



## **Council**

Date and time	Thursday 3 April 2003 at 3.30 pm
Place	The Senate Room, Administration Building
Present	Dame Yvonne Moores ( <i>in the Chair</i> ), Ms W C Allanach, Ms C Brown*, Ms H Chadwick, Professor P J Curran, Professor P J Gregson, Professor A P Hamlin, Professor J K Hammond, Mr A S Kent, Mr J B Kness, Professor K E McLuskie, Dr A E Mitchell, Mr J J R Pope, Mr T Rowlandson*, Dr B G Smith, Mr M Snell, Mr R H M Symons, Professor W A Wakeham, Mr A J Walker, Professor A A Wheeler and Mr G Whitehead
With	The Secretary and Registrar, Assistant Director (Facilities) of Estates and Buildings, Director of External Relations, Director of Finance, Director of Human Resources, Director of Planning and Ms C J Gamble

(\* Members not present for the Restricted Section of the Agenda.)

## **Welcome**

Dame Yvonne welcomed Ms Hilary Chadwick to her first meeting of Council.

### **38 Obituary**

Dame Yvonne announced with regret the death of the following members of the University and asked Council to stand as a mark of respect:

Dr Stephen Flood, Centre for Enterprise and Innovation: 19 January 2003;

Sir Bernard Miller, former Chair of Council (1982-1988), Pro-Chancellor (1983-1990) and Treasurer (1974-1982) : 23 February 2003.

### **39 Minutes (unrestricted) of the meeting held on 12 December 2002**

**Resolved** That the Minutes (unrestricted) of the meeting held on 12 December 2002 be approved and signed.

### **40 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the Unrestricted Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2002.

## 41 The Vice-Chancellor's report

**Received** A summary of the main points of the Government's White Paper, 'The future of Higher Education', together with an overview of the strategic aims of the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), extracted from its draft strategic plan for the period 2003-08, which were tabled.

### *The future of Higher Education*

The Vice-Chancellor presented the first item of his report: a summary of the White Paper, 'The future of Higher Education'. He outlined the main issues under the headings: Research, Education, Widening Participation and Business and Enterprise, drawing attention to:

- The additional funding referred to in the Paper would flow from the increased contributions students would make from 2006 through the Graduate Contribution Scheme. It was not clear whether all institutions would expect students to pay the maximum of £3k *per annum* under the scheme.
- The proposals relating to seedcorn funding followed the science model of research rather than the arts and humanities model.
- The proposed restriction of research degree awarding powers to research-intensive institutions was likely to engender opposition from a number of HEIs.
- The major vehicle for expansion in higher education would be the foundation degree which would be delivered primarily by the Further Education sector.
- The details of how the Regional Development Agencies would play a greater role in the management of supply and demand for higher education were not set out.

The Vice-Chancellor invited members to forward any comments they might have on the proposals contained in the White Paper to him. They would be taken into account in the University's response to the Department for Education and Skills.

### *HEFCE draft strategic plan, 2003-08*

The four core strategic aims of the Funding Council were: widening participation and fair access; enhancing excellence in learning and teaching, enhancing excellence in research and enhancing the contribution of the sector to the economy and society. In addition to these aims the plan contained three supporting aims which covered building on institutions' strengths, developing leadership, governance and management and organizational development within the Council.

### *Lambert Review*

The Government had asked Richard Lambert to examine how the long-term links between business and British universities could be strengthened to the benefit of the UK's economy. The review, which had been announced by the Chancellor of the

Exchequer in his Pre-Budget Report in November 2002, would include an assessment of the present governance, management and leadership arrangements in higher education institutions, and their effectiveness in supporting good research and knowledge transfer and in providing relevant skills for the economy.

The University had been asked to submit its views on these issues to the review team.

#### *Science Research Investment Fund*

The Vice-Chancellor was delighted to announce that the University had been allocated £28.6m to invest in science and technology through the Government's Science Research Investment Fund. This award was the eighth largest in the country. (The SRIF 2 allocations were part of a £1b investment in scientific excellence announced in February 2003 by Lord Sainsbury.)

