

Council

MINUTES AND ACTION

NB text in BLACK is for publication

23 May 2019

1000-1630

Council Chamber, Northcote House

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Council Meeting

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Attendees

Present

Sarah Turvill	Pro Chancellor and Chair
Professor Sir Steve Smith	Vice-Chancellor
Richard Atkins	Pro Chancellor
Jo Binding	Independent Member
Gerry Brown	Independent Member
Dr Sarah Buck	Pro Chancellor
Graham Cole	Independent Member
Kiron Farooki	Independent Member
Grace Frain	President, Students' Guild
Professor Mark Goodwin	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement)
Judy Hargadon	Independent Member
Professor Dave Hosken	Senate Representative
Salam Katbi	Independent Member
Professor Janice Kay	Provost
Professor Caroline MacEwen	Independent Member
Sir John O'Reilly	Independent Member
Alison Reed	Independent Member
Izi Robe	Exeter President, FXU
Professor Wendy Robinson	Senate Representative
Alison Rose	Professional Services Representative
Dr Anni Vanhatalo	Senate Representative
Glenn Woodcock	Independent Member

Secretary

Mike Shore-Nye	Registrar and Secretary
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With

Professor David Allen	Pro Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean (Business School) (in attendance for item 17)
Jane Chafer	Director of Communications and Corporate Affairs (in attendance For item 17)
Professor Dan Charman	Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean (College of Life and Environmental Sciences) (in attendance for item 17)
Andrew Connolly	Chief Financial Officer
Tracy Costello	Chief Executive, Students' Guild
Professor Ken Evans	Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean (College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences) (in attendance for item 17)
Susan Fallon	Deputy Secretary to Council (Minutes)
Alan Hill	Chief Information and Digital Officer (in attendance for item 12)
Mark John	Project Manager (in attendance for item 13)
Professor Tim Lenton	Professor of Earth System Science and Chair in Climate Change (in attendance for item 1)
Hugh McCann	Director of Estate Services (in attendance for item 13)
Craig Nowell	Director of Campus Infrastructure and Operational Support Services (in attendance for item 17)
Linda Peka	Chief College Operations Officer (in attendance for item 17)
Professor Tim Quine	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)
Dr Andy Richards	Global Systems Institute Manager (in attendance for item 1)
Imelda Rogers	Interim Director of People Services
Rick Walker	Strategic Development Unit Programme Manager (in attendance

Dr Michael Wykes

for item 14)

Director of Policy, Planning and Business Intelligence (in attendance for item 17)

Apologies

Professor Neil Gow

Richard Sargeant

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Impact)

Independent Member

1. PROGRESS IN TACKLING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

The Chair introduced Professor Tim Lenton - Professor of Earth System Science and Chair in Climate Change and Dr Andy Richards - Global Systems Institute Manager, who presented to Council some of the research, education and innovation in the Global Systems Institute (GSI), focusing on partnership working.

Council members commented on the impressive journey the institute had taken since Council had approved its formation. Discussion included:

- Using the Universities capabilities to work with companies on energy solutions including the work of the Business School on the circular economy and the renewable energy group in Cornwall.
- The opportunity for investment from the energy sector.
- The need for the University to consider its own energy generation and carbon emissions.
- The University's climate emergency statement and what practical steps that can be taken. Noting Professor Juliet Osborne, Director of the Environment and Sustainability Institute, will be chairing a working group bringing together staff and students so that the University moves from declaring a climate emergency to a plan of action that we can measure by the autumn.
- The need for the University to celebrate progress that has been made and targets it has set itself.
- A new Dual Assurance portfolio for Sustainability was announced with Glenn Woodcock as the independent lead and Craig Nowell as the executive lead.
- Potential need to work with students on their understanding of the role and responsibilities of large corporations and the work Exeter is doing to build relationships with corporate bodies, including as part of the new Global Sustainably master's programme.

The Chair thanked Professor Lenton and Dr Richards.

2. CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

There were no unreported conflicts of interest to declare.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 4 APRIL 2019 (CNL/19/61)

The minutes of the meeting 4 April 2019 were agreed as an accurate record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Council Sub Group for Digital Investment

Now that the new manager is in place this Group needs to be established. Independent members were suggested as Jo Binding, Richard Sergeant (and then his successor independent Council lead for Digital) and Glenn Woodcock.

