



**University  
of Southampton**

**Legal Services  
Secretariat**

**Minutes**

## Council

Date and time	Thursday 13 July 2006 at 4.00 pm
Place	The Council Room, George Thomas Building
Present	Dame Valerie Strachan ( <i>in the Chair</i> ), Ms B Barker, Professor I T Cameron, Dr S Duckworth, Professor R Holdaway, Mr A J Jukes, Mr M S Killingley, Ms V Lawrence, Professor P A Nelson, Mr B Purkiss, Professor M Ratcliffe, Mr B Rogers*, Mr M J Snell, Mr R H M Symons, Professor C A Thomas, Professor W A Wakeham, Mr A J Walker, Professor A A Wheeler and Professor D M Williams
By invitation	Mr A Wilson*
With	The Secretary and Registrar, Director of Corporate and Marketing Services, Director of Finance, Director of Human Resources and Ms C J Gamble

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

## Unrestricted

### Welcome

On behalf of the members, the Vice-Chancellor led the welcome to Dame Valerie who was chairing her first meeting of the Council.

Dame Valerie welcomed the recently elected President of the Students' Union, Mr Ben Rogers, to his first meeting of the governing body.

Dame Valerie explained that the Vice-Chancellor had to leave the meeting at 5.00 pm. She reminded members of the change in the starring of Agendum 42, from two-starred to single-starred, and sought Council's agreement to the double-starred items identified for discussion in the agenda and supporting papers. Members were content to agree the proposed starring of the items.

### 58 Obituary

**Dame Valerie** announced with regret the death of a member of staff and two students of the University and asked Council to stand as a mark of respect:

Mrs Chrissie Budden, Corporate and Marketing Services: 6 May 2006;

Ms Rajalachmi Perumal, student, Higher Education Diploma in Counselling: 19 May 2006;

Ms Hannah Salt, second-year student, BSc Physiotherapy: 24 March 2006.

59 **Standing Orders (Agendum 2)**

**Received** A copy of the Standing Orders of the Council, dated March 2006.

The Secretary and Registrar presented the item and proposed that Standing Order 17, which set out the procedures for the committees of Council and joint committees of Council and Senate, be amended to delete the reference to 'sub-committees'. Standing Committee of Council would continue to review the terms of reference and composition of committees and boards, but would relinquish that role in respect of the sub-committees whose compositions would be determined by their parent committees instead. The first sentence of Standing Order 17 would thus read:

'The terms of reference and composition of each committee and board of Council shall be reviewed at least annually by Standing Committee which shall ensure that an appropriate balance is maintained in the membership between lay and academic interests.'

**Resolved** That the proposed amendment to Standing Order 17 be approved.

60 **Minutes (unrestricted) of the meeting held on 23 March 2006**

**Resolved** That the Minutes (unrestricted) of the meeting held on 23 March 2006 be approved and signed.

61 **Matters arising**

61.1 **Corporate performance indicators** (Minute 38)

The Vice-Chancellor reported that a set of performance indicators and critical success factors would be presented to Council at its meeting in September 2006. Council would be invited to decide which set should be used to measure the delivery of the Strategic Plan. The Policy and Resources Committee had discussed the subject at length and the record of the debate appeared in the report (Agendum 21.2, Item 9).

61.2 **Review of the effectiveness of Council and compliance with the Committee of University Chairmen's guidelines** (Minute 43)

The Secretary and Registrar reminded members of the procedural process that would be put in train to give effect to the changes to the Statutes to change the membership of Council: a round of consultation with the Senate, together with two readings of the amendments by the Council, followed by the submission of the formal request for approval to the Privy Council. The membership of Council would remain unchanged until that process had been completed during the next academic year.

The Secretary and Registrar added that, in addition to the other issues that would be addressed as part of the recommendations brought forward by the Working Group, there was the matter of the

organizational changes that would ensue following his retirement in April 2007, in particular the appointment of a fourth Deputy Vice-Chancellor and the possible change in the title to Pro Vice-Chancellor with the exception of one who would remain a Deputy Vice-Chancellor. Proposals would be presented during the next session.

61.3 **Report from the meetings of the Nominations Committee, held on 9 November 2005, 18 January 2006 and 8 March 2006** (Minute 48)

The Secretary and Registrar was pleased to report that the Court had approved with acclamation the appointment of Sir John Parker as Chancellor of the University for an initial period of five years.

