



**Central Management Group**

**Wednesday, 7 March 2012**

**MINUTE**

- Present: Senior Vice-Principal Professor N Brown(in the chair)  
Vice-Principal Professor M Bownes  
Vice-Principal Professor J Haywood  
Vice-Principal Professor S Hillier  
Vice-Principal Professor C Jeffery  
Vice-Principal Professor R Kenway  
Vice-Principal Professor D Miell  
Vice-Principal Professor L Waterhouse  
Dr K Waldron  
Professor J Seckl
- In attendance: Dr I Conn  
Dr A R Cornish  
Mr A Currie  
Mr J Gorringe  
Ms S Gupta  
Mr D Waddell  
Dr B Nelson (on behalf of Vice-Principal Professor L Yellowlees)  
Dr K J Novosel
- Apologies: The Principal  
Vice-Principal Professor C Breward  
Vice-Principal Professor L Yellowlees  
Vice-Principal Professor D Hounsell  
Mr N A L Paul

**1 MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 JANUARY 2012 Paper A**

The Minute of the meeting held on 25 January 2012 was approved as a correct record.

**2 PRINCIPAL'S BUSINESS**

**2.1 Principal's Communications**

The Senior Vice-Principal reported on the following: the visit by the Minister for Universities and Science on 13 February 2012 to the launch of the upgraded HECToR and BlueGene/Q computers; the high volume and quality of the applications received for Chancellor's Fellowships; Border Agency issues; the student week of action starting 12 March 2012; and Professor Higgs being named the recipient of the Edinburgh Award 2011.

**2.2 Principal's Strategy Group Paper B**

CMG noted the PSG report and further noted the discussion on adopting a more forceful approach to space management.

## **FOR DISCUSSION**

### **3 DRAFT PLANNING SUBMISSIONS 2012/2013 (CLOSED) Paper C**

General points:

- Breakdown of costs within Colleges/Support Groups helpful
- REF preparation should be highlighted
- Expand on knowledge exchange activity
- Cross University working – improvements required
- Evidence of public engagement to be integrated into plans
- Highlight internationalisation opportunities
- Include opportunities to engage on government policy
- Ethical (eg fair trade) and equality and diversity issues need to be addressed

Final plans to be submitted by 23 March 2012 for consideration at the next meeting of CMG.

### **3.1 CHSS Paper C1**

The current successes of 2011/2012 were noted specifically the merger with the Edinburgh College of Art. The key priority areas for the College moving forward into 2012/2013 were also noted including increasing capacity for multi-professional working across all boundaries (research and teaching); investing in new staff and improving the effectiveness of induction, taking forward the new student support system and the challenges of the estate and making better use of space etc.

### **3.2 CSE Paper C2**

The College wished to improve on current rankings to be in the top 3 in the UK and top 20 in the world; student applications for 2012/2013 were very encouraging. There were challenges with the enhanced student support system and further refinements required re the financial plans for the College. The College was well placed moving forward into the REF and it was engaged in cross boundary work with MVM and HSS. Investment would be required in the estate. The College planned to increase the number of Athena SWAN awards, led by the Head of College.

CMG commented on the need for E&B involvement in planned new builds and that some of the projected costs and timings for current E&B projects may need to be amended. It was also suggested that global opportunities in biological/biomedical areas should be highlighted.

### **3.3 CMVM Paper C3**

The plan highlighted a number of issues to be addressed around sustainable/transparent budgets, challenges in taking forward the enhanced student support system, further opportunities to increase on-line programmes, the success of the MRC merger and creating new centres/institutes, expanding knowledge exchange and taking forward the BioQuarter and continuing to develop the Easter Bush campus. Equality and diversity issues were also being addressed.

CMG commented on the information on estates issues.

**3.4 CSG Paper C4**

It was noted that CSG input was central to ensuring delivery of a large number of activities and that there continued to be an increase in the volume and complexity of these activities particularly in the areas of finance and estates and buildings. LEAN principles were now embedded across CSG with plans for this approach to be expanded across the wider University and many areas within CSG now had IIP accreditation. CSG would continue during 2012/2013 to focus on the three University strategic objectives as measured against the Group's KPIs.

**3.5 ISG Paper C5**

The plan, following consultation across the University, concentrated on ensuring sustainability of core services in an expanding environment with input into the delivery of key projects, University and IS led: PURE/REF, enhanced student support system, distance learning initiative, reenergised website, data storage and shared timetabling against a background of transparent budgeting. The liaison with E&B re IT infrastructure was noted and that proposals would be brought to a future CMG re Library materials. ISG was asked to provide a breakdown of its budget in the same way as had been provided by CGS and SASG.

