

# THE COUNCIL



There will be a meeting of the Council at 10.30am on Monday 24 June 2013, Committee Room 2, the Council House.

*Refreshments will be available in the foyer from 10.20am.*

Registrar and Secretary  
17 June 2013

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## AGENDA

### 1. BUSINESS OF THE AGENDA

Items in Section A are for discussion and action by the Committee. Items in Section B contain routine recommendations which will be deemed to have been approved at the meeting unless members of the Committee ask for them to be discussed. Items in Section C are for information only. Any member of the Committee may ask for an item from Section B or Section C to be moved to Section A by contacting the Secretary before 5pm on Thursday 20 June 2013. Reserved items appear in Section D.

### 2. MINUTES

To confirm  
the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2013 (Enclosed)

### 3. STATEMENTS BY THE CHAIR

### 4. STATEMENTS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

1. Delegation of responsibilities;
  2. The Guardian and The Complete Guide: actions and efforts to release funds to support a Top 20 position;
  3. 1994 Group
  4. Executive Dean (Faculty of Social Sciences);
  5. Faculty of Arts and Humanities structure.
  6. Fundraising update
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## SECTION A: ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

### \*A1. CONFIDENTIAL PROJECT

To receive  
a confidential oral report from the Treasurer to provide an update on the Project developments.

## COU12A007

### \*A2. JOINT VENTURE STRUCTURE

To receive

a confidential oral update from the Registrar and Secretary on the Joint Venture Structure.

### \*A3. CORPORATE PLAN: EMPLOYABILITY

To receive

a confidential report regarding progress towards achieving the corporate plan aims on employability and to review initial data on this subject. COU12D067 (Divider A).

### \*A4. VICE-CHANCELLOR

To receive

a confidential interim report from the sub-committee reviewing search arrangements for the Vice-Chancellor's successor in October 2014. COU12D068 (Divider B)

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## SECTION B:

### ITEMS WHICH CONTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS BUT WHERE NO DEBATE IS ANTICIPATED

Items in Section B contain recommendations which will be deemed to have been approved at the meeting unless members of the Committee ask for them to be discussed. Any member of the Committee may ask for an item from Section B to be moved to Section A by contacting the Secretary before 5pm on Thursday 20 June 2013.

### B1. THE COUNCIL: MEMBERSHIP

To report

Senate has nominated Professor Jacqueline Collier as their representative to serve on Council for the period 1 August 2013 to 31 July 2016.

To recommend

the ratification of the appointment of Professor Jacqueline Collier to Council as a Senate representative.

### B2. UNION OF UEA STUDENTS CODE OF PRACTICE

To review

the changes to the Code of Practice Relating to Student Unions arising from the review of the Union of UEA Students Constitution. COU12D069 (Divider C)

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## SECTION C: ITEMS FOR REPORT

Items in Section C are for information only. Any member of the Committee may ask for an item from Section C to be moved to Section A by contacting the Secretary before 5pm on Thursday 20 June 2013.

The Section C items can be found via the page below:

<https://intranet.uea.ac.uk/committeeoffice/ueacombds/cou/cou1213>

### C1. ASSEMBLY

To report

- (1) that the Assembly is established under section 9 of the University Charter and consists of all persons who hold a contract of employment with the University;
- (2) that in accordance with the Ordinances “Assembly may discuss and declare an opinion on any matter which is relevant to the conduct of the business of the University in the pursuit of its charitable objectives”;
- (3) that the following motions and questions were raised and that the minutes will appear on the University’s website (<https://intranet.uea.ac.uk/committeeoffice/ueacombds/ass>) in due course:

#### **Mature students open day**

##### **Submission from Karen Komolafe (ENV):**

Having been a mature student here at UEA I was surprised how very little is in place to help and support mature students. Not everyone on the open day wants to see the student bar but rather the nursery.

Assembly calls upon the University to consider holding a mature students open day and have an appropriate guide available that is able to answer questions regarding schools for children, housing etc.

#### **Transfer of administrative tasks to academics**

##### **Submission from Bronwen Wilson (ART):**

Various tasks that fell to administrators before the coming of integration have now been added to academic workloads, thus eroding time for teaching and research. Assembly calls upon the university management to rebalance the administrative workload and identify how they might prevent further diversions from core academic activities.

#### **Question from Grant Wheeler (BIO):**

As far as it is possible to tell, the Biomass Plant does not appear to be producing gas on a routine basis at the moment.

1. Could the University provide some background information about the problems which have caused the delays in this project?

#### **Answer:**

**The problems associated with the gasification plant are related to the ability to provide Syngas for significant periods and excessive pressure drops. Success has been made in producing Syngas and this has been used to generate heat for the University. This continues to be the University’s choice of operation whilst the testing process continues. The plant is also**

**providing district heating and electricity via its CHP engine using natural gas.**

2. What are the prospects for the successful commissioning of the Biomass Plant in the near future?

**Answer:**

**Longer term running still remains our key objective and specialist advice is being sought to address the current pressure build up problems and to gain better understanding of the physical flow characteristics of the gasifier. Once overcome, it is expected that testing will include generation of electricity and heat.**

**The significant financial and carbon benefits of this plant still remain and our government-set carbon targets will not be met without this technology. Security of supply is also a key factor with natural gas supplies becoming more fragile, subject to greater market fluctuations and with a significant portion of the country's electricity being generated by gas.**

**Question from Jimmy Cross (ITCS):**

As Assembly will be aware staff at the University have experienced a significant number of changes in the past few years. In spite of this the University has achieved "number 1 for Student Satisfaction" in the Times Higher Education survey. In this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year would the University consider awarding an additional customary day with a recommendation that this be on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2013.

**Answer:**

**Members of staff of the University already receive 6 customary days' leave (awarded by the University). The Executive Team will consider the proposal that a 7<sup>th</sup> such day be awarded, exceptionally, in 2013 and respond in due course.**

C2. UNION OF UEA STUDENTS CONSTITUTION

The committee established by Council with delegated authority to consider and approve the proposed amendments to the Union of UEA Students Constitution has met. The revised Constitution can be seen at <https://intranet.uea.ac.uk/committeeoffice/ueacombds/cou/cou1213/240613/cou12d070> COU12D070

C3. ITEMS FOR REPORT

To receive  
the items for report. COU12D071

- (1) Heads of Schools for 2013/14
- (2) Sealings

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**SECTION D: RESERVED AGENDA**

*No items have been received*