62 **The Vice-Chancellor's report**

The Vice-Chancellor reported on the following matters:

*Annual national negotiations on salary*

The two Unions involved in the dispute – the Association of University Teachers and the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, which had now merged to form a single union, the University and College Union (UCU) – had put the revised pay offer that had been made by the employers' body, UCEA, to their members. The outcome of the ballot would be announced on 18 July 2006.

The Vice-Chancellor wished to record his thanks to those members of the University who had worked through the period of industrial action, and to the Students' Union for its support. Reflecting on the dispute, the Vice-Chancellor said that steps would have to be taken that would enable the University to protect the interests of its students in the event of similar action in future.

*Disputes in matters of intellectual property*

It had not proved possible to negotiate a settlement with Statoil after the outcome of the dispute in which the Court had found that Statoil had sole ownership of the patent. This had had little effect on the share price. The Vice-Chancellor restated the observations that he had made at the March 2006 meeting of Council that lessons had been learned about how to manage the flow of ideas in a university.

*Innos Limited*

The Vice-Chancellor outlined the background of the company and the extent of the damage to its operations it had sustained as a result of the fire that had destroyed a large and important part of the Mountbatten Building. Discussions were under way about the plans for the company's future. Standing Committee of Council would be invited to discuss the options in due course. Members noted the position.

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

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

Mr Wilson, the outgoing President, presented his final report to Council.

- Resolved**
- (i) That the report be noted.
  - (ii) That Council record its thanks to Mr Wilson for his work as President of the Students' Union during the 2005/2006 session.

64 **Financial monitoring statements 2005/06** (Agendum 11)

**Received** The financial monitoring statement for the year ending 31 July 2006, together with a commentary prepared by the Director of Finance.

The Director of Finance presented the monitoring statements, highlighting:

- The additional analysis of staffing costs, based on the figures contained in the current pay offer, which was appended as Table 7.
- The projected year-end figure on a financial accounting basis of approximately £9m. Even though this was a good result to have achieved, through tight budgetary control by the Schools and Professional Services, it would not ensure the sustainability of the institution in the longer term. The cashflow summary recorded a near break-even position (Table 5).
- The higher than forecast level of fee income from international students and improved fee recovery from UK and EU students.
- The estimated uninsured loss in respect of the Mountbatten fire. The University had had to respond quickly to mitigate, as far as possible at this stage, the consequences of the damage to the facilities used by the School of Electronics and Computer Science and the Optoelectronics Research Centre. The Director of Finance paid tribute to the resolve shown by members of staff in dealing with the problems with which they had been faced.
- The level of borrowing and the maintenance projects that had been postponed or delayed.

In response to a question about the insurance cover, Mr Ace explained that the University was insured against opportunity loss up to a limit of £15m. Certain aspects of that cover, such as student recruitment, would not be claimed until the next financial year. On the subject of sustainability, Mr Ace outlined the areas in which the University would have to concentrate its efforts: a further reduction in costs by cutting away processes that were duplicated across the institution; enhancing the strengths of the Schools and thus increasing the level of income; and managing the estate in the most efficient way, an example of which was the use of teaching space.

Dame Valerie commented that the Annual Accounts would explain the apparently comfortable year-end position.

Mr Snell asked whether the staffing costs, as indicated in Table 7, could be absorbed, what the forecast for the longer term was, and whether all this would affect the national arrangements for pay negotiation. Mr Ace said that opting out of the national arrangements might lead to the prospect of even higher settlements. He referred to an example of an institution within the sector which had chosen to do so. The uplift in salaries would become increasingly difficult to support if it did not go hand in hand with at least a commensurate increase in the level of activity. The current pay offer would lift the level of salary expenditure to approximately sixty per cent of expenditure.

The Secretary and Registrar stated that within the remuneration framework there was the opportunity to single out those members of staff who deserved recognition.

On the subject of budgetary control, Professor Williams said that dealing with deficits, while ensuring that the quality of teaching and research was preserved, required resolve and determination yet at the opposite end of the financial spectrum, a surplus position could give rise to frustration if the School could not invest that money in new opportunities. Professor Ratcliffe pointed out that Schools were not all equipped equally to succeed financially. In a multi-disciplinary institution, the cross-subsidy of activities would be inevitable. Concluding the discussion, Dame Valerie suggested that, whatever decisions were taken with regard to the cross-subsidizing of activities, there would need to be good strategic reasons for sustaining deficits within individual Schools in the long term.

