

Minutes Unrestricted

Meeting title:	Council	
Date:	Wednesday 2 October 2013	Time 12.00pm
Location:	Chilworth Manor Hotel	
Present:	Dr G Rider (<i>Chair</i>); Mr M Burrow; Professor J Falkingham; Mr D Gilani*; Mr M Killingley; Ms S Kumar; Professor D McGhee; Professor D Nutbeam; ; Dr D Price; ; Mrs H Smith; Professor P Smith; Mr J Trewby and Professor J Vickers.	
In attendance:	Mr L Abraham (Clerk to Council); Mr M Ace (Chief Operating Officer); Mrs T Harrison (Registrar); Professor Alex Neill (Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education)); Professor P Nelson (Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)); Mr S Peatfield (Director of Communications); Ms S Pook (Director of Finance) and Professor M Spearing (Pro Vice-Chancellor (International));	
Apologies:	Mr T O'Brien; Dr M Read; Ms R Rivaz and Professor Adam Wheeler (Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor)	

* not present for restricted business.

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and updated Council that Dr Graham Spittle had resigned from Council as he had been assigned to work in New York. Council wish it to be recorded that Dr Spittle be thanked for his contributions to Council during his time and offered best wishes for the future. Council noted that the Nominations Committee would be working to address the current vacancies.

1 Obituary

The Chair reported with regret the death of Professor David Barker from the Faculty of Medicine who sadly died on 27 August 2013. Council stood as a mark of respect.

2 Council Standing Orders

Council received the latest version of Council Standing Orders for information.

RESOLVED that the Council Standing Orders be noted.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2013

The following names be added to the list of those present:

S Kumar, Professor P Nelson and Professor J Howells.

RESOLVED That the amended minutes (unrestricted) and the confidential minutes (unrestricted) of the meeting held on 10 July 2013 be approved and signed and that the minutes be published on the open access SUSSED site.

4 Matters Arising

The Chairman suggested that it would be helpful to know when the Key Performance Indicator information would be coming back to Council following discussion at the last meeting. An undertaking was given to attempt to get the information to the November Council meeting.

5 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

6 Publication of unrestricted papers

RESOLVED That the papers circulated for the meeting be published on the open access SUSSED site with the exception of the restricted minutes.

7 Vice Chancellor's Report (Agenda Item 8)

Council considered the Vice-Chancellor's report, dated 1 October 2013.

The Vice-Chancellor introduced his report highlighting the following:

NSS Results - Although results had been maintained, other institutions had improved at a faster rate. Weaker areas were to be improved upon. a small working group would be looking at where improvements could be made to University scores.

QS Rankings - There was slight slippage, but all UK universities had slipped slightly. It was vital to understand the effect of international student surveys in the rankings. Although Southampton scored well on objective issues, reputation needed improvement.

MOOC - 6,637 students had signed up for the first MOOC.

Government Laboratory Sell-off - It was noted that the Government were to be selling off laboratories in Teddington. These could be an asset to the University if acquired. The bidding process is not in place as the University would like currently, and it was understood no bids had been made. If conditions surrounding the bid process were to improve, the University may consider a bid.

Student Recruitment - always a large number of students looking to come to the University and more imaginative recruitment methods were being investigated.

Boldrewood - Shell wished to come into partnership using the Boldrewood site which was encouraging news as they were the second large oil company to do so.

Enactus - The Southampton team came second in the World Cup. It was suggested that they make a presentation to a future Council meeting.

Resolved To note the Vice-Chancellor's report.

8 Amendment to Statutes (Agenda Item 9)

Council considered a report from the Registrar which set out the proposed change to the University Statutes to create the position of Associate Professor. This matter had been considered previously by Council and was presented for a second reading for endorsement prior to being sent to Privy Council for final approval.

RESOLVED that the proposed amendment to Statute 4, subsection 6 be approved by Special Resolution and be forwarded to the Privy Council as soon as possible.

9 Report from the President of the Students' Union (Agenda Item 12)

Council considered a report by the President of the Student's Union.

Mr Gilani introduced his report outlining the Welcome Project which helped new students settle in to life at the University. He added that the Union was helping to improve the National Student Survey scores and outlined 5 main areas:

- Academic Support (for feedback and assessment of students)
- Communication with Students (particularly from the Executive management side of the University)
- Spaces Development (the initiative will boost the student experience)
- Enterprise (bring flexibility to the curriculum and to seek volunteer placements)
- Communities (bring the student populations together such as post graduates who often stay distant)

Council also noted the Unions pride of the achievement of the ENACTUS team in the recent World Championships.

The Chair thanked Mr Gilani for his report and suggested that a future Council meeting be held in the Student's Union with a presentation on their work including the ENACTUS team.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

10 Statement of the Council's Primary Responsibilities and Delegated and Related Matters (Agenda Item 16)

The Council considered a report from Governance Services which set out the Statement of Primary Responsibilities and Delegated and Related Matters for Council members to refresh themselves of the content. Following work by the Audit Committee the need for clarification regarding the Financial Regulations had arisen and a form of words to be added to para 2.1.3 was recommended as follows:

Added to paragraph 2.1.3 – Financial and Capital Matters:

Approval of the Financial Regulations. Council shall ensure the regular review every four years of the University's Financial Regulations to ensure that an appropriate system of financial control applies within the University.

RESOLVED that

- (i) the amendment added to paragraph 2.1.3 be approved; and
- (ii) the Statement of Primary Responsibilities for 2013/14 be approved.

11 Council Annual Calendar of Business (Agenda Item 17)

Council considered a report from the Clerk to the Council which set out a draft Calendar of Business for the academic year 2013/2014.

RESOLVED that the Calendar be noted.

12 Restricted Minutes (Restricted Agenda Item 20)

RESOLVED that the restricted minutes from the meeting held on 10 July 2013 be approved and signed.

The meeting concluded at 12.39pm