ribeiro De Menezes, Professor H Spencer-Oatey, Professor J Solomos, Dr T van Rens, Professor M Ward.

In attendance: R Drinkwater, P Griffiths, R Sandby-Thomas, S Tuersley, Dr C Twine, R Wooldridge Smith.

60/17-18 University Strategy

CONSIDERED:

- (a) The progress made to date on the refresh of the University Strategy, (S.36/17-18 {Restricted}).

REPORTED (by the Vice-Chancellor):

- (b) That many Senators had participated in recent consultation sessions on the University Strategy; that further feedback on the current draft was welcomed and that this should be directed to Dr Richard Hutchins, Strategy Director;
- (c) That a further draft of the University Strategy would be presented for consideration at the 13 June 2018 meeting of the Senate at which point the views of the University Council would be reported to the Senate.

61/17-18 Report on the Size and Shape of the University

CONSIDERED:

- (a) A report on the Size and Shape of the University together with an oral report from the Provost, (S.37/17-18 {Restricted}).

REPORTED (by the Provost):

- (b) In response to a query from E Dunford, that it was anticipated that there would be larger growth STEMM relative to HASS, but that there would be growth in all areas, noting that STEMM was an area where overall performance was affected by size;

- (c) That some institutions had been able to grow both market share and tariff and that the Education Strategy work would help to underpin the fundamentals for the future;
- (d) In response to a query from L Jackson relating to the capacity of study space, that issues arising from the Size and Shape work would feed into the University's Campus Master Planning process, with scope for student input;
- (e) In response to a query from Professor R Goodwin, that it was expected that there would be capacity for growth in joint degrees;
- (f) That the overall aspiration was to adopt a strategy of achieving modest growth to around 32,000 students (total headcount) by 2030 with a slight re-balancing in favour of STEMM subjects and some growth in more flexible and distributed forms of delivery;

REPORTED (by the Vice-Chancellor):

- (g) That the growth target recommended was not a fixed target that must be achieved, but it had been derived as a result of information provided by departments.

RECOMMENDED (to the Council):

- (h) That the University focus on the modest growth option as both strategically well aligned and consistent with Option A from the initial "Size and Shape" work.

62/17-18 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Senate held on 24 January 2018 were approved.

63/17-18 Matters Arising on the Minutes

RECEIVED:

A paper from the Secretary reporting back on matters arising from the meeting of the Senate held on 24 January 2018 (S.38/17-18),

- (a) Progress of Senate Recommendations

REPORTED:

That the Council, at its meeting on 7 February 2018, approved the report from the meeting of the Senate held on 24 January 2018.

- (b) Progress of Senate Recommendations: Revisions to University Ordinances

REPORTED:

That the Council, at its meeting on 7 February 2018, approved the following recommendations of the Senate:

- (i) Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties and Ordinance 9 on a Board of Graduate Studies in relation to the Academic Governance Review (minute 18/17-18 and 53(c)/17-18 refers).
- (ii) Further recorded revisions of Ordinance 7 on the Constitution of the Boards of the Faculties and Ordinance 9 on a Board of Graduate Studies in relation to the follow up of the Academic Governance Review (minute 53(d)/17-18 refers).

(c) Progress of Senate Recommendations: Revisions to University Regulations

REPORTED:

That the Council, at its meeting on 7 February 2018, confirmed the recommendations of the Senate recorded revisions to University Regulations 2, 6, 9, 15, 34, 36 & 38 as part of the follow up to the Academic Governance Review (minute 53(d)/17-18 refers).

64/17-18 Vice-Chancellor's Business

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor.

REPORTED:

(a) Shirley Crookes

That this meeting of the Senate would be the last that Shirley Crookes would attend as she would be retiring at the end of March 2018, and that the thanks of the Senate be extended to Shirley for her service.

