THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 3 February 2014

Present	Provost, Professor A Caesar, Professor Christina Hughes, Professor Christopher Hughes, Professor J Palmowski, Professor T Jones, Mr B Sundell, Professor S Swain Professor M Taylor, Professor P Thomas, Professor L Young.

- Apologies: Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor P Winstanley.
- In Attendance: Registrar and Chief Operating Officer, Deputy Registrar, Academic Registrar, Group Finance Director, Director of Human Resources, Director of Development and External Affairs, Director of Estates, Executive Officer (Vice-Chancellor's Office), Assistant Registrar (Governance), Head of Institutional Governance Services (for item 138/13-14), Director of Strategic Planning and Analytics (for item 139/13-14).
- 131/13-14 <u>Minutes</u>

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2014 be approved.

132/13-14 <u>Winter Degree Congregations 2014</u>

REPORTED: (by the Provost)

That the winter degree ceremonies held on 22, 23 and 24 January 2014 had been highly successful, and that many external visitors had commented on the smooth-running of the events.

RESOLVED:

That the thanks of the Steering Committee be conveyed to all staff involved in the organisation and the execution of the ceremonies and their associated celebrations.

133/13-14 Investment in Teaching and Learning

REPORTED: (by the Provost)

- (a) That the University had announced that it would be investing £20 million in new teaching and learning facilities, following the resolution at a meeting of the Council on 22 November 2013 to construct a new £15m teaching and learning centre, located close to the heart of campus on Tocil Field.
- (b) That, subject to planning permission, it was proposed that the new teaching and learning centre would be operational by the end of 2015.
- (c) That a further £4 million would be spent on enhancing current lecture theatres and another £1 million had been set aside for at least one further teaching infrastructure project that would be announced shortly.

134/13-14 Warwick Business School Rankings

REPORTED: (by the Provost)

- (a) That Warwick Business School had retained its place as the UK number 1 and world number 2 in the QS global ranking of distance learning and online MBA programmes.
- (b) That 5 other UK business schools appeared in the Top 10, together with 3 from the USA and 1 from Spain.
- (c) That the performance indicators used to calculate the ranking were wide-ranging and rigorous, and included perceptions of employers of MBA graduates; quality and diversity of students and faculty; level of accreditation; and teaching and learning experience.
- (d) That Warwick Business School had performed consistently well in league tables over the past few academic years.

(by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

(e) That the University would not feature in the 2014 round of the QS World University Top 50 Under 50 league table, in which it normally ranked in third place, as it would no longer be classed as under 50 years old according to the method of analysis used by this league table.

RESOLVED:

That Warwick Business School be congratulated on its continued league table success.

135/13-14 IGGY Award Success

REPORTED: (by the Provost)

- (a) That the International Gateway for Gifted and Talented Youth (IGGY), the University's online educational and social network for gifted young people, had won a Bett Award in the ICT Tools for Teaching and Learning category at a ceremony at London's The Brewery on Wednesday 22 January 2014.
- (b) That the Bett Awards celebrated and rewarded innovation in technology for education and were considered to be the most prestigious in the education sector.
- (c) That the judges, comprised of leaders in education, looked for organisations and products which showed a clear understanding of the sector and its needs, and that IGGY was selected out of ten finalists in its category.

136/13-14 One World Week

REPORTED: (by the Provost)

- (a) That One World Week, the world's largest student run international event, again took place on campus between 25 January and 2 February 2014.
- (b) That the campus hosted a series of debates and discussions, parades and performances, sporting tournaments and events and cultural exhibitions and workshops, made possible by over 200 volunteers, and attended by more than 10,000 participants.

- (c) That sessions for 2014 looked at border control and freedom of movement, UN responsibility for providing basic education worldwide and corporations and the collapse of the economy.
- (d) That the week concluded with the One World Conference, a platform for students from all over the world to come together and discuss topics related to making the optimum use of their time at university and what their future after university would be like.

137/13-14 Meeting of the Assembly

REPORTED: (by the Provost)

That it was anticipated that a meeting of the Assembly would be called imminently, to discuss a number of items which had been raised by staff groups.

138/13-14 Institutional Risk Update

CONSIDERED:

The draft Institutional Risk Register as updated by risk owners during the Autumn term 2013 (SC.75/13-14).

REPORTED: (by the Head of Institutional Governance Services)

That the new institutional risk register template, which allowed for items to be flagged both in terms of their current risk status and their anticipated net risk status following completion of mitigating actions, was now in use.

RESOLVED:

That the Autumn term Institutional Risk Register be approved as set out in paper SC.75/13-14, subject to the amendments agreed at the meeting.

139/13-14 University Key Performance Indicators

CONSIDERED:

A paper outlining the redevelopment of the University's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) model (SC.82/13-14).

REPORTED: (by the Director of Strategic Planning and Analytics)

- (a) That the new KPI model enabled the University's performance to be shown in relation to its strategic aims, and that there was scope for further refinement of the model in line with the development of the University strategy.
- (b) That the model allowed KPIs to be displayed clearly and transparently, and that whilst some commentary was provided to give context to the KPIs, this was kept to a minimum as the KPIs were intended to be prompts for wider discussion and debate.
- (c) That five core areas of activity had been included in the KPI model to date, although it was expected that additional measures would be incorporated in the coming months in order to align with the University's risk management framework.
- (d) That it was likely that the Times Higher Education Citation scores were below the Russell Group average due to the comparatively small sizes of Warwick Medical School and the School of Life Sciences.
- (e) That further analysis of HESA data was required to enable the benchmarking of the University's performance on the awarding of PhDs against academic staff cost, and

that the publication of the Research Excellence Framework database in 2015 would also provide valuable information in this regard.

(f) That the reporting method of each international league table was different, which resulted in the University's performance varying between rankings, and that it should also be noted that international rankings were often sensitive to minor changes in underlying scores.

(by the Academic Registrar)

(g) That although the KPI on student mobility appeared to show a decline between 2011/12 and 2012/13, the drop was exceptionally small, and student mobility rates had remained relatively stable between 2008/9 and 2012/13.

(by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate and Transnational Education))

(h) That there was scope for the University to give further consideration to means of increasing student mobility, and that the provision of a breakdown of KPIs by department would be useful in helping identify areas of opportunity.

(by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Planning and Resources))

(i) That it would be beneficial for all KPIs to be available with a greater degree of granularity to enable the identification of specific areas of success and concern.

(by the Deputy Registrar)

(j) That it was expected that targets would be agreed and documented against appropriate measures over the coming months, which would allow for enhanced granularity and precise indication of the University's aims and objectives.

(by the Registrar and Chief Operating Officer)

- (k) That the addition of a KPI on staff diversity and satisfaction rates would be beneficial.
- (I) That there was potential for international student satisfaction to be incorporated into the Teaching, Learning and Student Experience KPI, noting that both the International Student Barometer and National Student Survey scores could inform performance on this measure.

(by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning))

(m) That the new KPI model was welcomed, noting that it was much more accessible than previous iterations.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed KPI model be approved as set out in paper SC.82/13-14.

140/13-14 <u>EU Horizon 2020</u>

RECEIVED:

A paper outlining arrangements for the European Commission's research funding programme, Horizon 2020 (SC.76/13-14).

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Science, Engineering and Medicine))

That a range of activities were taking place across the University in preparation for engagement with Horizon 2020, and that members were encouraged to disseminate

information about the programme in their departments, noting the continued pressures on UK funding sources.

KS/CS/Steering/Minutes/2013-2014/03-02-2014 Open Approved