The University would submit a list of proposed projects to HEFCE in May 2003.

#### *Worldwide Universities Network*

WUN partners were developing e-learning programmes in collaboration with the UKeUniversity. The programmes, such as a comprehensive series of modules in English for Academic Purposes, would be delivered through the UKeU Learning Environment. WUN's British universities would develop course materials and provide on-line tuition. Other e-learning projects were JISC/NSF digital libraries in the classroom, Geographical Information Systems and e-China.

A number of the specialist groups planned to put in joint bids to the Marie Curie programme and for other funding available under the European Union Framework 6.

#### *Graduation*

The Vice-Chancellor announced that graduation ceremonies would be held on 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24 July 2003. All members of Council were welcome to attend the ceremonies, the details of which would be circulated in the near future.

- Resolved**
- (i) That members should forward any comments on the White Paper to the Vice-Chancellor.
  - (ii) That the Secretary should arrange for a copy of the University's response to the Department for Education and Skills on the proposals in the White Paper to be sent to members for information.

#### 42 **Report from the President of the Students' Union** (Agendum 5)

**Received** The report from the President of the Students' Union.

Mr Rowlandson presented his report, the main item of which was the Union's disaffiliation from the national body, the National Union of Students. In voting for this move, the Union had recognized that there were a number of services and areas of support, provided locally, which would require strengthening. These areas of

development were: training, national representation, Union development and student discounts.

Referring to the sporting highlights of the year, Mr Rowlandson drew attention to the high standing of the Athletic Union in the British Universities Sports Association (BUSA) rankings; it was currently in seventh position. Both the netball team and the windsurfing team had reached the BUSA finals. Further success had been secured by the rifle club, which had won every competition it had entered this year, and the sailing club, which was expected to win this year's national event.

**Resolved** That the report be noted.

43 **Financial monitoring 2002/03** (Agendum 10)

**Received** The financial monitoring statement for the year ending 31 July 2003.

The Director of Finance presented the financial monitoring statement for the year 2002/03. He reminded Council of the planning context for the year and the one adjustment which had been made during the session. The revised target at budgetary level had been set at a deficit of approximately £1.4m. (The deficit at consolidated level was expected to increase by around £500k.) He reminded Council that the planned deficit resulted from the considerable spend of funds on strategic developments.

He summarized the position of the individual budgetary groups by drawing attention to Table 2a which compared the actual financial positions to the target figures. The adverse variances in some groups were understood and steps had been planned to improve the results. Overall, the net position of the groups matched the target figure.

**Resolved** That the financial monitoring statement be noted.

44 **HEFCE recurrent grant allocation for 2003/04** (Agendum 11)

**Received** A report from the Director of Finance on the grant allocation for 2003/04 from the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

The Director of Finance presented the headline figures in the grant award from the Funding Council for the academic year 2003/04. In aggregate, the increase amounted to a six per cent uplift in round figures, but the individual amounts allocated for research and teaching reflected a less optimistic financial picture. He drew attention to:

- The QR element of the grant had increased substantially. This would restore funding levels to grade five Departments in the last Research Assessment Exercise, although the funding for grade four Departments would be diminished. This would translate into significant losses for a number of Departments and Schools.
- Money for the funding of widening participation had been taken from the core teaching grant. The initial view of the Senior Management Group was that, given the importance of widening participation to the University's strategic direction,

both streams of funding should form part of the teaching funding allocation to academic groups.

- The so-called 'pensions holiday' had come to an end after a period of twelve years. The University would have to make payments again annually to the Non-Academic Pension Fund of approximately £1.7m.
- Other calls made on the overall uplift would be the increase in salaries, either through the national pay settlement – initial views suggested that this might be agreed at around three per cent – or through incremental drift.

The Vice-Chancellor observed that, although the Funding Council had previously indicated that there would be no dramatic changes to levels of funding, this year's grant settlement had had a profound effect on some institutions. Within the sector there was disquiet and discontent with the way the formulae had been applied, and in particular with the criteria used to identify six-starred departments. These views had been conveyed to HEFCE. He expressed concern about the level of staff morale in the face of the consequences for teaching and research of Government funding.