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

65 **Strategic planning round review, 2005/06** (Agendum 12)

**Received** A review of the strategic planning round, 2005/06, together with an overview of the budgetary position in 2006/07 and outline plans for the years ahead, prepared by Deputy Vice-Chancellor Wheeler.

A presentation, given by the Vice-Chancellor, on the strategic planning round, entitled 'University Challenge'.

The Vice-Chancellor introduced the subject of the strategic planning round with a presentation that looked at: the overarching strategy; a review of the developments and events that had taken place during the 2005/06 session; the current operating environment and likely trends; and the challenges ahead.

In discussion, the following questions and points were raised:

- In terms of organizational culture, it was interesting to note that the allegiance of the academic staff might be stronger to their subject than to the institution. Given the events of the last year, was it proving difficult to keep morale high? The Vice-Chancellor said that ~~given~~ it was taking a great deal of effort to keep morale high in the School of Electronics and Computer Science and the Optoelectronics Research Centre because of the after-effects of the fire. In other areas, it depended on the particular problems a School faced. In the higher education sector it was typical that academic staff were more closely aligned to their subject than to the organization because of the nature of academic endeavour. The Director of Human Resources said that a survey into staff attitudes to work and related matters would be conducted at the start of the next session. The findings would give a picture of the views of staff across the University.
- Overall, members endorsed the direction of the strategic plan, and the areas of investment, while noting the necessity to bear down on costs and find ways to generate additional income.

- Deputy Vice-Chancellor Wheeler stated that the plans for the coming year would be discussed thoroughly by the members of the University Executive Group and the Heads of School and Professional Services during the next few months.

**Resolved** That the Review of the Strategic Planning Round, 2005/06 be noted.

[Post-meeting note: A copy of the Vice-Chancellor's presentation is available for members of Council on request to the Secretariat.]

66 **Budgetary proposals, 2006/07, and financial framework for later years** (Agendum 13)

**Received** The budgetary proposals for 2006/07 and a financial framework for later years, prepared by the Director of Finance and dated 30 June 2006.

The Director of Finance presented the budgetary proposals for 2006/07 and the financial framework for later years. The paper crystallized a number of issues in respect of the next academic year, 2006/07. A surplus at year end was forecast of approximately £5.4m. The estimates for the year did not include exceptional capital receipts, such as the income from the sale of the New College site or the bulk of the insurance claim. The Schools and Professional Services had drawn up their budgetary targets prior to the announcement that a revised salary offer would be made. It had been decided that a one-off non-recurrent allocation would be made to meet the additional costs rather than resetting the targets. This would give the budgetary groups time to plan economies in the longer term.

The Director of Finance highlighted section 12 of the paper which set out the reasons for the deterioration in the University's financial outlook and stated that the projections for 2007/08 and 2008/09 indicated a deficit position unless remedial steps were taken, the overall thrust of which were detailed in section 11. He invited members to approve the recommendations that were listed under point 12.3.

The Treasurer emphasized that the point to underline was that the forecasts which had been put before Council in July 2005 of a surplus position in the years 2007/8 to 2008/09 had had to be adjusted to one of deficit.

In a response to a question about the impact of the change in the level of funding from the Workforce Development Directorate (WDD), the Director of Finance said that the announcement by the WDD that the number of students it supported would be reduced by between 10 per cent and 15 per cent had not been expected by the University.

The Secretary and Registrar wished to highlight that the presentation of the year end accounts should clearly explain the receipt of exceptional capital items. The current salary offer included an independent review of the sector's finances that would report by the Autumn, 2008, and it was essential to avoid any suggestion that the University could afford to spend more on salaries than was actually the case.

Dame Valerie proposed that an additional statement should be added to the recommendations that remedial action should be taken to bring into balance, next year or the year thereafter, if possible, those Schools and Professional Services which were currently in deficit. Members supported that proposal.

