

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

COUNCIL

5th October 2016 at 4.00pm

MINUTES

Members present: Mr Ed Smith CBE (Pro-Chancellor, in the Chair); Mr Derrick Anderson; Ms Rose Bennett (Postgraduate Officer); Dame Christine Braddock; Professor Corey Ross; Mr Alan Davey CBE; Mr David Davies OBE; Professor Sir David Eastwood (Vice-Chancellor and Principal); Professor Peter Fryer; Mr Malcolm Harbour CBE; Professor Hisham Mehanna; Sir Terry Morgan; Dame Una O'Brien; Professor Karen Rowlingson; Mr David Stead; Professor Tim Jones (Provost and Vice-Principal).

Also present: Professor David Adams (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Professor Saul Becker (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Mr Chris Granger (Director of Finance); Ms Ellie Keiller (President of the Guild of Students Elect); Mrs Colette McDonough (Assistant Secretary); Mr Lee Sanders (Registrar and Secretary); Professor Andy Schofield (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Professor Tim Softley (Pro-Vice-Chancellor); Professor Michael Whitby (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College).

Apologies: Professor Kathleen Armour; Mr Martin Devenish; Mr Richard Haywood (Deputy Pro-Chancellor); Dame Lin Homer; Professor Robin Mason (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International)); Mrs Caragh Merrick (Treasurer); Professor Myra Nimmo (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Dr Ranjit Sondhi CBE.

Papers: The minute book contains copies of all written papers or reports to which reference is made below unless indicated otherwise.

16/62 Membership and Terms of Reference

Noted: the membership and terms of reference of Council (CO.16.10.01).

16/63 Minutes of previous meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2016 be approved (CO.16.10.02).

16/64 Matters Arising
Minute 16/43, Battery Park

[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]

16/65 Pro-Chancellor's Items

Reported: that there were no Pro-Chancellor's Items.

16/66 Vice-Chancellor's Items

Considered: a report from the Vice-Chancellor (CO.16.10.03).

(1) Avon Room Student Suite

Reported that:

- (a) the refurbishment of the Avon Room had been completed for Welcome Week under budget. This had created an opportunity to extend the existing contract with the main construction contractor and to refurbish the adjacent student study lounge, offering continuity and a saving to the overall project cost;
- (b) UEB on 12th September 2016 had approved the refurbishment of the Avon Room Student Suite at a total cost of £1.75m.

(2) ***[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]***

(3) Brexit

Reported that:

- (a) the government was expected to announce that EU students entering English universities in 2017 would continue to be subject to the same fees and eligible for the same loans and grants as Home students;
- (b) representations were being made to the Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation regarding the need to protect the future of Erasmus in the light of Brexit;
- (c) the University would continue to work nationally with Universities UK and the Russell Group on the impact of Brexit on higher education.

(4) Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Regional Economic Engagement)

Considered: the appointment of Professor Simon Collinson as Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Regional Economic Engagement), noting that members of Senate had been consulted by correspondence and were supportive of the appointment (CO.16.10.03A).

Resolved: that Professor Simon Collinson be appointed as Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Regional Economic Engagement) for three years with effect from 1st October 2016.

(5) Sports Centre

Reported: that the Sports Centre was now expected to open in December 2016.

16/67

Recruitment and Admissions Update

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Considered: the report on the outcome of the 2016 recruitment cycle (CO.16.10.04).

Reported:

- (a) the overall success of the 2016 recruitment cycle, noting that:
 - (i) to (v) ***[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]***
- (b) ***[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]***
- (c) ***[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]***
- (d) that all accepted undergraduates had been housed in either University or third party accommodation. The Director of Student Recruitment undertook to provide details of students in third party accommodation to the Guild of Students so that they could contact them and offer them support;

- (e) **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**
- (f) that the greater utilisation of digital marketing and social media throughout the recruitment process and particularly the personalised "congratulations" video were commended;
- (g) **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**

Resolved that:

- (i) the Director of External Relations and all those who had contributed to the admissions success be congratulated on the outcome and thanked for their work;
- (ii) a briefing paper on the University's approach to widening participation would be submitted to the next meeting of Council for information.

16/68 **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**

16/69 Annual Assurance Report on Equality and Diversity

Considered: the Annual Assurance Report on Equality and Diversity (CO.16.10.06).

