

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.