**3.6 SASG Paper C6**

Key areas for SASG were around meeting current and anticipated student expectations, improving the student experience, ensuring resource growth, managing various University risks, and taking forward compliance and regulatory issues both internal and external. The significant increase in service demand had led to under resourcing in student specific areas and to address this, as well as the additional in-year resources already agreed, the plan was seeking additional resources in 2012/2013 to maintain and improve service delivery and deal with increased volume and complexity of external demands.

CMG was supportive of increasing resources given the increased demands being placed on SASG.

**3.7 Student Unions Paper C7**

EUSA

In order to continue and improve services additional resources were requested; it was not sustainable for the shortfall in grant income to be met from trading surpluses. Also in order to improve EUSA facilities it was further requested that specific funds be ring fenced within E&B to improve the University owned EUSA premises.

CMG endorsed PSG's request that the final version of the EUSA plan should include details of EUSA's overall finances, not just the budget provided by the University.

EUSU

CMG was supportive of the request for additional resources of £9,000 to

support non-competitive sport.

**4 FINANCE UPDATE (CLOSED) Paper D**

CMG noted the position re the SBS pension scheme.

**5 NURSERY FACILITY**

It was noted that there had been media interest in the future of Uni-Tots Nursery, a facility run within the Department of Psychology and used to support research and teaching within the department as well as nursery provision. Although no formal decision had yet been taken, there had been discussion on the continuing requirement for this facility within the Department and this issue was being taken forward as part of the overall discussion on future nursery provision within the University. Assurance had been given that the Uni-Tots Nursery would not close until alternative provision had been made.

**FOR INFORMATION/FORMAL APPROVAL**

**6 DRAFT FINANCIAL REGULATIONS (CLOSED) Paper E**

CMG noted progress and that the final Regulations would be approved by the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

**7 REPORT FROM ESTATES COMMITTEE (CLOSED) Paper F**

The recommendations as set out in the paper were endorsed by CMG.

**8 REPORT FROM FEES STRATEGY GROUP Paper G**

CMG approved the proposals in respect of: tuition fees for 2013/2014 for undergraduate, taught postgraduate and research postgraduate programmes, that those PGT programmes currently on standard fees or at points 0 or 1 on the PGT fee spine be reviewed by Colleges; Academic Registry fees for 2013/2014; tuition fees for selected programmes in CHSS and MVM for 2012/2013 and 2013/2014; revised streamline process to approve tuition fees; and continuation of the current policy for withdrawals by SLC and self-funded students.

**9 REPORT FROM SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY GROUP Paper H**

The SEAG report was noted. In particular, the 2012 updated Climate Action Plan was endorsed by CMG for onward transmission to Court, noting the University's difficulties in achieving the year on year reduction in carbon emissions given the increases in the estate and University activity. CMG further noted that there may be some conflicts in fully supporting the ethos of the Food for Life Project while being supportive of the healthy eating aspects. CMG further noted the achievements set out in the Social Responsibility and Sustainability Highlights Report 2010/2011.

**10 REPORT OF STAFF COMMITTEE Paper I**

CMG noted the report welcoming in particular the establishment of an

Advancing Gender Equality Steering Group and the discussions on relocation issues. In terms of the staff appeals against dismissal process, CMG noted the number and outcome of appeals lodged since its last meeting.

There had also been discussion with union colleagues on union consultation in taking forward major projects such as the shared timetabling project. CMG agreed that the current guidance on project management should be reviewed and that provision for engagement, where appropriate, with unions should be included.

- 11 DRAFT BIODIVERSITY POLICY Paper J**
- The draft Biodiversity Policy was endorsed by CMG and recommend to Court for approval.
- 12 BEACON – WAY FORWARD (CLOSED) Paper K**
- CMG was supportive of the approach outlined in the paper and of the benefits of continuing to take forward this initiative on a sustainable basis. It was agreed that the best location would be the Institute for Academic Development.
- 13 PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY AND POLICE Paper L  
PROCUREMENT BENCHMARKING UPDATE (CLOSED)**
- The protocol was welcomed and fully endorsed by CMG. The procurement benchmarking exercise was commended.
- 14 RENAMING OF SCHOOLS Paper M**
- CMG approved the proposal to rename the School of Clinical Sciences and Community Health to the School of Clinical Sciences and to rename the School of Molecular and Clinical Medicine to the School of Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences; both with effect from 1 August 2012.
- 15 PROPOSAL TO CREATE A NEW CHAIR OF SOCIOLOGY Paper N**
- CMG approved the proposal to establish a new Chair of Sociology.
- 16 DATES 2012/2013 Paper O**
- The dates for CMG meetings in 2012/2013 were noted.
- 17 OFFICE OF THE AMERICAS**
- CMG was pleased to note the appointment of Dalinda Perez Alvarez Rodriquez as Director of the new Office of the Americas; the Office is to be situated in Sao Paulo and will be launched later this year.
- 18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
- Wednesday, 18 April 2012 at 10.30 am in the Raeburn Room, Old College.