Central Management Group



Wednesday, 19 June 2013

MINUTE

Present: Vice-Principal Professor J Seckl (in chair)

Senior Vice-Principal Professor M Bownes

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 Vice-Principal Professor L Yellowlees University Secretary Ms S Smith

Mr H Edmiston

In attendance: Dr I Conn

Mr A Currie Ms S Gupta Mr D Waddell

Mr A Murray on behalf of Vice-Principal Professor Breward Mr B MacGregor on behalf of Vice-Principal Professor Haywood

Mr H McKay Dr K J Novosel

Apologies: The Principal

Vice-Principal Professor C Breward Vice-Principal Professor J Haywood Vice-Principal Professor D Hounsell Vice-Principal Mr N A L Paul Vice-Principal Dr S Rigby

Mr P McNaull

1 MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 MAY 2013

Paper A

The Minute of the meeting held on 22 May 2013 was approved as a correct record.

2 PRINCIPAL'S BUSINESS

2.1 Principal's Communications

In the Principal's absence, Vice-Principal Professor Seckl reported on the following: the continuing success of the MOOCs and statistical information on the outcome of the first programmes including completion rates and plans for the next academic year; recent visits to the University by Scottish Government Ministers; the excellent symposium to celebrate the launch of the Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic; and the continuing concern over the missing student.

2.2 Principal's Strategy Group

Paper B

CMG noted the report and in particular: the progress on internationalisation in respect of the new Office being planned for North America, the global academies and recruitment of international staff; and the discussions on the University's current

position in the world league tables and the development of strategies to improve rankings.

FOR DISCUSSION

3 FINANCE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE (CLOSED)

Paper C

The current position in taking forward the Holyrood Development was noted and that various documents would require to be signed following the Court meeting on 24 June 2013 with financial close now being targeted for 12 July 2013. CMG further noted the other items in the report, in particular that there would be a series of road shows to provide further information on the new planning and allocation processes.

4 ECA REVIEW – REPORT ON PROGRESS

Paper D

CMG noted and endorsed the update on the operational recommendations contained within the Court Review of the ECA merger undertaken in the autumn of 2012 at the end of the first year following merger. Overall, the merger had been positive for students and staff and significant progress had been made with a number of the operational recommendations now complete or nearing completion. In particular, it was welcomed that a new dedicated member of staff was taking forward the widening participation agenda and that there was on-going liaison with SRA.

It was further noted that the SFC had indicated that it would require an evaluation report in September 2013 at the end of the first two years following merger. The information required and the format of the report were still to be confirmed and consideration would be required around reporting on estate issues.

FOR INFORMATION/FORMAL APPROVAL

5 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS, 10 MONTHS TO 31 MAY 2013 (CLOSED)

Paper E

CMG noted the satisfactory financial position after 10 months and welcomed the improved reporting format.

6 MIGRATION MANAGEMENT GROUP UPDATE

Paper F

The renewal of the Tier 4 license was welcomed and the on-going work to assess compliance across the University of Home Office requirements. The actions taken in respect of visiting students were also fully supported and the development of English language courses particularly on-line programmes was noted.

The position with staff was also noted and the opportunities around the exceptional talent category (Tier 1): the Director of HR agreed to circulate information on the criteria of the two elements within this category. The continuing close engagement with the Home Office was commended and colleagues were encouraged to contact the International Office for advice on students or staff.

7 INTERNAL AUDIT FOLLOW UP REVIEWS

Paper G

CMG noted that the Audit Committee continued to be concerned by the poor performance in implementing agreed actions in response to recommendations in Internal Audit assignment reports. Members of CMG confirmed their commitment to taking forward agreed actions and that this would be raised across Colleges and Support Groups; once agreed, responses to recommendations should be actioned.

8 ESTATES COMMITTEE REPORT (CLOSED)

Paper H

CMG noted the report, endorsing the various recommendations as set out in the paper. The proposals to take forward the Systems Medicine project, the opportunity for a performing arts facility at Potterrow, the construction of a new large animal facility at Easter Bush and developments at King's Buildings were welcomed. There was detailed discussion on the proposals for the McEwen Hall and CMG endorsed the proposal to develop the basement area to enable provision of conference facilities; the potential of linking this to the redevelopment of Potterrow was noted and the associated challenges re timescale and funding.

9 FEES STRATEGY GROUP REPORT (CLOSED)

Paper I

CMG approved the recommendations as set out in the paper in respect of fixed international undergraduate and postgraduate taught fees for students commencing studies in 2014/2015 irrespective of degree duration.

10 ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHAIR OF EPIGENETICS

Paper J

CMG approved the establishment of a Chair of Epigenetics.

11 ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHAIR OF MEDICAL AND SOCIAL Paper K ANTHROPOLOGY

CMG approved the establishment of a Chair of Medical and Social Anthropology.

12 FEES: CONVENER'S ACTIONS AND ROUTINE FEES

Paper L

CMG approved the recommendations as set out in the paper in respect of various programmes within the College of Humanities and Social Science.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 21 August 2013 at 10.30 am, in the Raeburn Room, Old College.