

THE SENATE



Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 February 2015

Present: The Vice-Chancellor (Professor D.J. Richardson) (in the Chair), Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor D. Petley and Professor N. Ward), the Executive Deans of Faculty (Professor P. Gilmartin and Professor Y. Tasker), Heads of Schools (Professor V. Lattimer, Professor V Moulton, Professor G. Schofield, Professor P. Womack), Academic Representatives (Professor D. Andrews, Mrs J. Barker, Dr R. Denison, Ms C. Richards, Dr J. Turner, Dr D. Watson), Dean of Students (Dr A. Grant), Director of Information Services (Mr J. Colam-French), Ms C. Peasgood (CCN Representative) and the Student Representatives except for business marked ** Mr C. Rand and Ms Holly Staynor.

With: The Registrar and Secretary (Mr B. J. Summers), the Academic Director of Taught Programmes (Dr A. Longcroft), Academic Director of Learning and Teaching Enhancement (Mrs H. Gillespie), Academic Director of Pg Research Degree Programmes (Dr N. Watmough), Director of Admissions, Recruitment and Marketing (Mrs A. Bingley), Director of Learning and Teaching Services (Dr A Blanchflower), Assistant Registrar (Mrs L. Williams) and Senior Administrative Assistant (Mrs R. Phillips), for minute 24 the Director of Research and Enterprise (Ms H. Lewis), the Academic Director of Employability (Professor J. Charmley), the Heads of the Careers Service, (Mr J. Goodwin and Mrs J. Schofield), the Associate Deans (Employability) (Dr M. Aldrich, Dr S. Dorling, Dr R. Maguire and Dr L Taylor), for minute 25 The Director of Admissions (Mr D. Giles) and for minute 27 UEA Project Director (Professor T. Davies).

Apologies: Professor I. Harvey, Professor M. Frennaux, Dr H. Adcock, Dr L. Biggart and Dr S. Laycock.

22. MINUTES

Confirmed

the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2015.

23. STATEMENTS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Vice Chancellor

reported that the General Election would take place on 7th May 2015. Higher Education policy and in particular tuition fees were being debated by the political parties and drawing the parties strategies for a sustainable future for higher education into the limelight. The **School of Politics, Philosophy, Language and Communication Studies was organising an election debate for the candidates contesting the constituency of Norwich South. The Students' Union was also organising a debate and was also active in encouraging students to register to vote following the move to individual electoral registration.**

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24. EMPLOYABILITY

Considered

a presentation by the Director of Research and Enterprise Division (Helen Lewis), the Academic Director of Employability (Professor John Charmley) and Associate Deans for Employability (Dr Stephen Dorling, Dr Richard Maguire, Dr Lisa Taylor and Dr Matthew Aldridge).

(Senate noted the complete transformation of the University's Careers Service since 2012. The investment made has enabled every aspect of the Service to be overhauled from staffing levels and structure, to the creation of new spaces such as Careers Central, the development of on-line resources in MyCareersHub and new governance arrangements. A new vision and focus for the Service has been instrumental in raising awareness of the importance of our graduates to the local economy and in building relationships with local and national employers to create opportunities for our students such as internships, student enterprise, mentoring schemes and the UEA skills award.

The focus of work being undertaken by Associate Deans was to change the culture in Schools as employability required an integrated approach. By raising awareness of employability they were able to work with Schools to develop employability plans, embedding employability into curriculum development and mapping graduate attributes onto course and module outcomes. There was also work underway to inform students how their learning linked to the UEA skills award, currently being piloted, and ensuring they were aware of their graduate attributes when applying for jobs.

The Careers Service was now able to produce robust management information for example on footfall, and student engagement with the MyCareersHub to help Schools and Academic Advisers within Schools to tailor their support for students/advisees. Senate noted that further systems development would be useful to manage relationships with employers to assist Schools with their offer, and to benchmark student attitudes to employability through their studies.

Senate were pleased to see the progress being made in this area and the energy being applied to deliver support to students in seeking graduate level employment. A report on the UEA Skills award would be welcomed at a future meeting).

