

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 10 January 2005

- Present: Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Professor L Bridges (from item 186/04-05 onwards)
Professor A Caesar
Professor Y Carter
Professor R G Dyson
Professor J Jones
Professor M Luntley
Professor S B Palmer
Professor M Whitby
- Apologies: Professor I Lauder
Mr S Lucas
Professor H Thomas
- In Attendance: Academic Registrar, Director of Academic and Student Affairs, Director of Finance, Director of Personnel, University Secretary, Mrs H E Blunt, Ms N Snodgrass, for item 187/04-05 the Director of Research Support Services, for item 189/04-05 the HEFP Programme Manager.
- 182/04-05 Minutes
- RESOLVED:
- That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2004 be approved, subject to the amendment of minute 173(b)/04-05 as follows: (deletion struck through)
- RESOLVED:
- (b) That future financial reports from the Academic Resourcing Committee be extended to provide summary data on individual non-devolved departments and to show the '~~negative tax~~' of University contribution to those departments agreed in the Financial Plan.
- 183/04-05 Setting of University Fees: Part-Time Fees
- RESOLVED:
- That minute 134/04-05 from the meeting held on 29 November 2004 be amended as follows: (amendment underlined, deletion struck through)
- RECOMMENDED:
- (b) That proposed fees for part-time, Foundation and 2+2 degrees for the academic year ~~2005/06~~ 2006/07 be set at existing levels, subject to inflationary increases.
- 184/04-05 National Teaching Fellowship Scheme 2005 (minute 175/04-05 refers)
- REPORTED: (by Professor Whitby)
- That several nominations for the National Teaching Fellowship Scheme had been received, three of which were being prepared for submission to the Higher Education Academy by the closing date of 25 February 2005.

185/04-05 Warwick in Asia

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on his recent meeting with the Chief Executive of the HEFCE at which the latter had expressed his support of the University's Warwick in Asia initiative and the possibility that the HEFCE might be able to provide a financial contribution towards the development of this UK HEI overseas venture.

186/04-05 CAPITAL Centre

RECEIVED:

An oral report from Professor Jones on the progress of discussions concerning the location of the planned CAPITAL Centre and the possible relocation of departments within the Faculty of Arts from the existing Humanities Building to the Westwood campus noting that initial decisions on these issues needed to be taken within a very short time frame.

REPORTED:

That the issue of the future location of departments within the Faculty of Arts would be discussed at the Faculty Lunch to be held on Wednesday 12 January 2005.

187/04-05 Research and Third Leg Update

RECEIVED:

An update on activities and strategic developments relating to the University's research and third leg activities (SC.117/04-05) together with oral reports from the Director of Research Support Services and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor highlighting in particular:

- (a) the recent announcement of the Research Councils' that in the future they would meet 80% of the full economic costs to universities of research funded by the Councils, a significantly higher figure than that originally estimated.
- (b) the visit of the Director of the Research Councils to the University on 7 January 2005.

188/04-05 HR Issues Update

RECEIVED:

A paper on current HR issues within the University including updates on the implementation of the HR Framework Agreement, Warwick HRI, fixed term contracts and 2005 cost of living negotiations (SC.116/04-05) together with an oral report from the Director of Personnel.

189/04-05 Higher Education Funding 2005-2008

RECEIVED:

A copy of the annual grant letter from the Secretary of State for Education and Skills to the HEFCE setting out funding and student numbers for higher education for the period 2005-06 to 2007-08 together with a news release from the HEFCE (SC.114/04-05).

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the apparent 6% growth year on year in real terms in recurrent resources for research was welcome and might be expected to yield some additional allocation of funding for the University.

190/04-05 Better Regulation Review Group Final Report

RECEIVED:

The final report from the Better Regulation Review Group (SC.115/04-05).

191/04-05 Higher Education Foundation Programme Annual Report 2003/04

CONSIDERED:

The Annual Report of the Higher Education Foundation Programme (HEFP) for the academic year 2003/04 (SC.112/04-05) together with an oral report from the Programme Manager of the HEFP.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That approval be given to the delivery of the Hong Kong element of the HEFP programme by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology following the withdrawal of the British Council from delivery of the Hong Kong HEFP Programme with effect from the academic year 2004/05.
- (b) That the Academic Registrar's Office undertake a review of the University's existing policy on the non-payment of commission to recruitment agents overseas in the context of effective marketing of the HEFP Programme, particularly in states with limited accessibility and openness in the area of student recruitment, with a view to a report being submitted to the Steering Committee in due course.

192/04-05 Leadership Foundation Fellowships Programme

CONSIDERED:

A copy of a letter from the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education confirming the award of a Leadership Foundation Fellowship to the Director of Student and Academic Affairs (SC.121/04-05).

RESOLVED:

That the Steering Committee record its congratulations to the Director of Student and Academic Affairs on the successful outcome of his application to the Leadership Foundation.

193/04-05 Tsunami Appeal

REPORTED:

- (a) That it appeared to be the case that only one registered student had been significantly affected by the recent tsunami disaster in the Indian Ocean, that this student had indicated that he would be withdrawing permanently from the University on financial grounds and that the student concerned had been alerted to his having recourse to application for University Hardship Funds.
- (b) That One World Week 2005, organised by the Students' Union in conjunction with the University's 40th Anniversary Celebrations, would be supporting the tsunami appeal through funds gained from ticket revenue as well as from donations collected at the week long series of events being organised.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That any student significantly affected by the recent tsunami disaster be made aware of the possibility of applying for financial support through the University Hardship Fund.
- (b) That the Director of Student and Academic Affairs investigate further the possibility of establishing a named University scholarship or bursary for prospective students from the affected region whose families had sustained significant losses.
- (c) That the Director of Personnel make arrangements for the publicising via InSite of the possibility and convenience of making donations to the tsunami appeal through the University payroll.

194/04-05 Higher Education Access Committee

RESOLVED:

That Dr B Merrill replace Dr F McKay as one of the University's two representatives on the Higher Education Access Committee (HEAC).