



UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE

14 May 2018

Minute

Present: Charlie Jeffery (Convener)
David Argyle, Ewen Cameron, Leigh Chalmers, Gavin Douglas,
Hugh Edmiston, Gary Jebb, Richard Kenway, Gavin McLachlan, Phil McNaull,
Dorothy Miell, Andrew Morris, Jane Norman, David Robertson,
Jeremy Robbins, James Saville, Jonathan Seckl and Tracey Slaven.

In attendance: Fiona Boyd and Kirstie Graham.

Apologies: Chris Cox, David Gray, Peter Mathieson, James Smith, Sarah Smith,
Rob Tomlinson and Moira Whyte.

1 Minute

Paper A

The Minute of the meeting held on 9 April 2018 was approved.

2 Principal's Communications

The Senior Vice-Principal, on behalf of the Principal reported on the following: continuing discussions between Universities UK and the University and College Union to agree the exact terms of the Joint Expert Panel which will examine issues around the current valuation of the Universities Superannuation Scheme; the ongoing Brexit uncertainty; international recruitment remaining strong and an 18% increase in accepted offers from SIMD20.

OPERATIONAL ITEMS

3 Widening Participation Implementation & Communication Plan

Paper B

The Executive was informed that Court had approved the Widening Participation strategy and the next step was to take forward implementation and communication. The proposed implementation and communications plan drew together existing good practice and identified opportunities for University wide co-ordination and scalability to provide a clear and consistent approach in line with the University's values. It offered tailored support and messaging for four distinct phases: aspiration and early engagement; support to get in; support to succeed and support to progress. The Executive approved the implementation and communications plan for the Widening Participation Strategy.

4 Career Track for Staff Specialising in Teaching Paper C

The Executive considered whether the University should explore a career track for staff specialising in teaching. There was broad discussion on the opportunities for progression and flexibility of career path, with a view that most academics would continue to engage in both teaching and research and it was important that both aspects were valued and that flexible pathways at different career stages were available to all staff. It was agreed that a working party should be set up to examine this issue in greater detail with any recommendations coming back to the Executive in due course.

5 Planning Round Paper D

The Executive noted progress to date and the ongoing meetings with budget holders to consider forecasts and opportunities to further revise the plans, with the intentions that a synthesis of the plans and the finalised budget proposals would be considered by Policy and Resources Committee on 4 June 2018 and Court on 18 June 2018.

6 Finance Director's Report Paper E

The Executive noted the Period 8, March, University (excluding subsidiaries) Management Accounts and the Quarter 3 University Full Year Forecast for the year. There was a report on Key Travel, the University's travel management company and there was a discussion of whether the University should consider setting targets to reduce travel costs, for financial, practical and environmental reasons. Benchmarking data on the performance of other University travel management companies was requested to enable comparison of Key Travel's performance.

7 Complying with extended Research Misconduct reporting requirements Paper F

In order to comply with new procedures around research integrity from the UK Research Integrity Office and UK Research and Innovation, the Executive approved a revised Research Misconduct Policy, subject to approval by the University's Combined Joint Consultative and Negotiating Committee on 23 May 2018.

8 Proposal to include Student Residences Requirements in the Network Replacement Project Paper G

The Executive considered the proposed change of scope to the Campus Network Replacement project, which will result in the Accommodation, Catering and Events student data networking and telephony services being provided by Information Services. This would require an increase of £2.02M capital to the Campus Network Replacement project and also

contained a risk in changing the scope of the current procurement process.

The Executive was supportive of the proposed change of scope but requested that it progress to Policy and Resources Committee for endorsement and that PRC be provided with more information on the financial implications (by completion of the Finance template) and that there was more information on the implications of the risk in terms of the potential financial and reputational impact to the University.

9 Ethical Fundraising Advisory Group **Paper H**

The Executive approved revised terms of reference and membership for the Ethical Fundraising Advisory Group.

10 Data Protection Policy and Handbook **Paper I**

The University Executive approved a revised Data Protection Policy, to replace the current policy on 25 May 2018 in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and approved the Data Protection Handbook, which provides supporting high-level guidance.

11 University Risk Register 2018-19 **Paper J**

The University noted and was content with the proposed revisions to the University Risk Register.

ITEMS FOR NOTING OR FORMAL APPROVAL

12 Fee Strategy Group **Paper K**

The Executive approved the fee proposals as set out in the paper.

13 Creation of new Chairs and renaming of existing Chairs **Paper L1**
Paper L2

The Executive approved the establishment of a Chair of Renewable Energy Technologies in the College of Science and Engineering and a Chair of Genomic Medicine in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

14 University Executive Communications **Paper M**

The key messages arising from the meeting to be communicated more broadly were noted.

15 Date of Next Meeting

The University Executive will next meet on Monday 11 June 2018 at 10 am in the Raeburn Room, Old College.