

Central Management Group



Wednesday, 23 May 2012

MINUTE

- Present: Senior Vice-Principal Professor N Brown (in the chair)
Vice-Principal Professor M Bownes
Vice-Principal Professor C Breward
Vice-Principal Professor S Hillier
Vice-Principal Professor D Hounsell
Vice-Principal Professor R Kenway
Vice-Principal Professor D Miell
Vice-Principal Professor L Waterhouse
Vice-Principal Professor L Yellowlees
Professor J Seckl
Mr N A L Paul
- In attendance: Dr I Conn
Dr A R Cornish
Mr A Currie
Mr S Marsden on behalf of Vice-Principal Professor J Haywood
Mr D Montgomery on behalf of Mr J Gorringe
Assistant Principal Dr S Rigby (for items 8 and 9 only)
Mr F Gribben (for item 13 only)
Dr K J Novosel
- Apologies: The Principal
Vice-Principal Professor J Haywood
Vice-Principal Professor C Jeffery
Mr J Gorringe
Dr K Waldron
Ms S Gupta
Mr D Waddell

1 MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 APRIL 2012 Paper A

The Minute of the meeting held on 18 April 2012 was approved as a correct record.

2 PRINCIPAL'S Business

2.1 Principal's Communications

In the absence of the Principal, Senior Vice-Principal Professor Brown reported on the following: the outcome of the interviews to recommend appointment of a Vice-Principal, Planning, Resources and Research Policy to Court (Professor Jonathan Seckl); the appointment of Mr Phil McNaull (currently Director of Finance at Heriot-Watt University) to the position of Director of Finance with effect from 1 September 2012; discussions with the SFC on drafting outcome agreements; and REF preparation.

- 2.2 Principal's Strategy Group** **Paper B**
- CMG noted the report.
- FOR DISCUSSION**
- 3 STRATEGIC PLAN (CLOSED)** **Paper C**
- It was noted that the Plan was now nearing completion prior to the final document being signed off by Court at its meeting on 2 July 2012 with the main focus now on finalising the KPIs and targets. CMG supported the proposed changes to shorten the strategic goal headings and made a number of suggestions and comments which would be taken forward.
- 4 UNIVERSITY'S RISK REGISTER (CLOSED)** **Paper D**
- CMG noted the revisions and endorsed the updated University Risk Register.
- 5 GENERAL COUNCIL FEE (CLOSED)** **Paper E**
- There was general support for the proposal and it was noted that there would be other mechanisms put in place to inform new graduates of their membership of the General Council. CMG agreed to recommend to Court the proposal that as from the commencement of the academic session 2012/2013, graduands should no longer be charged a General Council Membership Fee.
- 6 REPORT FROM ESTATES COMMITTEE (CLOSED)** **Paper F**
- CMG endorsed the recommendations as set out in the paper in particular the proposal to construct a nursery facility at King's Buildings, the various property disposal, lease and purchase matters including the current position with the Bongo Club and the revised Drinking Water Policy.
- 7 REPORT FROM THE STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR REDUNDANCY AVOIDANCE (SCCRA) (CLOSED)** **Paper G**
- The SCCRA Report and the monitoring work undertaken by the Committee were noted.
- 8 SUPPORT FOR STUDENT EMPLOYABILITY PROJECTS** **Paper H**
- CMG was generally supportive of the proposal to appoint a Project Officer from June 2012 until June 2014 to take forward two projects to promote student employability: the first to develop multi-professional teams of students to work in a voluntary capacity within the community based on the current approach within the School of Law; and the second to further develop the innovative learning week. It was agreed that as with other such initiatives this should be funded through matched funding between the centre (VP contingency fund) and the Colleges dependent on further consideration of the financial position and discussion with Colleges on the specifics of these initiatives.

- 9 STUDENT SUPPORT REVIEW: IMPLEMENTATION Paper H1**
- It had previously been agreed at PSG to undertake a review of student support as part of the initiatives to enhance the student experience and the outcome of this review had now been considered and supported by PSG. CMG considered and endorsed the proposal to initiate a three year project with a number of interrelated strands at a cost of up to £1.2m per year to take forward the recommendations of the student services review. There was discussion on specific aspects of the recommendations particularly around the desire to initially have in place by September 2012 student help desks in the main and King's Buildings' libraries and the need to ensure from the outset that these operated effectively and linked to the various services including those provided by EUSA; it was suggested that multi-lingual staff on the help desks would be advantageous. It was further noted that the source of the funding to support this project was yet to be finalised.
- 10 REVIEW OF HONORARY APPOINTMENTS Paper I**
- CMG welcomed the review and approved the recommendations for implementation as set out in the paper including that future emeritus Professors will carry the title of their former chair or discipline and that all honorary positions will be non-remunerated. It was further noted that these recommendations did not cover clinical honorary positions which would be taken forward at a later stage.
- FOR INFORMATION/FORMAL APPROVAL**
- 11 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR 9 MONTHS TO 30 APRIL 2012 (CLOSED) Paper J**
- The continuing strong financial performance was noted.
- 12 Q3 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FORECAST 2011-12 (CLOSED) Paper K**
- CMG welcomed the forecast group surplus of £41.6m based on the March 2012 management accounts. The improved outlook from the quarter 2 forecast was noted and the University's satisfactory position at this stage in the financial year.
- 13 GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN Paper L**
- CMG endorsed the draft Plan and approved the initiation of a six week public consultation period. The funding implications were also noted and the current process to seek support from Bòrd na Gàighlig.
- 14 PROCUREMENT UPDATE (CLOSED) Paper M**
- The changes to the organisation of the procurement team were noted and the impact of legal changes on procurement practice. In particular CMG noted the protocol with the police and the potential risk areas for the University re serious organised crime.
- 15 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A CHAIR OF CHILD PROTECTION Paper N**
- CMG approved the proposal to establish a new Chair of Child Protection.

16 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A CHAIR OF SOCIOLOGY AND Paper O
METHODOLOGY

CMG approved the proposal to establish a new Chair of Sociology and Methodology.

17 PROPOSED CHANGE OF NAME TO SUBJECT AREA Paper P

CMG approved the proposal to rename the subject area of music within the Edinburgh College of Art to the 'Reid School of Music'.

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 20 June 2012 at 10.30 am in the Raeburn Room, Old College.