

THE SENATE



Minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2012

Present: The Vice-Chancellor (Professor E.D.J. Acton) (in the Chair), the Pro-Vice-Chancellors (Professor D.J. Richardson and Professor T.B. Ward), the Executive Deans of Faculty (Professor Y. Tasker), Heads of Schools (Professor D. Edwards, Professor V. Lattimer and Professor D. Zizzo), Academic Representatives (Dr T. Blumenschein, Dr M.G. Blyth, Professor T. Chapman, Professor J. Collier, Mr I. Farr, Dr Y. Lebeau, Professor A.E. McDonald, Dr C. Salter), Director of Information Services (Mr J. Colam-French), Dean of Students (Dr A. Grant), Mr D. Palmer (City College Norwich) and the Student Representatives except for business marked ** (Ms T. Ross (SU) and Mr J. Taylor (GSA)).

With: The Registrar and Secretary (Mr B. J. Summers), the Senior Assistant Registrar (Dr L. Moulard), the Director of University Services (LTS) (Dr A. Blanchflower) and the Committee Clerk (Mrs R. Phillips).

In Attendance: Mr R. Harvey and Mr M. Barlow (for minute 40) and Mr P. Silverstone (for minute 41)

Apologies: Deans of Faculty (Professor P. Gilmartin, Professor I. Harvey and Professor N. Ward) Heads of School (Professor J.D. Charmley), Academic Representatives (Mrs H. Bell, Professor D. Crossman and Professor C. Osborne).

36. MINUTES

Confirmed
the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2012.

37. THE COUNCIL

Reported
that the Council, at its meeting on 5 March 2012, considered the report of the Senate from its meeting on 22 February 2012 (Minute **58) and approved the recommendations it contained.

38. STATEMENTS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

- (1) Welcomed the new Graduate Students Association president Mr John Taylor to his first meeting of Senate.
- (2) Reported that this was the last meeting for the following members of Senate whose terms of office were coming to an end, had left or who were retiring from the University: Professor Tom Ward, Professor Mark Jancovich, Professor Catherine Osborne, Helen Bell, Professor Ann MacDonald, Megan Evans and Tash Ross.

On behalf of all members the Vice Chancellor warmly thanked them for their service and wished them well for the future.

- (3) Two of the University's early career academics, Dr Emma Griffin from HIS and Dr Adriana Sinclair from PSI, have been named as among 10 of the UK's most promising young thinkers. In a fiercely competitive BBC media scheme Radio 3, BBC Television and the AHRC searched for the brightest early career academics with the potential to turn their ideas into broadcasting and become resident "New Generation Thinkers" on Radio 3. UEA is the only institution to be represented by two academics amongst the final 10 winners.
- (4) Norwich University College of the Arts is now on an assured path towards the award of University status. This pleasing news for Norwich and for UEA in strengthening the city's reputation for the creative arts and it was noted that it would be important for UEA and NUCA to develop in a complementary manner.

39. CORPORATE PLAN

Received

- (1) an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor.

(Senate noted that at a corporate level the University has been concentrating on improving two key league table input measures by raising course entry tariffs and investing in academic staff appointments in order to improve the staff student ratio (SSR). The focus was now turning onto a number of output measures such as retention, employability and the league table measure of degree performance "Good Honours". It was noted that over recent years the University has performed well in relation to inclusivity as measured by widening participation performance indicators. However, recent changes in recruitment patterns were likely to adversely affect this metric in future years.

Senate was invited to examine the University's performance in the Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and hold ET, Deans and Faculties to account for the progress being made towards identified targets. Senate agendas would be planned for next year to place a greater prominence on performance monitoring and on securing feedback on the University's programme of continuous performance improvement as detailed in the Corporate Plan.

- (2) a report from the PVC Academic Professor Tom Ward

(Senate noted that a strong University performance in "Good Honours" and employability figures were essential to success in future league tables which were likely to label such measures as indicators of "added value". The University was well placed to address these issues. The introduction of the New Academic Model presented Schools was an opportunity to be bold and redesign courses and assessment strategies and all Schools were encouraged to do so with confidence).

40. ADMISSIONS 2012

Received

a presentation on Admissions 2012 and implications for ABB for 2013 from Mr R. Harvey (Director of Academic Admissions) and Mr M. Barlow (Director of University Services).

(Senate noted the current 2012 admissions situation and the implications of the change in the core/margin entry threshold from AAB+ to ABB+ which whilst positive in terms of recruitment and predicted student numbers may have an adverse impact upon entry tariff. It was difficult to predict how other Universities would behave in this environment and therefore the extent to which UEA's recruitment would be affected. The importance of maintaining strong entry tariffs was noted. Two short marketing videos which form part of the current marketing campaign were shown.)

41 ENTERPRISE CENTRE

Received

a presentation from Professor David Richardson (PVC-REE) and Mr Peter Silverstone (Project Administrator) regarding plans for the Enterprise Centre.

(Senate noted that the designs for the Enterprise Centre contained a lecture theatre, academic space and space for enterprise activities. The building has been designed to be the first in an enterprise pipeline providing a succession of building and working environments in which successful enterprise activities can grow and develop. The Innovation Centre building would be the next step with enterprises eventually relocating to the Centrum Building as they develop and grow in size.

Senate also noted that a bid for a research facility focussed on creativity and innovation in the humanities has been submitted under a HEFCE "UK Research Partnership Investment Fund (UKRPIF)" scheme established to develop research facilities across the UK, encourage collaboration and support excellent research. Members were invited to raise awareness of the opportunities for new academic buildings and bring forward ideas for consideration.)

*42. HONORARY DEGREES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

43. SENATE MEMBERSHIP

Reported

that the terms of office of the following Senate members would expire on 31 July 2012:

SEN11M004

SEN-M4
13.06.2012
Min. 43

Academic Representatives from each Faculty

Professor M. Jancovich (2012) (HUM)
Professor C. Osborne (2012) (HUM)
Mrs H. Bell (2012) (FMH)
Professor A.E. McDonald (2012) (SSF)

Considered
the recommendation that the following members were approved:

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Academic Representatives: - Professor Geoffrey Plank (2015)

Faculty of Health

Academic Representatives: - Mrs Judy Barker (2015)

Faculty of Social Sciences

Academic Representatives: - Professor Gillian Schofield (2015)

RESOLVED

Secretary's note: The Vice Chancellor, on behalf of Senate, approved the appointment of Dr Heather Savigny of PSI as the second academic representative for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Dr Savigny's term of office will expire in 2015.

44. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE SENATE TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL

Reported

- (1) that the Council includes amongst its membership two members of the Senate;
- (2) that the term of office of Professor Catherine Waddams will end on 31 July 2012;
- (3) that nominations were sought for the vacancy.
- (4) the recommendation that the following persons are appointed from 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2015.

Dr Mark Blyth (MTH) (Proposed by Professor Tom Ward)

RESOLVED

45. CHANGE TO GENERAL REGULATIONS

Considered

the proposed changes to the General Regulations. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN11D024)

RESOLVED

46. LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE

Received

a round-up report of the meetings of the Committee held on 28 March and 16 May 2012. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN11D025).

47. ITEMS FOR REPORT

Received

the items for report. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN11D026).

- (1) Heads of Schools for 2012/13
- (2) Union of UEA Students – Election 2012/13 Results

48. DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2012/13

Reported

that the dates of the Senate meetings had been confirmed as:

Wednesday 7 November 2012 – 2pm
Wednesday 16 January 2013 (if nec) – 2pm
Wednesday 20 February 2013 – 2pm
Wednesday 12 June 2013 – 2pm

**49. SUSPENSION OF STUDENT

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