

## COUNCIL

**21 March 2013 at 16:30**

**39BB02**

## MINUTES

*Exemption from publication under Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act is claimed for these minutes on the grounds of commercial sensitivity.*

<b>Members:</b>	Mr Max Taylor (Chair)	Prof Gill Nicholls
	Mr Dudley Eustace (Vice-Chair)	Prof Shirley Price
	Prof Sir Christopher Snowden (President & V-C)	Mr Iain Robertson
	Prof David Allen	*Mr David Rogers
	*Mr Thomas Chambers	Ms Sue Ryle
	*Dr John Forrest	Prof Jonathan Seville
	Mr Jim Glover	Mr Keith Taylor
	Mr Dave Halls	Ms Anne Watts
	*Mr Ashley Herman	*Prof Steve Williamson
	*Mr David McNulty	Prof Lord Robert Winston
	*denotes member unable to attend	

**In attendance:** Mr Harri ap Rees – Director of Strategic Planning  
Dr David Ashton – VP and Registrar  
Ms Sarah Litchfield – University Secretary & Legal Counsel (Clerk to Council)  
Mr Greg Melly – VP Corporate Services  
Ms Lise Richards – University Secretariat Manager (minutes)  
Mr David Sharkey – Chief Financial Officer

**By invitation** Mr Roger Stickland – Director of IT (minute 13/09)  
Professor Lisa Roberts – Dean of FHMS (minute 13/06)  
Dr Steve Baker – Director, Research Park (minute 13/06)

### **A INTRODUCTORY ITEMS**

#### **13/01 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were noted from Mr Thomas Chambers, Mr David McNulty, Prof Steve Williamson, Mr Ashley Herman, Mr David Rogers and Dr John Forrest.

#### **13/02 Conflicts of interest**

None declared.

#### **13/03 Minutes of previous meetings.**

The minutes from the meeting held 21 November 2012 were **approved**.

**13/04 Matters arising**

.1 Actions

It was agreed that the item regarding the discussion of honorary degree candidates would be deferred to the July meeting to allow sufficient time for significant items at this meeting. No additional matters arising, not already on the agenda, were raised.

**13/05 Chair's Items**

.1 Appointments

.1.1 Council was reminded of the proposal distributed prior to the meeting to appoint Mr Jim Glover as Chair of Council. Council noted that this process was in accordance with Statute 15 which provides that Council appoints its own Chair. Council approved the appointment of Mr Jim Glover as Chair of Council with effect from 1 August 2013. In addition, Council approved that Mr Glover replace Mr Dudley Eustace as Vice-Chair in the interim, with immediate effect. Council was reminded that Mr Eustace was currently serving an extended term to 31 December 2013.

.1.2 Council noted the re-appointment, through the Senate election process, of Professor Shirley Price for a further term of two years (to 31 December 2015).

.2 Achievements

Council **acknowledged** the achievements of the University community as outlined in the paper circulated.

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**B ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL**

**13/06 Vet School Update  
REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE**

**13/07 New Borrowings  
REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE**

**13/08 Student Recruitment**

.1 Council received a presentation on the latest student recruitment position. The following headline numbers were noted:-  
**REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE**

.2 It was noted that students were taking longer in general to make their acceptances and a lot of responses were expected during the coming month, after which a much firmer UG picture would be available.

.3 Council was reminded that it was always more difficult to project PG intake, therefore, targets remained cautious.

- .4 It was noted that the numbers would remain under review and the plan for growth continued to be progressed.
- .5 Council was provided with an update on the balanced scorecard (brought forward from item 13 on the agenda).
- .6 Council **noted** the student recruitment update and the latest balanced scorecard.

**13/09 Annual IT Report**

- .1 Council received a presentation on the status of the University's IT, progress on strategic objectives and the key challenges being faced.
- .2 In response to questions raised, Council noted the following:-
  - Faculty IT managers were now a fully integrated part of the IT team. This has improved relationships between central IT and the faculties. The recent successful implementation of the VLE and the improved resilience and reliability of IT systems over recent years had increased confidence in University IT.
  - The strategic importance of IT in enabling the university to deliver education in different ways in coming years was recognised and encouraged (e.g. simulation and remote teaching being good examples).
- .3 Council **noted** the annual IT report.

**13/10 Q2 Reforecast**

- .1 Council received a presentation.
- .2 **REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE**
- .3 **REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE**
- .4 An update was scheduled at the next Finance Committee meeting in May.
- .5 Council noted the Q2 reforecast.

**13/11 Risk Management**

- .1 It was noted that the 5G project had been added as a new risk. This was being given further consideration at Executive Board and an update would be provided to Council at its July meeting.
- .2 Council noted the risk management update.

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**C ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**13/11 Report from the Finance Committee**

- .1 Council was informed that an update on the Pensions strategy would be received by Finance Committee at its July meeting.
- .2 It was further noted that a TRAC update would be provided to Council at the July meeting given

the strategic importance of TRAC in the sector ..

.3 Council noted the report from the Finance Committee.

**13/12 Report from the Executive Board**

.1 Council noted the report from the Executive Board.

**13/13 Report from the Audit Committee**

.1 Council received a verbal update. No serious concerns were raised. It was noted that there was still concern over the time taken to address some actions recommended from Internal Audit reports.

.2 Council noted the report from the Audit Committee.

**13/14 Report from the Senate**

.1 Council noted the report from the Senate.

**13/15 Health & Safety Report**

.1 Council noted the Health & Safety report.

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**D CLOSING ITEMS**

**13/16 AOB**

.1 None

**13/17 Dates of Future Meetings**

All meetings (except away days) are at 16:30 unless otherwise advised.

2013:

25 July, 21 November

**Mr Max Taylor  
Chair of Council  
21 March 2013**