

# THE SENATE



## Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2011

Present: The Vice-Chancellor (Professor E.D.J. Acton) (in the Chair), the Pro-Vice-Chancellors (Professor T.D. Davies and Professor T.B. Ward), the Deans of Faculty (Professor D. Peters Corbett), Heads of Schools (Professor J.D. Charmley, Professor V. Lattimer and Professor D. Zizzo), Academic Representatives (Dr T. Blumenschein, Professor J. Collier, Dr S. Connolly Mr I. Farr, Professor M. Jancovich, Dr Y. Lebeau, , Professor C. Osborne, Dr M. Pfeil, Professor V. Rayward Smith, Dr S. Russell, Dr S. Stevens and Professor C. Wadlow),, Dean of Students (Dr A. Grant) and the Student Representatives except for business marked \*\* (Ms R. Handforth and Mr D. Youmans).

With: the Head of the Learning, Teaching and Quality Office (Ms A. Rhodes)

In Attendance: the Assistant Registrar (Dr G. Fincham) for minute \*, the Director of the Careers Centre (Ms A. Benson) and the Careers Information Manager (Mr L. Doughty) for minute \*

Apologies: The Registrar and Secretary (Mr B. J. Summers), Deans of Faculty (Professor D.J. Richardson and Professor N. Ward), Academic representative (Mrs H. Bell) and the Principal of City College, Norwich (Mr D Palmer).

### 24. THE COUNCIL

Reported

that the Council, at its meeting on 23 November 2009, considered the report of the Senate from its meeting on 29 November 2010 (Minute \*\*29) and approved the recommendations it contained.

### 25. STATEMENTS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Reported that:

- (1) strong representations had been made by UniversitiesUK to the Home Office regarding proposed strengthening of requirements in respect of visas for international students, leading to a reduction in the number of students likely to be granted visas. A decision was expected soon. There was a possibility that the Home Office might relax its stance slightly but there remained great concern in the HE sector about the impact of any changes;
- (2) the Executive Team (ET) was conscious of the strains arising from the integration project and grateful for the forbearance of academic colleagues. ET was confident that there would be positive outcomes for the student experience;

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- (3) there was an on-going, lively correspondence and debate regarding equal opportunities for female staff, particularly in respect of senior positions within the University. This interest was welcomed and additional ways to encourage under-represented groups into leadership positions were being actively considered;
- (4) the composition of the Research Excellence Framework panels had recently been announced. UEA was represented with one colleague a member of the main panel for Arts and Humanities and chair of a sub-panel and a further nine members of staff having membership of sub-panels (four in health subjects; one in science; one in (broadly) social sciences; and three in arts and humanities). In addition, a member of administrative staff was secretary to the main panel for health subjects and to three sub-panels);
- (5) with regard to the number of applications for undergraduate entry in 2011-12, there were looked likely to be only thirteen Universities (of which only one was outside London) ahead of UEA. This was a welcome position and a healthy context in which to progress the new academic model and proactively to shape the future offering of taught provision to ensure that the University was offering attractive courses of high quality and of high academic standards.

\*26. FEES

This report is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

\*27. EMPLOYABILITY

This report is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

\*28. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

This report is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

29. LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE: REVIEW OF GUIDELINES ON THE PEER OBSERVATION OF TEACHING

Endorsed

recommendations of the Learning and Teaching Committee arising from a review of the current Guidelines on the Peer Observation of Teaching. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN10D019)

ENDORSED

(Senate noted that there would be a new Code of Practice on the Peer Observation of Teaching to replace the current Guidelines which meant that in future, peer review of teaching would be mandatory across the University. This would take effect from 2011-12.)

\*30. PROFESSOR EMERITUS AND READER EMERITUS AWARDS

Considered  
recommendations contained within the confidential report. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN10D020)

ENDORSED

31. APPOINTMENT OF PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR

Reported  
that Professor Trevor Davies was to be appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor with special responsibility for the relationship between UEA and the Tyndall Centre and Fudan University, to serve from 1 September 2011 to 31 July 2014.

(Professor Davies' term as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research, Engagement and Enterprise would end on 31 July 2011. This new role would be a part-time appointment. Professor Davies would not be a member of ET but would report directly to the Vice-Chancellor.)

32. LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE

Received  
a round-up report of the meeting of the Committee held on 2 February, 2011. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN10D021)

33. ANNUAL MONITORING STATEMENT: OFFA/HEFCE

Reported  
that the University had submitted its joint Access Agreement and Widening Participation Strategic Assessment Annual Monitoring statement to OFFA and HEFCE in respect of its activities in 2009-10. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN10D022)

34. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Reported  
that the next meeting of the Senate was scheduled for Wednesday 15 June 2011.

\*\*35. THE COUNCIL

This report is confidential and reserved and attached as a separate sheet.