ACTION 4.1: Governance plans for the Council Sub Group for Digital Investment and full membership to be agreed at the next meeting of Council on 11 July 2019.

Office for Students (OfS) Letter on Financial Viability and Sustainability, Information for Governing Bodies (CNL/19/79)

The Chair brought the OfS letter to the attention of Council and noted that student numbers is a regular discussion at Council meetings, including a special Council deep dive into student numbers held on 3 April 2019 resulting in reassurance and confidence in current projections.

Council did note the concerns of the OfS and is very aware of the issues and therefore is keeping the matter under consideration. However, with current levels and quality of applications, Exeter is not part of the sector where the risks are highest.

Access and Participation Five Year Strategy (CNL/19/80)

With one recommended amendment Council **AUTHORISED** the document.

Council commended Nicola Sinclair, Head of Widening Participation, for her work developing the strategy.

UUK Consultation on the Current 2018 USS Valuation (CNL/19/83)

Council discussed the proposed response to UUK on the latest USS proposal. It was suggested that HEI governing bodies should have addressed this issue earlier and as a result there has been a failure of governance in the sector. Current proposals were considered a solution only in the short term and the underlying problem would remain.

The Chair noted that Exeter has supported the UUK position to close the scheme and put in place a good scheme that was also affordable for both staff and institutions. Exeter had also raised concerns with the Joint Evaluation Panel of affordability for some members of staff, who would be priced out of the pension scheme altogether. It was also noted that Exeter has two different pension schemes for staff and the issue of equity between the two needs to be considered.

REF 2021 Code of Practice

It was noted that Sir John O'Reilly had formally approved the Code.

5. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT AND PERFORMANCE SUMMARY (CNL/19/62)

The Vice-Chancellor presented his report to Council highlighting:

- The results of the Leiden league table.
- Exeter's world class research in areas such as diabetes and global systems and the role of professional services in enabling academic excellence.
- The Augar Post 18 Review.

Council discussed the potential implication of the pending Augar report.

6. REPORT FROM SENATE

Anni Vanhatalo informed Council that there had been no Senate meeting since the last Council meeting. However, as part of this year's Senate enhancements there has been a programme of briefings/discussion meetings; since the last meeting of Council these have been:

- Digital Strategy
- Access and Participation Plan
- Ways of Working

It was also noted that Senate will be electing a new member to join the Council to replace Dave Hosken when his term ends this year. The election is open to all members of Senate and there has been two nominations.

7. DUAL ASSURANCE REPORT

The Chair invited Dual Assurance leads to raise any issues they would like to bring to the attention of Council.

8. REVIEW OF THE SPEAK OUT APPROACH AND GUARDIAN ROLES (CNL/19/63)

The Registrar and Secretary introduced the independent review and recommendations. He noted that the Speak out Guardians were part of a package of measures under the Provost Commission, were based on best practice in the NHS and according to the review had been successfully implemented. The aim of the intervention is to help ease people's concern, act as a deterrent to poor behaviour and send a clear message on the institution's stance on this issue.

However, the review had identified some gaps due to the speed of implementation. Some of the challenges are:

- When a person is both a staff member and a student.
- There is not enough resource presently to provide for students.
- How Speak out Guardians work with HR and the student cases team; interacting with other University policies, needs to be fine-tuned.

Council members also raised the need:

- For more data on the activity.
- To clearly state the difference between Speak out Guardians and Dignity and Respect Advisors.
- Provide the same provision for students.
- To focus on accessibility and visibility of the Speak out Guardians and consider if both being the same gender and ethnicity makes the provision widely accessible.

Council welcomed the report and accepted the process is evolving. It was acknowledged that due to the hierarchical nature of the institution, the Speak out Guardians being selected from senior members of staff has enabled the process to work more effectively.

Council proposed that staff should have access to an Independent member of Council if they feel the Executive is not dealing with their case.

ACTION 8.1: Executive to consider including in the Speak Out Guardian policy a recall to an independent member of Council and seek a volunteer for the role.

9. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (PS) STRATEGY UPDATE (CNL/19/64)

10. STRATEGIC FUTURES GROUP UPDATE (CNL/19/65)

11. Third Financial Forecast 2018/19, Draft Budget 2019/20 and Later Year Financial Plans to 2023/24 (CNL/19/66)

The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) introduced the financial forecast and draft budget 2019/20 noting that the budget and plans are still work in progress and Council will receive the final version at the meeting in July 2019.

