

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY

Minutes of a meeting of the Council
held on 8 July 2016

PRESENT: Pro-Chancellor (in the Chair); Vice-Chancellor; Professor A. M. Atherton; Mr D. Barron; Dr R. Bournemouth; Mr J. R. Carr; Mr M. J. Dormer; Ms J. Dybell; Professor J. Garside; Mrs R. Georghiou; Professor S. Guy; Mr I. Johnson; Ms R. Jones; Mr L. King; Mr E. McLaughlin; Baroness Neville-Jones; Professor J. F. O'Hanlon; Mr A. Warriner; Mrs V. Young.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P. Boustead; Professor S. Bradley; Professor A. G. Chetwynd; Professor S. P. Decent; Mr S. Franklin; Ms R. Hughes; Ms H. Hunter; Professor S. R. A. Huttly; Mr S. Jennings; Ms N. C. Owen; Mrs S. J. Randall-Paley; Mr M. Swindlehurst; Ms V. Tyrrell.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Professor N. Johnson; Professor K. C. Jones; Professor E. Ritchie; Dr J. Taylor.

CO.16/35 Declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

CO.16/36 Notes/Minutes of the Meetings Held on 19 and 20 May 2016

Council approved the notes and minutes of the meetings held on 19 and 20 May 2016 (*SEC/2016/2/0665; SEC/2016/2/0692; SEC/2016/2/0666*).

CO.16/37 Matters Arising

Council noted that matters arising were being addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

CO.16/38 Vice-Chancellor's Update and Questions to the Executive

(A) **VICE-CHANCELLOR'S UPDATE**

The Vice-Chancellor provided an oral update on activities of interest to Council, including:

- (i) HEFCE had confirmed that it was satisfied with the University's arrangements to comply with Prevent requirements following an assessment of the University's submission. There was one minor issue to address, which was in hand;

- (ii) an overview of the impact of the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), White Paper and HE Bill, including the introduction of the Office for Students (OfS) and UK Research & Innovation (UKRI), noting that TEF outcomes would be linked to tuition fee increases, the changes provided for increased marketization, and the removal of powers previously reserved to the Privy Council to OfS. The outcome of the EU vote may impact the timetable to effect the changes;
- (iii) Senate had discussed and agreed the University Priorities for 2016/17;
- (iv) the University had performed well in recent league tables including the Complete University Guide (9th) and the Guardian University Guide (8th). In addition, it had performed well in the recent mock TEF conducted by the Times Higher Education (THE).

(B) **EU REFERENDUM RESULT – IMPLICATIONS AND RESPONSE**

The report and related risk analysis following the EU Referendum (*SEC/2016/2/0851; SEC/2016/2/0874*) were considered, covering implications for and response by the University.

Key points from the discussion included:

- (i) the principal areas of concern were the potential impact on recruitment of EU students and staff and access to EU research funding;
- (ii) although there had been confirmation about continuation of EU students' fees and loans arrangements for the 2016 intake, clarification was awaited for future years and also regarding the future Horizon2020 and ERDF funding;
- (iii) communications had been circulated to reassure current and potential staff and students. In addition, drop-in sessions had been arranged for staff;
- (iv) the apparent disconnect between higher education and some communities revealed by the vote outcome and the importance of addressing this gap;
- (v) the importance of continuing to proactively seek EU research funding and to collate evidence if University staff were excluded from consortia;
- (vi) the importance for the University to proactively convey a pro-European and international position to the wider world.

Council agreed that the risk register should be reviewed and reported back to Council in Autumn, when government policy should be clearer.

CO.16/39 President of the Students' Union: Report

The President of the Students' Union introduced the written report (*SEC/2016/2/0841*). Council noted the report.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL

CO.16/40

Strategy

(A) **STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY**
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence)

(B) **RESEARCH GRANTS PERFORMANCE AND FUTURE PLANS: UPDATE**

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) introduced the paper (SEC/2016/2/0846), which provided an update on performance following a request by Council in September 2015 for an annual report about progress on research income given the £45M target. It was noted the report had been prepared before the EU Referendum and the impact would need to be addressed. Council noted the report and considered it demonstrated positive progress.

Council requested a report on research institutes at a future meeting.

(C) **THEMATIC REVIEW OF COLLEGES: FINAL UPDATE ON ACTIONS**

The Provost for Student Experience, Colleges and the Library introduced the report (SEC/2016/2/0852), which provided an update on implementing recommendations from the 2015 Thematic Review of Colleges. Council noted the report.

