



Minutes of the Furness Syndicate meeting 20 September 2016

Attendees: Wlodek Tych (Chair) Kevin Huggett, Bev Whitaker, Qas Younis, Graham Rand, Olga Gomez-Cash, Andrew Gibson, Jane Silvester, Karl Ignacio McPhail

Apologies: Ruth Alcock, Josh Sendall, George Harrington, Savni Sawant, Sophie Chan, Claudia Poole, Ellie McCann

1 Previous Minutes - approved.

2 Matters arising:

Welcome Week

Bev and Qas confirmed everything was on track for Welcome Week. The JCR will be packing the welcome bags when they are all back next week.

3 Senate Agenda (21 September Meeting Agenda) – Items of Interest to the Colleges

Student Numbers

The University is intending to expand the student population at Lancaster in the next four years. This may be as much as 5%. A thorough analysis has been carried out in the report looking at the trends, comparison of Colleges and prospective growth in numbers.

A major element of an increase in undergraduate numbers would be the need for more Colleges, accommodation and student space as well as formal teaching space.

Enhancement of the Student Experience is important in this context and this may possibly require extra staff.

A discussion took place within the meeting of the possible number of Colleges that will be required to admit such an intake. An optimum number of students would need to be set, as some of the current Colleges are very large and perhaps should be reduced. It was mentioned that it is unlikely that new Colleges would have a bar. The general thought of the meeting was that as long as there was sufficient discussion, it may not be a big problem. Looking at the set up at other Collegiate Universities, it may be that a refectory would be a good idea with a catered College or two where the students eat together, not using the voucher system we currently have, which does not contribute to the College aspects of student life.

Colleges Review

Wlodek advised that this document was valuable and would be useful for the colleagues to read.

Recognition for Work in Colleges

It is agreed that College involvement should be recognized, but so far is not included in the workload for academic staff. Colleges work is now, however, recognized in academic promotion. The workload element is more complicated to implement, so will take a little longer, but is still being looked at.

AOB

No further business, the meeting concluded. Date of next meeting to be advised.