(b) Assembly election

That a call via Insite for a representative of the Assembly who is not an administrative/support member of staff to serve on the Senate would follow at the start of the Summer term to fill the vacancy arising from Shirley Crookes' retirement;

(c) University and College Union (UCU) Strike Action

- (i) That the agreement negotiated between Universities UK (UUK) and the University and College Union (UCU) on 12 March had been rejected by the UCU branches;
- (ii) That the UCU had announced that it was planning further strikes over the Summer exam period which would be responsive to individual institutions' examination timetables;
- (iii) That the University was trying to achieve both fair and affordable pensions as well as delivery of teaching to students;
- (iv) That the proposals approved by the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) in January 2018 would be the default position in the absence of any subsequent agreement, noting that there was a statutory requirement to

consult on those proposals giving each USS member an opportunity express their views;

- (v) That that the January 2018 proposals had been negotiated within a set of assumptions and a scheme valuation that had been established in November 2017, noting that these represented a more conservative framework in relation to risk than that used by the UUK consultation of September 2017;
- (vi) That the January 2018 proposals had embedded in them the current winding down of the Defined Benefit provision to zero; noting that there was currently no commitment to the important work of re-examining the November 2017 assumptions and valuations that underpin the challenges facing the USS pension scheme which had led to those proposals;
- (vii) That as a result of the 12 March 2018 deal failing, UUK's commitment to carry out an independent valuation of the USS had been lost;
- (viii) That so long as the November 2017 assumptions and valuation remained the basis for negotiations, a better deal was unlikely to be obtained without a new valuation;
- (ix) That Warwick had been very active and vocal as an institution in part because of the tremendous support received from its Treasurer, Keith Bedell-Pearce, who had 10 years' Board experience at Prudential plc, along with support from the University's Council;
- (x) That the University had also benefitted from the efforts of a number of staff in the Department of Statistics who had carried out tremendous work around challenging the November 2017 valuation and sets of assumptions, in particular Professor Jane Hutton to whom significant thanks were due;

REPORTED (by Professor S Jacka):

- (xi) That the November 2017 USS valuation represented an extreme position within the actuarial profession, and that it was regrettable that an independent valuation was not available for consideration;

REPORTED (by Professor M Freely and H Worsdale):

- (xii) That the University had a role to play in ensuring that the entire University community was as informed as possible regarding the dispute, in particular how valuations work;

REPORTED (by H Worsdale):

- (xiii) That all members of the community were in a difficult position, noting that students had voted to enable the Students' Union (SU) to support the strike and so the SU was following that mandate, but also that the SU wished to ensure that the impact on students was as minimal as possible.

65/17-18 Registrar's Business

REPORTED:

(a) Recent Institutional Successes

- (i) That Warwick Business School's online Masters in Business Administration (MBA) had been ranked the best in the world by the Financial Times, noting that the school's distance learning MBA, which was created more than 30 years ago, had been second ever since the ranking was started in 2014, but had now risen to number one;
- (ii) That the University was a Stonewall Diversity Champion, noting that over the last few years Warwick had risen in the Workplace Equality Index. In the 2018 results, Warwick had risen 181 places to 163 (out of the 434 organisations);
- (iii) That for the 28th consecutive year, the University won the Varsity trophy, noting that Varsity is an annual competition with Coventry University covering a wide range of sports including Equestrian, Fencing, Athletics, Football, Rugby, and Ice-hockey, amongst others.

(b) Mathematical Sciences Building

- (i) That Thursday 1 March saw the new Mathematical Sciences Building project officially "topped out"; an event celebrating the construction as it reached its highest point;
- (ii) That the Director of Estates, James Breckon, had been joined by Morgan Sindall's Area Director in the Midlands, Richard Fielding and representatives of the departments of Computer Science, Statistics and the Mathematics Institute, to mark the occasion by decorating a steel beam on the top floor of the six-storey facility with equations and diagrams.

(c) Appointments and Departures

- (i) That Professor Jonothan Neelands (Warwick Business School) had been appointed to the position of Academic Director (Cultural Partnerships).
- (ii) That Alan Rivett, Director of the Warwick Arts Centre, would retire after 18 years leading the largest multi-disciplinary arts centre outside London.

66/17-18 Education Strategy

CONSIDERED:

The draft Education Strategy together with an oral report from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education), Professor Chris Hughes, (S.39/17-18 {Restricted}).

REPORTED (by Professor C Hughes):

- (a) That the recent online consultation had received a total of 170 downloads of the strategy document and 27 detailed consultation responses;

- (b) That the next stage was to prepare an operational plan on how the Education Strategy could be delivered which would include actions, timelines, action holders, and a risk register.