Reported:

- (a) an early update on progress against the objectives set out in the University's Equality Scheme approved by Council in April 2016, including some of the early activity and initiatives undertaken;
- (b) the objectives and proposed activity for the forthcoming year;
- (c) a brief summary of key benchmarking and other equalities data;
- (d) the work being undertaken by Council to broaden the diversity of its membership;
- (e) the scope to broaden the benchmarking data at Paragraph 5 of Paper CO.16.10.06, noting, for example, that it would be beneficial for the University to benchmark its equality and diversity data against other comparator institutions if such data was available;
- (f) that a small number of incidents of race hate and crime involving staff and students in Birmingham had occurred since Brexit. This was being proactively addressed by the University and the Guild of Students in a variety of ways, including by student induction, the work of the Good Campus Relations Group, an all staff/student e-mail from the Vice-Chancellor, support for staff and students involved, and the investigation and reporting of any incidents to the Police. The University's approach on this would be reviewed again in light of the report of Universities UK's taskforce to address violence against women, harassment and hate crime affecting students which was due to be published in November;
- (g) the scope to broaden the diversity of the senior management team and senior roles across the University, recognising that this remained a priority for UEB.

Resolved: that the Annual Assurance Report on Equality and Diversity be approved.

16/70 Modern Slavery Act 2015

Considered: the implications of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 for the University (CO.16.10.07).

Reported that:

- (a) the Modern Slavery Act 2015 was now in force and placed specific statutory obligations upon the University. Pursuant to the Act, the University was required to publish annually a slavery and human trafficking statement on its website

- setting out the measures it had taken to prevent modern slavery;
- (b) an Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy had been prepared for approval which set out the University's response to the Act. An annual statement of the University's position on Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking and the initial measures taken by the University to prevent modern slavery had also been prepared and approved by UEB. This would be updated by UEB on an annual basis.

Resolved: that the Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy be approved as set out at Appendix 1 to Paper CO.16.10.07.

Noted: the Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Annual Statement at Appendix 2 to Paper CO.16.10.07.

16/71 Amendment of Guild of Students Bye-Laws

Considered: the proposed amendment of the Bye-Laws for the Guild of Students (CO.16.10.08).

Reported that:

- (a) most of the amendments were minor in nature and reflected changes to either previous Guild Council processes (now defunct) or the addition of a new full time Postgraduate Officer;
- (b) these Bye-Laws had been approved by the Guild Trustee Board on 5th September 2016.

Resolved: that the proposed amendment of the Bye-Laws for the Guild of Students be approved as set out in Paper CO.16.10.08.

16/72 Capital Projects over £5m

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Received: a report from the Director of Estates (CO.16.10.09).

16/73 Recommendation of the Membership Committee Vacancy on Strategy, Planning and Resources Committee

Resolved: that Professor Corey Ross be appointed to serve as an academic member of Council on Strategy, Planning and Resources Committee until 31st July 2020.

16/74 Affixing of the University Seal

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Received: a report noting the transactions which had required use of the University Seal since the last meeting of Council (CO.16.10.10).

16/75 Items Approved Between Meetings of Council

Received: a report noting items of business which had been approved since the last meeting of Council (CO.16.10.11).

16/76 Any Other Business

Reported: that there were no items of Any Other Business.

16/77 Programme of Meetings

Noted: the programme of meetings of Council for 2016/17 and 2017/18:

2016/17

Tuesday 29th November 2016, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 30th November 2016, 9.00am, Council Meeting

Tuesday 31st January 2017, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 1st February 2017, 9.00am, Council Meeting

Tuesday 25th April 2017, 10.00am, Council Strategy Day and Dinner

Tuesday 27th June 2017, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 28th June 2017, 9.00am, Council Meeting

2017/18

Tuesday 3rd October 2017, 6.30pm, Council Dinner

Wednesday 4th October 2017, 9.00am, Council Strategy Day

Tuesday 28th November 2017, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 29th November 2017, 9.00am, Council Meeting

Tuesday 30th January 2018, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 31st January 2018, 9.00am, Council Meeting

Tuesday 24th April 2018, 9.00am, Council Strategy Day and Dinner

Tuesday 26th June 2018, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 27th June 2018, 9.00am, Council Meeting