- Resolved**
- (i) That the budgetary proposals for 2006/07 and the financial framework for later years be approved.
  - (ii) That the points listed under section 12.3 of the report be noted, namely:
    - The budget proposals on current assumptions would lead to a surplus on normal operating activity of £5.4m 2006/07.
    - The abnormal effects of the sale of the New College site and the recognition of the insurance claim funding as income in year of receipt would create exceptional surpluses of over £30m in 2006/07 and would also have a distorting effect on 2007/08.
    - Without any further remedial action, the deficit in 2007/08 was likely to be around £1m, and the deficit in 2008/09 around £4m on normal operating activity.
    - The University would seek to maximise the return on the Research Assessment Exercise through bringing forward some agreed academic appointments, and would not look to increase student numbers as long as this did not compromise the quality of student intake. This may lead to a bid to HEFCE for additional student number funding during 2007, but this would depend on there being a bidding round, that the bidding round looked to mainstream programmes rather than Foundation degrees, and that the University had recovered its position against the HEFCE contract student number.
    - That the position of the Winchester School of Art would continue to be specifically monitored via UEG and PRC and that a strategic review of the School of Health Professions and Rehabilitation Sciences would take place in early 2006/07.
  - (iii) That remedial action should be taken to bring into balance, next year or the year thereafter, if possible, those Schools and Professional Services which were currently in deficit.

Dame Valerie apologized for the error in the agenda which incorrectly stated that a presentation would be given on two aspects of the Estate Strategy. Standing Committee of Council had agreed that members of Council would be invited to consider a proposal to attend an afternoon session on the Estate Strategy, followed by dinner in the evening. The session would be designed to explain in detail the various interlocking aspects of the Strategy. Members supported the proposal and requested that any supporting papers for the session be circulated well in advance. The Chair added a request that, if the supporting papers contained proposals, they should be clearly set out.

**Resolved** That the Secretary and Registrar should arrange for a session on the Estate Strategy to be organized in due course, possibly to coincide with the next meeting of the Council on 28 September 2006.

68 **Mountbatten complex: report to Council** (Agendum 15)

**Received** A report on the Mountbatten complex and the progress to date on the rebuild project, prepared by Deputy Vice-Chancellor Wheeler.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Wheeler presented the report which described the work that had been undertaken by the Mountbatten Advisory Group. The initial concept design had estimated the cost of constructing a replacement facility at around £91m. This had been cut back to £56m at which stage the proposal had been presented to Standing Committee of Council at its meeting on 10 May 2006 during which further reductions to the outline estimates had been discussed. The total costs for the proposal now amounted to £50m. The item that had made the largest single contribution to reducing the cost was the Sub Fab: its removal from the project design would save £2m. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Wheeler explained that initially it had been hoped that the building would contain such a facility because it increased the flexibility of the use of the clean room space. However, when the capital costs and the running costs and been scrutinized it had become evident that the overall costs were not affordable. It would be possible to consider other means of introducing some flexibility, albeit to a lesser degree, into the working space. The new building should be completed by June 2008.

**Resolved** That the net expenditure limit of £50m in respect of the Mountbatten rebuild project be endorsed.

69 **Report from meeting of Senate held on 21 June 2006** (Agendum 20)

**Received** The report from the meeting of Senate held on 21 June 2006.

In the absence of the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Wheeler drew attention to the item on teaching space management (Item 3), highlighting the information that had been gathered on the use of teaching space. It was clear from the surveys that there was an unmet demand for rooms that accommodated groups of approximately 30 people. The recommendations that had emerged from the surveys and the concerns that had been expressed by Senators would be considered again during the next academic session.

Dame Valerie explained that Chair's action had been taken to extend the membership of two Senate representatives on Council: Professor Fitt and Professor Williams. With the move to the new composition of Council, it had been decided that it was appropriate to reappoint those two members rather than invite nominations from Senate for a vacancy that would be lost in due course. (Professor Williams, in his capacity as Dean, would remain on Council as an *ex-officio* member.)

**Resolved**

- (i) That the honours and distinctions reported by Senate be noted with pleasure.
- (ii) That the reappointment of Professor Fitt and Professor Williams as members on Council appointed by Senate be noted during the transitional period until the new composition of Council was established.

(iii) That the report from Senate be noted.

70 **Reports from meetings of Policy and Resources Committee (PRC)**

70.1 **10 May 2006** (Agendum 21.1)

**Received** The report from the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, held on 10 May 2006.

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

70.2 **28 June 2006** (Agendum 21.2)

**Received** The report from the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, held on 28 June 2006.

In the absence of the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Nelson drew attention to Item 5 on the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), stating that preparations for the exercise were well under way at the University with a view to securing the greatest possible return in 2008. He referred to the Government's announcement that it intended to replace the RAE with a system based entirely on metrics. The Higher Education Funding Council for England had described five possible approaches to using metrics to allocate research funding which had been set out in a consultation document, prepared by the Department for Education and Skills. The models, which could be considered as crude and simple, shifted the current distribution of quality related funding significantly, in many areas to the detriment of some institutions. The Russell Group intended to respond to the consultation document in the Autumn. Professor Nelson said that he hoped that the results of the Exercise would inform funding for at least five years which would allow sufficient time for the model for the future to be refined.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Wheeler highlighted Item 11 of the report, the section which summarized the issues dealt with by the Estate Policy Committee. The automated monitoring and analysis systems should help the University reduce its energy costs. The Environmental and Sustainability Policy had been drawn up in response to legislation, although its content was wider than statutory compliance. It was presented to Council for approval.