RECOMMENDED (to the University Council):

- (c) That the Education Strategy, as set out in Annex A of paper S.39/17-18 be considered by the University Council, allowing for minor amendments to be made by the Education Executive as required.

67/17-18 Research Strategy

CONSIDERED:

An oral report from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Pam Thomas on progress to refresh the University's Research Strategy.

REPORTED (by Professor P Thomas):

- (a) That work on key elements of the Research Strategy was progressing through the Research Committee and Research Executive;
- (b) That the 'Support, foster and showcase the talent and ambition of all our researchers' workstream would dovetail with the work of the Academic Processes Review Group;
- (c) That a proposal had been submitted for consideration by the Academic Staff Committee to allow staff to undertake impact leave;
- (d) That consultation was taking place with the LDC around Education and CPD for researchers around public engagement of research and where that meets impact.
- (e) That for the 'Undertake world-leading research at the forefront of knowledge' workstream, feedback from departments would be fed into the April 10 REF Steering Group meeting;
- (f) That for the 'Cultivate world-class interdisciplinary research communities' workstream, approval from the Research Committee had been granted to enable a review of GRP activities, noting that the refreshed GRP programme would be live from 1 August 2019.
- (g) That the refreshed University Research website had gone live on 13 March 2018, and was accessible at: <https://warwick.ac.uk/research/>

68/17-18 Review of Statute 24

RECEIVED:

A report on the review of Statute 24 together with an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor (S.51/17-18 {Restricted}).

REPORTED (by the Vice-Chancellor):

That the outcomes of the work to reform Statute 24 and related Ordinances would be presented to the Senate at its meeting on 13 June 2018.

69/17-18 Personal Tutoring Review

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Personal Tutoring Review Group and an oral report from the Dean of Students, Professor Louise Gracia, (S.40/17-18),

REPORTED (by Professor L Gracia):

- (a) In response to a query from Professor S Jacka, that recommendation 11 related to changing student attitudes on personal tutor meetings which were considered as monitoring points, and that personal tutoring was more than solely about attendance monitoring;
- (b) In response to a query from H Worsdale, that mental health training would be provided to all senior tutors, and that there would be an optional module on mental health training which all personal tutors would be able to access;
- (c) In response to a query from H Worsdale, that the aim was to have personal tutoring incorporated into all department workload allocation models (where they are in operation), and a report on this matter would go to the Education Committee;

REPORTED (by the Provost):

- (d) In response to a query from Professor R Goodwin, that HESA data had been used in the report, which included students on joint degrees;

RESOLVED:

- (e) That the recommendations from the Personal Tutoring Review Group be approved as set out in paper S.40/17-18.

70/17-18 Report from the Academic Staff Committee

CONSIDERED:

Report from the Academic Staff Committee on the progress of the Academic Processes Review Group, (S.41/17-18 {Restricted}).

REPORTED (by the Provost):

- (a) In response to a query from H Worsdale, that WIHEA was represented on the APRG;
- (b) In response to a query from Professor P Thomas, that other institutions such as Leeds, Bristol, Exeter, UCL all had 'Readers' on Teaching pathways;
- (c) In response to a query from Professor D Leadley relating to the operationalisation of splitting FA8 job titles into two categories, that permission would be granted for staff to use the new titles from the start of the coming academic year, while work on the underlying contract takes place.

RESOLVED

- (d) That the proposed criteria and matrix document for academic promotions and its implementation for 2018/19, as set out in paper S.41/17-18 {Restricted}, be approved;
- (e) That the use of the revised job titles in line with the timescales set out in paper S.41/17-18 be approved.

71/17-18 Reports from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee

CONSIDERED:

A report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, (S.42/17-18 {Part 1}),

RECEIVED:

A report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, (S.42/17-18 {Part 2}),

REPORTED (by Professor C Hughes):

- (a) In response to queries from H Worsdale and Professor A Clarke, that the revised guidelines detailed in Regulation 10.2 Examination Regulations would be incorporated into the script that would be read out at the start of the exam.
- (b) In response to a an observation from Professor G Lindsay regarding the need to promote 'prevention' with regard to students bringing digital devices into exams, that repeated messaging would be crucial.