12. FUNDING PROPOSAL: FULL BUSINESS CASE: RESEARCH DATA STORAGE (CNL/19/67)

In attendance: Alan Hill, Chief Information and Digital Officer

The Chief Information and Digital Officer informed Council that the proposed data storage would significantly increase capacity across Streatham and St Luke's. He outlined the consultation process and governance the proposal had gone through. Richard Sargeant, Dual Assurance lead for Information Technology, supported the proposal.

Council **APPROVED** total project costs.

13. FUNDING PROPOSAL: FULL BUSINESS CASE: HARRISON NORTH BLOCK (CNL/19/68)

In attendance: Hugh McCann, Director of Estate Services and Mark John, Project Manager

The Director of Estate Services outlined the plans which include the removal of asbestos and enhancing the academic and teaching facility and support engineering. The proposal was supported by Sarah Buck, Dual Assurance lead for Estates and Sustainability.

Council **APPROVED** total project cost.

14. FUNDING PROPOSAL: DRAWDOWN: EDTECH (CNL/19/69)

In attendance: Rick Walker, Strategic Development Unit Programme Manager

The Deputy Vice-chancellor (Education) informed Council that these funds are to support the programme development team with the aim of improving student experience. The Programme Board have this element as part of their key priorities.

Council **APPROVED** the drawdown of capital funding included within the approved EdTech Exeter capital envelope.

15. CAPITAL STRATEGY

16. V-SIM BUILDING

The Chair reminded Council of progress with this project:

- 22 February 2018 Council approved the option of entering a development/lease agreement with Exeter Science Park Ltd (ESPL) for a building at the Exeter Science Park to house the Vibration Simulator.
- 18 October 2018 Council were informed that the terms offered to the University had changed. Council took the decision that an alternative strategy of funding the building directly and entering a long lease for the land only would be a significantly better decision to deliver an unchanged strategy.
- Since then CIG have met and agreed ground lease and build costs. Sarah Buck, Pro-Chancellor, has approved each step on behalf of Council so that funds could be released.

17. STRATEGY DISCUSSION

Supported by key data sets, Council and VCEG held an open discussion on:

- Size and shape
- Value for money for students
- Buildings and use of space
- Brand
- Staff engagement

- Diversity

18. ADOPTION OF THE IHRA WORKING DEFINATION OF ANTISEMITISM

Council adopted the IHRA working definition of anti-Semitism.

Council noted that adoption of the definition does not preclude criticism of the state of Israel and that the guidance clearly states that ‘criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-Semitic’.

19. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM PART II

Council **APPROVED:**

- Bill Douglas Museum Annual Report 2017-18 **(CNL/19/71)**
- Exeter University Foundation Annual Report and Financial Statements 2017/18 **(CNL/19/72)**
- Affixing the Seal **(CNL/19/74)**
- Access and Participation Five Year Strategy **(CNL/19/80)**

20. CHAIR’S CLOSING REMARKS

The following papers were noted:

- Admission Report **(CNL/19/73)**
- Capital Investment Group: March 2019 **(CNL/19/75)** and April 2019 **(CNL/19/76)**
- University Terms and Academic Calendar 2019-20 **(CNL/19/77)**
- Office for Students: Prevent Monitoring ADR and Risk Assessment **(CNL/19/78)**
- SDU Portfolio Update **(CNL/19/84)**

