

## UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee held on 23 February 2006

Present: Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair), Professor S Bassnett, Professor L Bridges, Professor A Caesar, Professor Y Carter, P Mr C Foy, Professor J D S Jones, Mr J Leighfield, Professor R Lindley, Professor M Luntley, Dr I Nussey, Professor S B Palmer, Professor M Smith, Sir John Temple, Professor H Thomas.

Apologies: Ms J Hobson, Mr B Woods-Scawen.

In Attendance: Director of Student and Academic Affairs, Academic Registrar, Estates Director, Acting Finance Director, Registrar, University Secretary, Ms Y Salter Wright.

9/05-06 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 17 November 2005 be approved subject to amendment of minute 4(a) (i) /05-06 as follows (amendment underlined, deletion struck through):

- (i) That a range of potential areas for collaboration in research activities with the University of Birmingham were currently being discussed and developed as part of the Science Cities initiative, as well as other potential academic research and teaching initiatives, and that these might include:
  - (A) Materials Science
  - (B) Energy
  - (C) Translational ~~of~~ Medicine
  - (D) Cognitive Science
  - (E) Urban and Regional Studies
  - (F) Modern Foreign Languages

10/05-06 University Mission, Values and Key Performance Indicators (minute 4 (a)/05-06 refers)

CONSIDERED:

- (a) A draft statement of the University's Mission, Values and Vision (paper JCSSC.5/05-06).
- (b) A proposed set of University wide Key Performance Indicators (paper JCSSC.6/05-06).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the draft Mission, Values and Vision statement be amended in the light of discussion at the meeting noting that any proposed revision take account of the prevailing view that the University mission statement must remain succinct.
- (b) That any further comments on the draft statement be submitted to the University Secretary or the Senior Assistant Registrar (Governance) to incorporate into a revised version of the document.

- (c) That List A in paper JCSSC.6/05-06 be adopted as the set of University wide Key Performance Indicators subject to revision of the list to include a Financial Performance indicator refined from that presented in List B of the paper.

11/05-06 University Teaching and Learning Strategy

CONSIDERED:

The draft statement and strategic themes for the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy as set out in paper JCSSC.7/05-06.

REPORTED:

- (a) That a wide consultation exercise was being undertaken to obtain feedback on the draft teaching and learning statement as set out in paper JCSSC.7/05-06 with the aim of ensuring that the final approved University Learning and Teaching Strategy would be a supportive framework to inform future decision making in this area both by individual academics and collectively as an institution.
- (b) That, following recent discussion at the Steering Committee, it had been agreed that the areas of assessment and employability would be given greater prominence in the final Learning and Teaching Strategy document .

RESOLVED:

- (a) That members of the Strategy Committee be invited to submit any further comments on the University's Learning and Teaching strategy as set out in paper JCSSC.7/05-06 to the Pro-Vice Chancellor for Learning and Teaching via the online web forum.
- (b) That the final version of the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy and the University's emerging Research Strategy be designed as companion documents to the final version of the University's Mission, Values and Vision statement.

12/05-06 Collaboration with Birmingham University

CONSIDERED:

- (a) Oral reports from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) and the Chair of the Board of the Faculty of Science on the development of collaborative opportunities between Warwick and Birmingham Universities, noting:
  - (i) that the funding being made available to the two universities via Advantage West Midlands to support collaborative projects presented a significant opportunity for the University and that a senior team from Warwick was working to ensure the development of proposals to secure access to this funding.
  - (ii) That a potential research collaboration in Physics between the University of Warwick and the universities of Birmingham and Nottingham was being explored with the HEFCE.
- (b) A proposed model for consultation and consideration of projects associated with collaboration with Birmingham University as set out in paper JCSSC.7/05-06.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposed model for consultation and consideration of projects associated with collaboration with Birmingham University be approved as set out in paper JCSSC.7/05-06.
- (b) That it be noted that, in entering into discussions with the University of Birmingham, the University of Warwick has no interest in alignment or merger at either an institutional or departmental level and that any collaboration will be designed with the aim of strengthening and enhancing the activities of the University of Warwick.

13/05-06 University Financial Planning Issues

RECEIVED:

- (a) A copy of the letter from the Secretary of State for Education to the Chairman of the HEFCE on Higher Education funding for the academic year 2006-07 together with a summary of the letter from Universities UK (paper JCSSC.9 /05-06).
- (b) Summary information on those academic departments in the University which are projected to operate with a significant but steadily reducing deficit over the current planning period (paper JCSSC.10 /05-06).
- (c) Oral reports from the Vice-Chancellor and the Director of Academic and Student Affairs on the positive actions being taken by the Academic Resources Committee and the individual departments concerned to ameliorate and reduce the projected duration and level of operating deficits.