RESOLVED:

- (c) That the revised Regulation 10.2 for introduction with immediate effect from the current academic year 2017/18 be approved;
- (d) That the proposal to award undergraduate exit qualifications of Certificate and Diploma of Higher Education and associated revisions to Regulation 8 with immediate effect from the current academic year 2017/18 be approved;
- (e) That the revised module approval form as set out in S.42/17-18 {Part 2} be approved as a basis for the proposed module approval system;
- (f) That the proposed revisions to Regulation 40, Collaborative Courses, be approved as set out in S.42/17-18 {Part 2};
- (g) That the proposed revisions to Regulation 37 (Regulations for the award of the MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in Engineering Business Management; Manufacturing Systems Engineering and Management and Supply Chain and Logistics Management jointly with Hong Kong Polytechnic University) be approved as set out in S.42/17-18 {Part 2}.

72/17-18 Report from the Steering Committee

RECEIVED:

A report from the Steering Committee, (S.43/17-18 {Restricted}), and its resolutions under the following headings:

- (a) * UCU Strike Action Update;
- (b) * Targeted Reputational Survey Strategy Update;
- (c) * Academic Statistics Yearbook and Draft Key Performance Indicators;
- (d) * Qualified Teacher Status Consultation;
- (e) * Equality and Diversity Update;
- (f) * Pulse Survey Results;
- (g) * Report from the Capital Space and Amenities Group;
- (h) * Report from the Campus and Commercial Services Group.

73/17-18 Report from the Education Committee

RECEIVED:

A report from the Education Committee, (S.44/17-18), and its resolutions under the following headings:

- (a) Widening Participation Strategy;
- (b) Monitoring Progress from the Institutional Teaching and Learning Review;
- (c) OfS Consultation.

74/17-18 Report from the Research Committee

RECEIVED:

A report from the Research Committee, (S.45/17-18), and updates under the following headings:

- (a) Research Communications;
- (b) The High Performance Computing Review;
- (c) The GRP Programme;
- (d) Funding for Open Access Publications;
- (e) The Industrial Strategy.

75/17-18 Report from the Honorary Degrees Committee

RECEIVED:

A report from the Honorary Degrees Committee, (S.46/17-18 {Restricted}).

76/17-18 Awards and Distinctions

RECEIVED:

A paper setting out Awards and Distinctions conferred upon members of the University since the last meeting of the Senate held on 24 January 2018 (S.47/17-18).

77/17-18 Revisions to Ordinances and Regulations

CONSIDERED:

- (a) Proposed amendments to University Ordinances 7 & 9, following approval of the Academic Governance Review (minutes 119/16-17 and 53(d)/17-18 refers), for the second time, (S.35/17-18), (online only);

- (b) Proposed amendments to University Regulation 26, Safety Regulations (S.49/17-18), (online only);
- (c) Proposed amendments to University Regulation 38, Research Degrees (S.50/17-18), (online only);

RESOLVED:

- (d) That the proposed amendments to University Ordinances 7 & 9, be approved for the second time as set out in S.35/17-18;
- (e) That the proposed amendments to University Regulation 26, Safety Regulations, be approved as set out in S.49/17-18;
- (f) That the proposed amendments to University Regulation 38, Research Degrees, be approved as set out in S.50/17-18.

78/17-18 Student and Alumni deaths

REPORTED:

That the University has been informed of the deaths of the following alumni and students since the last meeting of the Senate held on 24 January 2018:

Student:

Krystal Evans, Undergraduate Social Studies (2+2) 17/18

Alumni:

Jonathan Garfitt, BEng General Engineering, 1974 – 1977

David James Finigan Hill, BSc Mathematics, 2013 – 2016

79/17-18 Professor Stephen Hawking

REPORTED (by the Vice-Chancellor):

That the University was deeply saddened by the news of the death of Professor Stephen Hawking, which had been announced earlier on 14 March.

80/17-18 Date of the next meeting

REPORTED:

That the next meeting of the Senate would be held at 2.00pm on Wednesday 13 June 2018 in the Council Chamber, Senate House.