Referring to Item 7 on the strategic planning round, Dame Valerie said that PRC had supported the investment in standardizing the administrative IT systems, subject to a feasible business case being presented in due course.

In response to a question about Item 4 on the pay dispute, the Director of Human Resources said that over the next two years the University would debate whether it wished to remain part of the national pay bargaining framework.

**Resolved** (i) That the Environmental and Sustainability Policy be approved.

- (ii) That the report from, and the decisions taken by, the Policy and Resources Committee be noted and endorsed.

71 **Report from the meetings of Standing Committee of Council held on 10 May 2006 and 28 June 2006** (Agendum 22)

**Received** The report from the meetings of Standing Committee of Council, held on 10 May 2006 and 28 June 2006.

The Secretary and Registrar presented the Statement of Primary Responsibilities (Item 2), explaining that it would serve as an *aide-mémoire* for members of Council.

On the subject of the property disposal, the Secretary and Registrar summarized the position which was set out the report. Mr Purkiss declared an interest in the subject: he was an independent member of the Hampshire Police Authority.

- Resolved**
- (i) That the Statement of Primary Responsibilities be approved.
  - (ii) That the report from, and the decisions taken by, Standing Committee of Council be noted and endorsed.

72 **Report from meetings of Nominations Committee held on 10 May 2006** (Agendum 23)

**Received** The report from the meeting of the Nominations Committee, held on 10 May 2006.

The Secretary and Registrar stated that there was an omission in the report: the Resolutions under Item 2 should include the reappointment of Professor Holdaway for a further period of office of three years.

Dame Valerie handed over the chair to Mr Symons, the Vice-Chair of Council, for Item 1, Office of Pro-Chancellor. He reported that Senate had unanimously approved the nomination of Dame Valerie as Pro-Chancellor and invited members to do likewise. Members wholeheartedly supported the recommendation.

Dame Valerie resumed the chairmanship and said that she was delighted to accept the role. She invited members to approve the appointment of Ms Roz Rivaz to Council for an initial period of three years, the reappointment of Mr Alan Walker, for a further term of office as Treasurer, and Professor Holdaway as a Class 2 member. Members unanimously approved the nominations.

- Resolved**
- (i) That Dame Valerie Strachan be appointed with acclamation a Pro-Chancellor of the University for a period of office that would run concurrently with her initial period of office as the Chair of Council.
  - (ii) That Ms Roz Rivaz be appointed to Council in Class 2 membership for three years from 1 August 2006.

- (iii) That Mr Alan Walker be reappointed to Council, Class 1, for a further term of office as Treasurer from 1 August 2006 until 31 July 2009.
- (iv) That Professor Richard Holdaway be reappointed to Council, Class 2, for a further term of office from 1 August 2006 until 31 July 2009.

73 **Appointment of the successor to the Secretary and Registrar**  
(Agendum 26)

**Received** A copy of correspondence about the role of the Secretary and Registrar which had been sent to members of Council previously.

The Director of Human Resources outlined the steps that had been taken to appoint a successor to the Secretary and Registrar: search agents had been appointed and the post had been advertised. The selection process would comprise three stages, the last of which would involve the Appointing Committee, which would be chaired by the Chair of Council and whose membership would include a representative of Senate.

**Resolved** That the steps taken in respect of the appointment of a successor to the Secretary and Registrar be endorsed.

74 **Impact Assessment Review Group: Final report** (Agendum 27)

**Received** The final report from the Impact Assessment Review Group, dated 16 May 2006.

Mr Purkiss, who had acted as Chair of the Impact Assessment Review Group (IARG), presented the report which summarized the activities that had been undertaken by the Group to ensure that the University complied with the requirements of the Race Relations Amendment Act, 2000. He was pleased to report that the University fulfilled its duties under the Act, but emphasized that regular reviews would be needed to ensure that the practice matched the policies.

