

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 3 November 2003

Present: Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Professor Dyson
Professor Easton
Professor Jones
Professor McFarlane
Professor Mullender
Professor Thomas
Professor Whitby

Apologies: Mr R Jones, Professor McCrae, Professor Palmer.

In Attendance: Registrar, Academic Registrar, Administrative Secretary, Finance Director, Director of Personnel Services, Director of Communications, Ms A Goodall, Miss E Clewlow, for items 67-68/03-04 Ms N Owen, for item 67/03-04 Dr G Carden, for item 69/03-04 Ms K Hughes and Mr S Bailey.

64/03-04 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2003 be approved.

65/03-04 Undergraduate Curriculum Review Group (minute 54/03-04 refers)

RESOLVED:

That Professor Whitby bring forward regular reports for consideration by the Steering Committee on the progress being made to implement the recommendations of the Undergraduate Curriculum Review Group.

66/03-04 Acting Registrar

REPORTED: (by the Vice-Chancellor)

That the Chair of the Council, acting on its behalf, had taken action to appoint the Director of Student and Ancillary Services, Mr Paul Greatrix, as Acting Registrar of the University to work alongside the Registrar from 1 December until his departure at the end of the calendar year and continuing in the role pending the recruitment of a new University Registrar.

67/03-04 Review of Research Funding

CONSIDERED:

A draft University response to the HEFCE Review of Research Funding (SC.41/03-04) together with oral reports from Professor Dyson and the Assistant Registrar (Planning).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the University response to the HEFCE Review of Research Funding be approved as set out in paper SC.41/03-04 subject to further revision along the lines discussed at the meeting.
- (b) That any further comments from members of the Committee be forwarded to the Assistant Registrar (Planning) for incorporation into the University response prior to its submission to the HEFCE by 6 November.

68/03-04 Review of Teaching Funding

CONSIDERED:

A draft University response to the HEFCE Review of Teaching Funding (SC.42/03-04) together with oral reports from Professor Dyson and the Senior Assistant Registrar (Planning).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the University response to the HEFCE Review of Teaching Funding be approved as set out in paper SC.42/03-04 subject to further revision along the lines discussed at the meeting.
- (b) That any further comments from members of the Committee be forwarded to the Senior Assistant Registrar (Planning) for incorporation into the University response prior to its submission to the HEFCE by 14 November.

69/03-04 Collaborative Training Account Business Plan

CONSIDERED:

The University's outline business plan for the EPSRC's pilot scheme for Collaborative Training Accounts (SC.37/03-04) together with oral reports from the Director of Research Support Services and the Research Finance Manager noting that a decision from the EPSRC on the level of funding to be awarded was awaited.

RESOLVED:

That Professor Jones present to the EPSRC the Committee's view that, while the Collaborative Training Account as currently proposed offered a degree of funding stability and a welcome simplification of funding arrangements, the scheme should not be formulated in such a way as to stifle innovation and expansion.

70/03-04 Constitutional Reform: Reforming the Office of the Lord Chancellor

CONSIDERED:

A consultation paper from the Department for Constitutional Affairs on the abolition of the Office of the Lord Chancellor and its implications for Visitorial Jurisdiction over the University (SC.44/03-04).

RESOLVED:

That the Administrative Secretary draft a University response to the consultation on the abolition of the Office of the Lord Chancellor, noting the proposed legislation removing the Lord Chancellor's jurisdiction in relation to student complaints, and supporting the proposal that advice be given to the Crown on a case-by-case basis on the appointment of an individual who is best placed to exercise the Crown's Visitorial Jurisdiction.

71/03-04 NHS University

REPORTED:

That the University's draft bid to become the single high level national partner of the NHSU would be brought forward for consideration by the Committee at its meeting on 10 November.

RESOLVED:

That the NHSU statement of requirements for tenders to become its single high level

national partner be circulated for the information of members of the Committee.

72/03-04 Strategy Awayday: 24 November

REPORTED: (by the Administrative Secretary)

That a joint Awayday meeting of the Council and the Strategy Committee would take place on the afternoon of Monday 24 November.

RESOLVED:

That the following topics be incorporated into the agenda for the meeting:

Capital Development and Residential Accommodation
University Research Strategy
Internationalisation of the University.

73/03-04 Higher Education Innovation Fund – Round 2 (minute 42/03-04 refers)

RECEIVED:

The University's response to the HEFCE consultation on funding proposals for the second round of the Higher Education Innovation Fund (SC.39/03-04).