



Minutes of the 28 April 2021 meeting (held via Microsoft Teams)

Present: Professor Peter Slee (Chair), Professor Akintola Akintoye, Dr Oliver Bray, Deveral Capps, Professor Phil Cardew, Professor Andrew Cooper, Professor John Craig, Kate Cunningham, Martin Green, Aimerance Kady, Stratis Koutsoukos, Tracey Lancaster, Professor George Lodorfos, Pete Mackreth, Jo Norry, Professor Damien Page, Barbara Pereira, Professor Chris Prince, Nicola Queenan, Professor Ruth Robbins, Sarah Roe, Professor Andrew Slade, Dr Duncan Sharp, Professor Lisa Stansbie, Professor Rhodri Thomas, Christopher Till, Professor Emma Wood

In attendance: Rachael Andrews (Secretary), Simon Baldwin, Rachel Hewitt, Rasha Ibrahim, Christina Hughes

Apologies: Professor Cathy Barnes, Frances Bostyn, Terance Dasent James, Lee Jones, Professor Jeanne Keay, Professor Ruth Pickford, Professor Emma Wood

*As indicated in the proceedings

Preliminary Items

Declaration of interest

060.2021 No declarations of interest were made

Minutes

061.2021 The Academic Board **AGREED** that the minutes of its meeting held on 10 February 2021 were an accurate record

Matters arising

062.2021 The Academic Board received a report from the secretary which covered matters arising since its last meeting. Following an election within the Students' Union, the following appointments had been made to the Sabbatical officer positions, which are represented within the Academic Board membership.

(a) MPhango Simwaka had been appointed as Union Affairs Officer

(b) Megan Darroch had been appointed as Academic Experience Officer

The Academic Board **RATIFIED** the appointments of Pango Simwaka and Megan Darroch as student representatives following their election. Their term of office would take place from 01 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

Reports from Officers

Vice Chancellor's Update

Minute 063.2021 c-h are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

- 063.2021 (a) The Vice Chancellor provided a summary of sector updates and higher education developments since the last meeting on 10 February 2021.
- (b) The UK Government had further eased Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, in line with the roadmap, from 12 April. However, the easing of restrictions had not included the return to campus for all students and it was hoped that the next scheduled easing of restrictions, expected on 17 May would ease restrictions within Higher Education and will mean more students are eligible to return to campus.

Update on the Development of the next Strategic Planning Framework

Minute 064.2021 is exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Report from the Students' Union

- 065.2021 (a) The Academic Board received a report from the Students' Union providing an update on the latest activity undertaken since the last update. It summarised that the Student's Union continued to work towards the national campaign 'Students Deserve Better' which focused on supporting students to secure additional hardship funding during the Covid-19 pandemic. By working with the Student Services, messaging had been improved to signpost students to this additional funding.
- (b) School Forums had had another cycle of meetings, and attendance and participation to the forums had noticeably dropped. Work is being undertaken to ensure course representatives continue to provide feedback through the dedicated tools if they are unable to attend a School Forum.
- (c) Course based societies were currently in operation and had moved online throughout the lockdown. Although some course-based societies had lapsed due to inactivity, there are currently 33 in operation, with 1127 student members.
- d) The Union Affairs Officer would be stepping down from the Academic Board on 30 June and thanked the Academic Board members for their support during their term of

office. Additional thanks were passed on from the Educational Officer in their absence as they had stepped down from their role on 23 April.

066.2021 The Academic Board thanked the outgoing officers for their work and dedication across the 2021/22 academic year and wished them all the best for the future.

Access and Participation Plan Update

Minute 067.2021 b-c are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

067.2021 a. The Academic Board received a report from Deputy Vice Chancellor (Resources) which provided an update on the Access and Participation Plan (“APP”) and the monitoring statement which was submitted on 16 April 2021.

Student Recruitment and Enrolment Update

Minute 068.2021 b-d are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

068.2021 a. The Academic Board received an update from The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Resources) which provided an update on student recruitment for coming academic year 2020/21.

Conferral of Emeritus Professors and Visiting Titles

069.2021 The Academic Board **noted** the following titles which have been awarded by the Vice Chancellor in his capacity as Chair of the Academic Promotions Board:

Visiting Professors

- i. Dr Christophe Lutter (School of Clinical and Applied Sciences) for a period of 3 years

The following extensions to titles were made:

Visiting Professors

- i. Dr Lisa Hodgson (School of Clinical and Applied Sciences) for the period of 3 years
- ii. Professor Nick London (Carnegie School of Sport) for the period of 3 years

Quality & Student Matters

Academic Assurance Report

Part of Minute 070.2021 (a) is exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

- 070.2021 a. The Academic Board received a report from the Interim Director of Quality providing the latest Academic Assurance report as at April 2021.
- b. It was further highlighted that the work that had been undertaken in reviewing these areas had provided sufficient evidence that the University continues to meet the academic standards as set by the UK Quality Code and the OfS.
- 071.2021 The Academic Board **RECOMMENDS** that the Board of Governors receives the Academic Assurance report as evidence and assurance of academic quality and standards relating to the 'B' conditions of registration.

Research Matters

Minute 072.2021 b-e are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Research & Enterprise Income (HE-BCI)

- 072.2021 a. The Academic Board received a report from the Director of Research and Enterprise which provided an analysis of the annual Higher Education Business and Community Interaction (HE-BCI) Survey.

Reports from Committees/Groups

Academic Quality & Standards Committee

- 073.2021 The Academic Board received a summary of the Academic Quality & Standards Committee which met on 22 March 2021

Research & Enterprise Committee

- 074.2021 The Academic Board received a summary of the Research & Enterprise Committee which met on 25 March 2021

Sports Committee

- 075.2021 It was **noted** that the Sports committee had not met this academic year but would be considered as part of the 'anchor' strand of the strategic plan.

Other Business

Schedule of meetings and business 2020/21

- 076.2021 The Academic Board received its schedule of business for the 2020/21 academic year.

Date of next meeting

077.2021 The next meeting of the Academic Board would be held on 07 July 2021 at 14:00 via Microsoft Teams.

Other business

078.2021 No other business was raised.

Confirmed by the Committee/Board as a correct record and signed by the Chair:

Signed: _____ Date: _____