*25. ADMISSIONS OUTLOOK

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

26. STRATEGIC VISION AND UEA PLAN

Considered

- (1) details of the consultation exercise planned to engage University staff and students in the development of the vision and plan
- (2) the revised timeline. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN14D025)

(The consultation exercise had commenced on 16 February 2015 with ideas boards around the campus, and staff and students invited to contribute individually or collectively via a dedicated webpage www.uea.ac.uk/UEA2030 and/or twitter using #UEA2030. Over 1,000 comments had been received via the boards and over 200 comments received on-line in 48 hours. The Business Intelligence Unit would be digesting the comments and determining which issues and themes were emerging and

these would be disseminated to stimulate further discussion. Senate noted the organic nature of the exercise and that every member of the University community was being asked to engage and help shape the vision for the University in 2030. All staff and student groups across the University were encouraged to take the initiative, hold workshops, convene meetings and debate the issues and feed into the debate from their perspective.

The developing shape of the vision and the UEA Plan would be presented to the next meeting of Senate on 10th June).

27. GENERATION PARK

Considered

a presentation on the project by Professor Trevor Davies. (www.generationparknorwich.com).

(Senate noted the details and aims of the scheme about which there has been extensive public consultation. The scheme was to be based on a 30 acre site close to the railway station and river. The development features a green Community Energy Centre, fuelled by renewable straw pellets, which will produce sustainable power for major business users in the city and supply the National Grid. It would also offer the local community the prospect of more affordable heating bills through a new District Heating Scheme. The site would also feature an Education Centre, an Energy Research and Development Centre, low carbon homes and student accommodation.

Senate noted that the proposals would create an attractive park in a riverside setting and complete an important missing link in the city's walkways and cycle paths and were reassured that the risk of flooding, though small, was being mitigated in the design of the buildings).

28. HONORARY DEGREES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE – MEMBERSHIP

Considered

a recommendation to amend the membership of the Committee for 2015/16. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN14D017)

(Senate was content with the overall proposals to amend the membership and the methods for recruiting the Chair of the Committee. There was some discussion as to whether to increase the proposed membership to include a representative of the University's administration and Senate was undecided. The Vice Chancellor agreed to reflect upon the discussion and make a decision accordingly.)

Resolved

- (1) to approve the membership as presented
- (2) that the Vice Chancellor should determine whether an additional member of the Committee to represent the University's administration would be desirable.

*29. PROFESSOR EMERITUS AND READER EMERITUS AWARDS

This report is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

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30. UEA RESEARCH DEGREE EDUCATION STRATEGY

Considered

the report from Vivien Easson, Head of Postgraduate Research Service and Nick Watmough, Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN14D019)

RESOLVED

31. REVISED MEMBERSHIP OF THE POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH EXECUTIVE

Considered

the revised membership of the Postgraduate Research Executive. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN14D020)

RESOLVED

*32. REPORT FROM THE PARTNERSHIPS OFFICE ON THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STUDIES

This report is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

33. INSTITUTIONAL APPROVAL OF ROYAL MARSDEN SCHOOL

Considered

the report. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN14D022)

RESOLVED

34. APPROVAL OF A NEW AWARD

Considered

the recommendation to approve the new award of Masters of Fine Art. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN14D023)

RESOLVED

35. APPOINTMENT OF SENATE MEMBER TO COUNCIL

Reported

- (1) that the Council includes amongst its membership two members of the Senate.
- (2) that the term of office of Dr Mark Blyth would end on 31 July 2015.
- (3) nominations from members of Senate would be sought for the vacancy in due course.

36. LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE

Received

a round-up report of the meetings of the Committee held on 3 December 2014 and 28 January 2015 (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN14D024)

37. HONORARY DEGREES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Reported

two changes in Faculty representatives on the Committee for 2014/15

- Professor Dylan Edwards will replace Professor Phil Gilmartin (SCI) (2015)
- Professor Jim Gazzard will replace Professor Ian Harvey (FMH) (2015)

38. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Reported

that the next meeting of the Senate is scheduled for Wednesday 10 June 2015.