

Central Management Group

Wednesday, 9 October 2013



MINUTE

Present: Vice-Principal Professor J Seckl (in the chair)
Vice-Principal Professor C Jeffery
Vice-Principal Professor J Haywood
Vice-Principal Professor S Hillier
Vice-Principal Professor R Kenway
Vice-Principal Professor L Waterhouse
University Secretary Ms S Smith
Mr H Edmiston

In attendance: Mr A Currie
Ms S Gupta
Mr P McNaull
Mrs T Slaven
Mr D Waddell
Mr F Gribben, College Registrar (HSS)
Mr D Gorman, Director of
Ms N Kellock, Head of Legal Division
Mr H McKay, Chief Internal Auditor
Dr K J Novosel

Apologies: The Principal
Senior Vice-Principal Professor M Bownes
Vice-Principal Professor C Breward
Vice-Principal Professor D Hounsell
Vice-Principal Professor D Miell
Vice-Principal Mr N A L Paul, Director of Corporate Services
Vice-Principal Dr S Rigby
Vice-Principal Professor L Yellowlees
Dr I Conn

1 MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 AUGUST 2013

Paper A

The Minute of the meeting held on 21 August 2013 was approved as a correct record.

2 PRINCIPAL'S BUSINESS

2.1 Principal's Communications

In the absence of the Principal, Vice-Principal Professor Seckl reported on the following: congratulations to Emeritus Professor Higgs' on being jointly awarded the Nobel prize for Physics with Professor Englert; the Chancellor's visit to the University and in particular the Chancellor's official opening of the Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic; the University being ranked 17th in the QS World University Rankings 2013/2014; the continuing success of ERI and research income secured: the recent PSG retreat; the University gaining 4 Athena SWAN awards in Autumn 2013, as well as schools seeking further awards; and the opportunities around the National Physical Laboratory.

- 2.2 Principal's Strategy Group** **Paper B**
- CMG noted the report.
- FOR DISCUSSION**
- 3 FINANCE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE (CLOSED)** **Paper C**
- CMG noted the details regarding the opportunities around the National Physical Laboratory previously noted and the current stage in the bidding process. The current position in respect of discussions with the MRC on outstanding issues in connection with the recent merger with HGU and associated units was also noted and the proposals around section 75 and pension liability: a further paper would be presented on this matter. There was also discussion on the anticipated difficulties with the timing of future Edinburgh Festivals and the University academic timetables; a group was considering how best to address the difficulties especially around accommodation and estates and buildings. CMG noted the other items and that the draft financial results for 2012/2013 were very encouraging.
- 4 2012-2013 OUTCOME AGREEMENT: SELF-EVALUATION (CLOSED)** **Paper D**
- CMG endorsed the excellent document, commending the case studies and made minor suggestions.
- 5 DRAFT OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2014-2017 (CLOSED)** **Paper E**
- As previously reported a three year approach to preparing Outcome Agreements for the SFC had now been agreed with an emphasis on the first of the three years. CMG welcomed the clear format of the report and a number of suggestions were made for consideration prior to the Outcome Agreement being presented to Court for approval. The connection between the Outcome Agreement and the University's Strategic Plan was noted and that each document had a different purpose.
- 6 ECA POST-MERGER SELF-EVALUATION (CLOSED)** **Paper F**
- CMG welcomed the report which had been prepared at the request of the SFC and built on previous reviews, further strengthening the evidence of the success of the merger for students and staff. It was noted that further information would be incorporated following an update meeting with students. There was discussion on the section on estates and buildings and the on-going work in this area around both compliance and maintenance issues and about strategic investment and further improvement of the facilities. The current indicative estimate based on an option appraisal was between £70 and £125 million. It was suggested that both elements should be included in the report and the now estimated cost.
- 7 REPORT FROM ESTATES COMMITTEE (CLOSED)** **Paper G**
- CMG noted the report and endorsed the various recommendations as set out in the paper. In particular CMG noted the expenditure outturn for 2012/2013 of £80m and the current planned spend for 2013/2014 of £73m and the on-going work around the 2025 estates study and specifically consideration of consolidating certain SASG and EUSA activities in the George Square area. The other items discussed included Systems Medicine/SCRM2, space management pilot at JCMB and New College, the unexpected increase in the cost to construct the nursery at KB and the current

proposals around the School of GeoScience include the discussions on Murchison House. CMG further noted the present position in seeking planning permission to take forward the development of the McEwan Hall and it was confirmed that this included consideration of the area immediately in front of the building and road realignment. The work of D&A in securing funds for major projects was noted and the opportunities to expand in this area.

8 TAKING FORWARD UN PRI Paper H

CMG approved the approach to take forward the tasks previously identified as a result of the University signing up to UNPRI and further agreed the proposal to establish a short-life working group to oversee the process including membership as set out in the paper. The timeline was also approved given the scope of the tasks and the different areas within the University potentially affected.

9 IP PROPOSALS Paper I

It was noted that this replaced a much older policy which had been developed a number of years ago and that the scope of the current revised policy was limited to the exploitation of Intellectual Property in terms of application to industry and commerce and did not include learning and teaching material, books/articles or musical works. CMG made a number of suggestions particularly in light of the issues around learning and teaching material, publication of academic material and open access to data. It was agreed to provide links in section 8 of the policy to current statements on other aspects of intellectual property which applied to the academic area and where appropriate to include further information around ownership of material. As part the dissemination of the policy it was agreed to involve EUSA.

Subject to consideration and amendment as appropriate CMG endorsed the policy for onward consideration and approval by Court.

FOR INFORMATION/FORMAL APPROVAL

10 INTERNAL AUDIT FOLLOW UP REVIEWS Paper J

There had been previous discussion on the implementation of agreed recommendations contained in internal audit assignment reports in accordance with agreed timescales. CMG noted that while there had been some improvement, the position remained unsatisfactory and CMG agreed to set an initial target of a minimum of 80% of recommendations actioned by the agreed date. CMG further agreed to continue to raise awareness of the importance of implementing agreed recommendations and further where changes were being proposed to either the recommendation or the completion date that these had to be discussed and the new approach agreed with Internal Audit.

11 INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE MBChB TUITION FEE (CLOSED) Paper K

CMG approved the proposals for fixed international undergraduate MBChB tuition fees for 2014/2015 entrants bringing this into line with the approach taken with other programmes.

12 SECURITY ADVISORY GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13 Paper L

CMG noted the Annual Report in particular the continuing discussion to address inappropriate post exam behaviour. CMG further re-affirmed its support to promote

the wearing of staff ID badges.

13 PROPOSED NEW IS DIVISION

Paper M

CMG endorsed the establishment of a new division within Information Services around Learning and the Web to be headed up by a new Director with effect from 1 August 2014; the costs of taking this forward would be met from within existing resources.

14 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A CHAIR OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE PATHOLOGY

Paper N

CMG approved the proposal to create a new Chair of Infectious Disease Pathology.

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 11 November 2013 at 10.30 am in the Raeburn Room, Old College