CO.16/41

Governance

(A) **STUDENTS' UNION DEMOCRATIC AND GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

Council approved the proposed new governing documents (Unincorporated Constitution and Incorporated Memorandum and Articles) for the Students' Union (SEC/2016/2/0807).

(B) **CURRENT SCHEDULE OF FUTURE COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Council noted the paper (SEC/2016/2/0853).

CO.16/42

Headline Budget and Financial Forecasts to 2018/19

Council noted the report (FIN/16/38). An updated report would be provided in Autumn, which took account of strategic objectives arising from the Council awayday in May and the impact of EU Referendum outcome.

Council approved:

- (i) the Headline Budget for 2016/17 and the updated Financial Forecasts to 2018/19; and
- (ii) the submission of the Part 2 commentary and financial forecasts to HEFCE for the Annual Accountability return, noting that additional narrative would be included covering the EU Referendum outcome.

CO.16/43 Estates

(A) **HEALTH INNOVATION CAMPUS**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor introduced the report (*SEC/2016/2/0855*) providing progress on development of the Health Innovation Campus (HIC) and securing external funding to support the first phase of development. Council noted the report and that there was confidence the ERDF funding would be confirmed in due course.

(B) **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016-2019: INTERIM UPDATE**

Council approved the interim update of the capital programme for 2016-19 (*FIN/16/37*), following recommendation by Finance and General Purposes Committee and Estates Committee.

Council noted that Estates Committee had requested further information on the rationale for not selecting a new site for the development of the Management School.

Council requested a paper setting out how the Management Challenge target would be achieved.

(C) **REPORT ON THE SPINE REMODELLING PROJECT**

Council approved the scheme for the Spine Remodelling project within a funding envelope of £12.9M (*SEC/2016/2/0877*), following recommendation by Finance and General Purposes Committee and Estates Committee.

CO.16/44 Human Resources: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Vision to 2020

Council approved the proposals set out in the report (*SEC/2016/2/0812*):

- (i) the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) documents at Appendices 1, 2 and 3;
- (ii) EDI website development and positioning at University level;
- (iii) the name change to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

The importance of ensuring equality, diversity and inclusion issues were adequately addressed within estate developments was noted.

CO.16/45 University Emeritus Appointments: Proposals under Statute 2

Council approved the appointments as set out in the report (*SEC/2016/2/0870*).

ITEMS TO RECEIVE

CO.16/46 Update to Measures of Success: Complete University Guide and the Guardian University Guide

The paper was noted (*PSU/2016/0077*).

CO.16/47 Chair's Actions

The paper was noted (SEC/2016/2/0810).

CO.16/48 Standing Committees and Reports

Council noted the reports.

- (i) Audit Committee, meeting of 11 March 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0843)
- (ii) Colleges and Student Experience Committee, meetings of 3 February 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0848) and 18 May 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0791)
- (iii) Equality and Diversity Committee, meetings of 15 January 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0849) and 4 May 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0850)
- (iv) Estates Committee, meetings of 29 January 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0857) and 19 May 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0858)
- (v) Finance and General Purposes Committee, meetings of 10 March 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0859) and 19 May 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0860)
- (vi) Senate, meetings of 2 March 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0861), 27 April 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0862) and 15 June 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0811)
- (vii) University and Students' Union Joint Committee, meetings of 17 March 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0805) and 5 May 2016 (SEC/2016/2/0806)

CO.16/49 Any Other Business

Following recommendation from Nominations Committee, Council approved the following appointments:

- (a) David Barron to Remuneration Committee in an upcoming vacancy for a lay member of Council;
- (b) Simon Reynolds to become a member of FGPC in his upcoming capacity as Chair of Estates Committee.

In addition, Council confirmed the appointment of Pauline Neville-Jones as Chair of Audit Committee.

All appointments were concurrent with the terms of office in the capacity of which the member was appointed.

CO.16/50 Date of Next Meeting

The Council noted that the next meeting will take place on **Friday 30 September 2016 at 1.00 p.m.** in the **Private Dining Room, County College.**

Council thanked Laurence King and James Carr, who were stepping down from their positions, for their invaluable contributions to the University through their membership of Council and chairmanship of Finance and General Purposes Committee and Estates Committee respectively.