**Resolved** That the report be noted.

45 **Annual Health and Safety Report 2001/02** (Agendum 12)

**Received** The Vice-Chancellor's Annual Health and Safety Report for the year 2001/02.

The Vice-Chancellor presented his Annual Health and Safety Report, highlighting the main points which were set out in the summary of the discussions on the subject held at the Policy and Resources meeting on 5 March 2003. In terms of the number of reportable and other accidents which had occurred during the year, the Vice-Chancellor stated that the University's record compared well with those of other higher education institutions. The report confirmed that the University had further improved the development of its health and safety procedures and the monitoring of standards in this area.

The Secretary and Registrar was pleased to report that an additional Area Safety Adviser had recently been recruited.

**Resolved** That the Annual Health and Safety Report be noted.

46 **Interim Corporate Strategy: update** (Agendum 13)

**Received** A report on the presentation of the Interim Corporate Strategy to members of Council on 25 February 2003.

The Vice-Chancellor introduced the paper and updated Council on the process in train to examine the Schools' strategic plans against the overarching Interim Corporate Strategy. This iterative process would continue into May and June when the sum total of the Schools' plans and the overall resource needs would be known. At this stage the plans – input strategies – for Finance, the Estate, Human Resources and IT would be

drawn up. The Heads of School were working with the new strategic planning process within the new organizational structure and the current timescales were challenging. The Vice-Chancellor believed that it would not be possible to return to the July meeting of Council with a fully worked up set of input and output strategies.

The Vice-Chancellor proposed that the format for the July meeting be modified to include a presentation of the Corporate Strategy, together with those input strategies which had been completed, and the major points of consideration. He and the Senior Officers would consider what further background information should be circulated to members prior to the meeting to ensure that they were fully briefed. The final Corporate Strategy would be presented for approval at the special meeting of Council which would be required for the second reading of the changes to the Charter and Statutes as part of the re-organization of the University (see Minute 54) in September 2003. Members endorsed the proposal.

**Resolved** That the Interim Corporate Strategy be noted and that the final version of the Corporate Strategy and the input strategies should be presented to a Special Meeting of Council in September 2003.

47 **Report from meeting of Senate held on 19 March 2003** (Agendum 17)

**Received** The report from the meeting of Senate held on 19 March 2003.

The Vice-Chancellor drew attention to an error in the report: Under Item 1, Honours and Distinctions, Mr Reader's title should read 'Director of External Relations' and not the Director of Human Resources.

**Resolved** That the honours and distinctions reported by Senate be noted with pleasure.

48 **Report from meetings of Policy and Resources Committee**

48.1 **22 January 2003** (Agendum 18.1)

**Received** The report from the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 22 January 2003.

In introducing the report, the Vice-Chancellor highlighted the conclusions drawn by the Strategic Performance Review Committee (SPRC) about the Winchester School of Art. It had found that the situation revealed at WSA had arisen, at least in part, because of the actions which the University had taken, or had failed to take, in the immediate aftermath of the integration of the School into the University. Professor Curran had been seconded as temporary Head of School and he would be responsible for making a start on the development of a strategy for the School. As part of the action agreed to resolve the current difficulties, steps would be taken to close the Barcelona Centre.

The Vice-Chancellor further reported that, on the recommendation of the SPRC Panel, he had sought the advice of a number of external experts on the strategy

and long-term future of the School. He expected to receive their views within the next few months.

**Resolved** That the report from, and the decisions taken by, the Policy and Resources Committee be noted and endorsed.

48.2 **5 March 2003** (Agendum 18.2)

**Received** The report from the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 5 March 2003.

The Vice-Chancellor drew attention to the report from the Personnel Policy Committee and the work being carried out in respect of job families and the introduction of a single pay spine for all groups of staff. The plans included a proposal that, for any given grade level, there would normally be no more than three increments.

Referring to the criteria for over-age staff, the Vice-Chancellor reiterated the background to the matter and reminded Council that at its December meeting it had requested a report on the criteria which the PRCS subgroup would employ when considering cases for extension of employment beyond the normal age of retirement. Members endorsed the criteria.

