

Principal's Strategy Group Meeting 20 August 2012

Amongst the items discussed were:

1. Strategic Resourcing of International PhD Students

Vice Principal Hillier introduced this item and summarised the importance to the University of international strategic partnerships that often include PG Scholarships as one key element.

In order to build growth in PhD Scholarships, in line with our strategic objectives, the University needs to be responsive and agile in pinpointing which agreements are strategically important and wherever possible work quickly to meet individual requests.

A recent case has served to highlight the issues which centre around the level of discount given and the source of the funding to subsidise the discounted rate.

Following discussion agreement was reached that a group including Vice Principal Hillier and Vice Principal Seckl would discuss the options and recommend a proposal to CMG.

2. NSS Initial Results

Vice Principal Hounsell summarised the early 2012 NSS results for the University. Although the overall satisfaction level is above the Russell Group average a slight drop of 2% in the overall satisfaction rate is again coupled with low scores on Assessment and Feedback across many Schools.

The Group debated the issues and possible solutions. Assistant Principal Rigby will lead on preparing a paper for Court outlining the University's analysis and proposed response.

AOB

A. Research Success

The Principal noted and congratulated all University staff who have contributed to the £250 million in research funding that has been won by the University in 2011/2012.

B. James Tait Black Prize

PSG were supportive of a proposal to give each of our new undergraduates a copy of the winner of this year's James Tait Black Prize for Fiction which is *YOU & I* by Padgett Powell.