

**Minutes of the Meeting  
of  
Fylde College Syndicate  
Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

**Apologies** Heather Willes, Mandy Chetwynd, Shelagh Walsh, Beth Cross

**1. Proposal to Syndicate to appoint a student Syndicate Representative to the JCR.**

The Principal requested Syndicate to approve the creation of a temporary appointment of a Syndicate Representative to the JCR Executive for the course of the current academic year.

Members of Syndicate assented to the proposal.

The Principal then nominated Dessita Petrova to act as Syndicate Representative to the JCR Executive. Members of Syndicate confirmed the nomination.

The post would involve acting as a liaison officer to help the SCR and JCR co-ordinate a number of projects. Work was already well underway with rejuvenating the George Fox lounges. There followed a discussion about the lounges and how to keep them in good condition. As a matter of policy, it was agreed that the lounges be opened for general use by college members living in the George Fox Building and other invited members of the college. However, it was agreed that access to the lounges could be restricted on occasion, for example, during the Roses event in May when visiting teams would be sleeping over in George Fox facilities on the ground floor.

The Principal thanked Dessita and the other students who have been involved in helping with the lounges.

**2. Graduate Year Book.**

As a pilot scheme this year, the central Alumni Office had initiated a project to produce a graduate yearbook. Graduands in 2014 were being invited to add their details to the year book which all agreed would be a nice souvenir of time at Lancaster. All would try to encourage final year students to get their details on. The book would cost £25 if students wished to buy it, but supplying details for the Yearbook would not commit students to purchasing the book. It would also be a source of contacts for alumni and for the students to be able to stay in touch.

**3. College Space – possible review of existing areas.**

As student numbers have continued to rise the amount of college space, particularly in some colleges has decreased. There was a clear case for County, Bowland and Graduate College to ask for an increase in college space.

**4. Fylde College Dean**

The Principal recorded formal thanks to the outgoing Fylde Dean, Jackie Williams and wished her well in her new role at UCLAN. The position was being advertised and it was hoped to fill the vacancy soon.

**5. Senate**

(Selected items)

UMAG Business

**Reconfiguration of Senior Roles in the V-C's Office**

There had been some recent changes in roles here. The PVC for Colleges and the Student Experience, Professor Mandy Chetwynd had assumed additional responsibility strategic leadership of the Library

refurbishment project whilst a new management structure was established for the Library. In order to support the PVC for Colleges and the Student Experience, the Principal's buyout from his role in the central administration had been increased to 50%.

### **Update on Strategic Planning Process**

A document had been submitted to the University Planning and Resources Group outlining the Colleges' proposals for their contribution to the new Strategic Plan:

- Supporting student employability, by working with Careers and to host events and provide opportunities for students to fulfil the requirements of the Lancaster Award Lancaster Advanced Award;
- Supporting recruitment efforts, by showcasing colleges on open days and emphasising the benefits of Lancaster's collegiate system;
- Supporting students to complete their studies at Lancaster through targeted welfare initiatives (and thereby further improve Lancaster's student retention and completion rates);
- Promoting and encouraging "Internationalisation" of the student experience at Lancaster by supporting study abroad opportunities for Home students, enriching the international culture at Lancaster and providing opportunities for international students to access and engage with UK culture and society;
- Improving social facilities for students (in Fylde this means developing the social space we have and in response to student ideas and initiatives);
- In the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year especially, promoting alumni relations and networks, by welcoming the return of alumni and organising informal reunion visits (for example, the recent Fylde event with students from class of '84).

### **LU Recruitment 2013/14**

Applications at this point in the year were about 2% down on last year, which was cause for concern. It was hoped that colleges would be able to play a more pro-active role in supporting Visit Days and recruitment events in the coming year. Support from the JCR would be very welcome in this area.

### **NSS Results**

The quantitative analysis of the survey results indicated that while Lancaster was maintaining a positive position in students' views on learning resources and general quality of course provision, there still remained work to be done in improving feedback to students on academic work and its perceived value in supporting learning. The University was keen to hear students' views on the full range of issues covered by the survey and it was hoped that as many students as possible in the target group would complete the NSS survey this year. A campaign was underway in the form of a "You said . . . We did" publication to demonstrate the university's response to previous surveys.

### **Next Meeting; 29 April 2014**

**(Senate papers are now available for current staff to view at**

<https://gap.lancs.ac.uk/Committees/senate/sms/meetings/default.aspx>)