**Resolved** That the report from, and the decisions taken by, the Policy and Resources Committee be noted and endorsed.

49 **Report (unrestricted) from the meeting of Standing Committee of Council held on 26 February 2003** (Agendum 19)

**Received** A report (unrestricted) from the meeting of Standing Committee of Council held on 26 February 2003.

The Secretary and Registrar set out the background to the recommendation in the report that two additional lay members should be appointed to the Professorial and Senior Salaries Committee.

On the subject of the joint ownership of the Southampton Oceanography Centre between the University and the Natural Environment Research Council, the Secretary and Registrar reported that during the negotiations with the Treasury the possibility of the transfer of complete ownership to the University had been explored. The Treasury had not accepted the proposal.

**Resolved** (i) That the change to the composition of the Professorial and Senior Salaries Committee to allow for two additional lay members be approved.

(ii) That the report from, and the decisions taken by, Standing Committee of Council, be noted and endorsed.

50 **Report from the meeting of the Nominations Committee held on 26 February 2003**  
(Agendum 20)

**Received** The report from the meeting of the Nominations Committee held on 26 February 2003.

Dame Yvonne introduced the report and invited members to approve the nominations. Members approved the nominations by acclamation.

- Resolved**
- (i) That Mr Rex Symons be reappointed to Council in Class 2 for three years from 1 August 2003.
  - (ii) That Mr Andrew Kent be reappointed to Council in Class 2 for two years from 1 August 2003.

51 **Accounts of the Students' Union** (Agendum 24)

**Received** A report from the Director of Finance on the audited accounts of the Students' Union for the year ended 31 July 2002.

The Director of Finance presented the report. He reminded members that Council, at its meeting in July 2002, had agreed that Standing Committee of Council should undertake to scrutinize the Students' Union's accounts on behalf of Council. The audited accounts for the year ended 31 July 2002 had been received in March this year and rather than wait until the next meeting of Standing Committee of Council in June it had been decided to present them to Council for approval.

**Resolved** That the Annual Accounts for the Students' Union for the year ended 31 July 2002 be approved.

52 **Increased loan for new Sports Centre** (Agendum 25)

**Received** An update from the Director of Finance on the funding arrangements for the construction of the new Sports Centre, together with a request to increase the current level of loan.

The Director of Finance presented the report on the current funding arrangements for the construction of the new Sports Centre and explained the background to the request for an increase in the level of the loan which had been agreed with Barclays Bank. He emphasized that the escalation of the original financial estimates was attributable to circumstances beyond the University's control and was not connected in any way to the management of the project.

Council approved the request to increase the loan drawn with Barclays Bank from £4.2m to £6.2m.

**Resolved** That the request to increase the loan, from £4.2m to £6.2m, with Barclays Bank for the new Sports Centre be approved and that the Director of Finance and the Secretary and Registrar should make the necessary arrangements.



53 **Dates of committee meetings during 2003/2004** (Agendum 27)

**Received** An extract from the University's draft *Almanac* for 2003/2004 which listed the dates of the main committee meetings during the year.

**Resolved** That the provisional dates of the main committee meetings for the academic year 2003/2004 be noted.

54 **Amendment of University's Instruments of Government** (Agendum 28)

**Received** A report on the timetable for approving amendments to the University's Instruments of Government.

The Secretary and Registrar highlighted the date of the Special Meeting of Council: Wednesday, 24 September 2003.

**Resolved** That the provisional timetable for approving the necessary changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances be approved.

55 **Appointment of an Authorized Representative** (Agendum 29)

**Received** A formal request for the appointment of an Authorized Representative.

The Secretary and Registrar explained the background to the request, pointing out that, although this would not be required under English law, it was a requirement under Spanish law.

**Resolved** That the appointment of Mr John F D Lauwerys as Authorized Representative of the Winchester School of Art, Sursursal de la University of Southampton en España (Branch of the University of Southampton in Spain) is ratified with effect from 26 March 2003.