**Resolved** (i) That the final report of the Impact Assessment Review Group be noted.

(ii) That Council record its appreciation of the work carried out by the Review Group.

75 **Code of Practice to ensure freedom of speech** (Agendum 28)

**Received** The Annual Report on the operation of the Code of Practice to Ensure Freedom of Speech within the law, prepared by the Head of Legal Services.

The Secretary and Registrar presented the report, drawing attention to the fact that it had not been necessary to use the procedures during the academic year because no activity had been classified as 'designated'.

**Resolved** That the report from the Responsible Officer, as defined in the Code of Practice to Ensure Freedom of Speech, be noted.

## 76 **Students' Union**

### 76.1 **Review of the Laws** (Agendum 29.1)

**Received** A report on the review of the Laws of the Students' Union and developments in respect of the introduction of the Charities Bill.

The Secretary and Registrar said that a further report would be presented to Council during the 2006/07 session on the constitutional position of the Students' Union in light of the new Charities legislation.

**Resolved** That the Laws of the Union be noted.

### 76.2 **Review of Code of Practice** (Agendum 29.2)

**Received** The Annual Report from the Deputy Director of Student Services on the operation of the Code of Practice which governed the way in which the requirements of the Education Act, 1994 in respect of Students' Unions were met.

A copy of the Code of Practice regarding the requirements of the Education Act 1994, together with a covering note which proposed a change to the wording of Section 12.

The Secretary and Registrar explained that the independent adjudicator, Mr Stannard, who had been appointed in 1995, had expressed a wish to stand down. In view of the fact that it had not been necessary to invoke the procedures at all during the last eleven years, the Secretary and Registrar proposed that Section 12 be amended to state that the independent person be appointed by Council when necessary. Members endorsed the proposal.

- Resolved**
- (i) That the report on the review of the Code of Practice regarding the requirements of the Education Act 1994 be noted.
  - (ii) That the proposed amendment to the Code of Practice be approved.
  - (iii) That Mr Ron Stannard be thanked for his willingness to act as the 'independent person', as defined in Section 12 of the Code of Practice.

## 77 **The Role of the Council in the student complaints procedures** (Agendum 30)

**Received** A discussion paper on the role of the Council in the student complaints procedures, prepared by Dr Piggott and Ms Pugh, dated June 2006.

The Secretary and Registrar presented the paper, stating that it gave notification of the intention to bring forward proposals to move to a more streamlined process for dealing with student complaints. He explained that the representatives of the Students' Union had been involved in the review process that was under way, but that the newly elected sabbatical officers might not be fully briefed at this stage because they had only recently taken on their responsibilities. He underlined that the proposal to reduce the number of stages in the complaints procedure by amending Statute 18(20) did not apply to Statute 18(21) which dealt with grievances in respect of disciplinary action taken by the Senate.

Dame Valerie invited the student representatives to express their views about the proposal. Mr Wilson, the former President of the Students' Union, reported that the National Union of Students (NUS) encouraged individual Students' Unions to make use of the Office of the Independent Adjudicator whenever this was appropriate. (The Students' Union at Southampton had disaffiliated from the NUS some years ago.)

Members raised no objections to the proposals.

**Resolved** That the proposal to bring forward amendments to Statute 18(20) in due course be noted.

78 **Annual Report from the Centre for Enterprise and Innovation**  
(Agendum 31)

**Received** A copy of the Annual Report from the Centre for Enterprise and Innovation for the year 2005/06.

In introducing the Annual Report, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Nelson said that a review of the enterprise activities across the University would be carried out to identify what steps could be taken to enhance the present position. He expected that a report would be forthcoming during the next academic session.

**Resolved** That the Annual Report from the Centre for Enterprise and Innovation be noted.

79 **Dates of main committee meetings during 2006/07** (Agendum 32)

**Received** The schedule of meetings of the main University committees for the academic year 2006/07.

**Resolved** That the dates of the main committee meetings for the academic year 2006/07 be noted.

80 **Valediction**

Dame Valerie paid tribute to Lord Selborne, Chancellor of the University since 1996, and Dame Yvonne Moores, Pro-Chancellor, and Chair of Council from May 2000 until March 2006 who would be standing down at the end of July for the work that they had undertaken on behalf of the University. She thanked the following members who would also be standing down from membership on 31 July 2006 for their contributions to the work of the governing body: Ms Bridget Barker and Ms Hilary Chadwick.

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