COUNCIL & COMMITTEES
REGISTER OF INTERESTS 2018/19

Members

Sarah Turvill	Willis Towers Watson (Director of UK Subsidiary; Pensioner); Yarmouth (IOW) Harbour (Commissioner); Grays Inn (Bencher)
Sarah Buck	BSW Consulting (Consultant); Institution of Structural Engineers (Ethics Committee); Joint Board of Moderators (Board Member)
Richard Atkins	Department for Education (Engaged as FE Commissioner)
Professor Sir Steve Smith	UUK (Board Member); Russell Group (Board Member); UCAS (Chair of Board); LEP (Board Member); Employers Education Trust (Board Member)
Professor Janice Kay	Royal Devon & Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (Non-Executive Director); Advance HE (Board Member); Office for Students (Deputy Chair Teaching Excellence Framework); Office for Students (Chair – Teaching Excellence Framework (Subject Level Pilot)); Office for Students (Learning Gain Steering Group Member)
Professor Mark Goodwin	<i>Cornwall and Isles of Scilly LEP (Board Member); Northcott Theatre (Trustee); Exeter College (Governor); St Luke's Foundation (Trustee)</i>
Jo Binding	National Union of Students (Trustee); The Student View (Chair of Trustees)
Gerry Brown	NovaQuest Capital (Director)
Graham Cole	Advisory Board to Bath University Business School (voluntary, 2 meetings per year)
Kiron Farooki	None
Grace Frain	None
Judy Hargadon	Restorative Solutions (non-Executive Director); Harkness Fellows Association (Trustee)
Professor Dave Hosken	FX+ (Board Member); CSM Trust (Board Member); Falmouth MCT (Board Member)
Salam Katbi	Department for Education (South West Regional Co-ordinator for Prevent)

Professor Caroline MacEwen	<i>Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (Chair); Tayside Health Board (Consultant Ophthalmologist); Scottish Government/CMO (Clinical Lead); NHS Education for Scotland (Associate Postgraduate Dean); NHS Improvement (Clinical Lead GIRFT Programme); Moorlands Eye Charity (Trustee)</i>
Sir John O'Reilly	<i>A*STAR (Board Member and Chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council; Ministry of Education, Singapore (Panel Member, Quality Assurance for Universities; ERA Foundation Ltd (Chairman); University of Huddersfield (wef 010918 - Royal Academy of Engineering Industrial Visiting Professor); Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 (Board Member); UCL (Visiting Professor); Royal Academy of Engineering (Member, Enterprise Committee & Selection Committee for Enterprise Fellowships); Institution of Engineering and Technology (Chair, Search/Selection Committee, A F Harvey Engineering Research Prize); Koerber Stiftung (Chair, Search Committee, European Science Prize); Carnegie-Mellon/Portugal Programme (Chair, External Review Committee)</i>
Alison Reed	British Airways plc (Non-Executive Director); NewDay Ltd (Non-Executive Director); CGI Group Inc (non-Executive Director)
Izi Robe	Falmouth and Exeter Students' Union (Trustee)
Alison Rose	None
Professor Wendy Robinson	University College Dublin (External Examiner 2017-2020)
Richard Sargeant	ASI Data Science (Employer)
Anni Vanhatalo	None
Glenn Woodcock	<i>Centre for Science and Policy, University of Cambridge (Policy Fellow Alum); City Science Corporation Limited (Chairman and Shareholder); Cloudsoft Corporation Limited (Shareholder); Exeter City Futures Community Interest Company (CEO and Founder); Exeter College (Governor); Global City Futures Limited (Director); Grenadier Paternoster Limited (Director); Low Carbon Limited (Director); Low Carbon Foundation (Director); Low Carbon Oxygen Limited (Director); Oxygen House Limited (Director); Oxygen House Group Limited (Director); Queen's Drive Exmouth Community Interest (Director); Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers and Commerce (RSA) (Fellow); Sparx Limited (Director)</i>

In attendance

Andrew Connolly	Peninsula Innovations Ltd (Director); University of Exeter Consulting Ltd (Director); Falmouth Exeter Plus (Director)
Tracy Costello	Spouse is a University of Exeter employee
Neil Gow	Microbiology Society (President until 31 December 2018)
Mike Shore-Nye	Association Heads of University Administration (Elected Member of Executive Committee); Cubane Uni Forum Steering Group (Russell Group Nominee); Ted Wragg Multi Academic Trust (Institutional Member); Employers Pension Forum USS Group (Member)
Professor Tim Quine	University Vocational Awards Council (Non-Exec Director); Tianjin University (Honorary Professor)

Other Committees

Bettina Rigg	Veale Wasbrough Vizards LLP (Employee); 2 day secondment at LSE covering for the Head of Legal, effective from 1 October 2018 until 10 January 2019
David Dupont	Diabetes UK (Member of Clinical Studies Group researching Type 1 Diabetes); Operation Imprezza (Charity Trustee Director); Pennon Group Plc (Shareholding)
Simon Enoch	Viave Limited (Director); Consultant Solicitor at Jurit LLP