## **Restricted agenda**

### **56 Minutes (restricted) of meeting held on 12 December 2002**

Dame Yvonne requested members to approve an amendment to Minute 32 Resolution (ix) whose wording should have read:

'That, on the recommendation of the Honorary Degree Committee, honorary degrees should be conferred upon the following, subject to their consent: ...'

**Resolved** That, subject to the above amendment, the Minutes (restricted) of the meeting held on 12 December 2002 be approved and signed.

### **57 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the Restricted Minutes.

### **58 The Vice-Chancellor's report**

The Vice-Chancellor stated that there were no matters on which he wished to report.

### **59 Report (restricted) from meeting of Senate held on 19 March 2003 (Agendum 36)**

**Received** The report (restricted) from the meeting of Senate held on 19 March 2003.

The Vice-Chancellor introduced the report, drawing attention to those members of staff who had been nominated by Senate to serve on the Redundancy Committee: Professor Andrew Rutherford and Professor Gill Bourne (see Minute 61).

**Resolved** (i) That the following senior appointments, set out in Annex 1, effective from the dates shown, be noted with pleasure:

Chair of Health Care Development	Dr Debra Humphris (1.1.03)
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Chair of Physiotherapy and Head of School of Health Professions and Rehabilitation Sciences	Dr Maureen Simmonds (1.4.03)
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(ii) That the reappointment of Mr John Smith and Mr Ron Stannard as Public Orators for a further three years until 31 July 2006 be noted with pleasure.

(iii) That the appointment of Ms Emily Fletcher and Dr Ken Thomas as, respectively, Esquire Bedell and University Marshal be noted with pleasure.

- (iv) That, on the recommendation of the Academic and Research Staff Committee, the title and status of Professor be conferred upon the following with effect from the dates shown:

Dr Y Zenou	Department of Economics (1.1.03)
Mr P Sparkes	Faculty of Law (1.2.03)
Dr D Wilton	School of Biological Sciences (1.2.03)
Dr C Amos	School of Ocean and Earth Sciences (1.2.03)

- (v) That, on the recommendation of the Academic and Research Staff Committee, the title and status of Reader be conferred upon the following with effect from 1 February 2003:

Dr R Mason	Department of Economics
Dr M Taylor	School of Engineering Sciences
Dr W Ernst	Department of History
Dr P A Wilson	School of Ocean and Earth Sciences

- (vi) That the list of promotions to the grade of Senior Lecturer as set out in *Annex 3* to the report be noted with pleasure.
- (vii) That the restricted report from Senate be noted.

60 **Report (restricted) from the meeting of Standing Committee of Council held on 26 February 2003** (Agendum 37)

**Received** The report (restricted) from the meeting of Standing Committee of Council held on 26 February 2003.

- Resolved** (i) That the report of the Special Committee be noted and endorsed.
- (ii) That the decision taken by Standing Committee of Council in respect of Ms Mohtasham's continuing activities be noted and endorsed.

61 **Redundancy Committee in respect of the Barcelona Centre** (Agendum 40)

**Received** A report from the Director of Human Resources, inviting Council to establish a Redundancy Committee for the Barcelona Centre.

The Secretary and Registrar introduced the report and informed Council that Professor Gregson had indicated that he would be willing to chair the Redundancy Committee.

- Resolved** (i) That Council agrees that it is desirable that there should be a reduction in the academic staff at the Barcelona Centre.

- (ii) That, in accordance with Statute 31, Part II, a Redundancy Committee be established to give effect to the decision in (i) above and to report back to Council on the number of redundancies required and the individuals selected by July 2003.
- (iii) That Professor Gregson be appointed Chair of the Redundancy Committee.
- (iv) That Professor Rutherford and Professor Bourne, the nominated Senate representatives, be appointed to serve on the Redundancy Committee.
- (v) That authority be delegated to the Chair of Council to appoint the other members to serve on the Redundancy Committee; and that two of the following three Members of Council serve on the Committee, subject to their availability:

Ms Hilary Chadwick;  
Mr Allan Mitchell;  
Mr Michael Snell.

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The meeting finished at approximately 5.45 pm.

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