

## UNIVERSITY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE

## UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2019 at 10.30 am, in TC218B, Oxstalls Campus, Gloucester

**Membership:**

Ms Madi Azizi	✓
Mr Peter Bungard	✓
Mr Matthew Burgess	✓
Mr Paul Davies	A
Ms Nicola de longh (Chair)	✓
Mr Chris Fung	✓
Ms Maisie Jerrim	✓
Mr Dai Jones	A
Mr Martin Jones	✓
Mr Stephen Marston	✓
Mr Allen Mawby	✓
Mr Stephen Maycock	✓
Dr Andrew Misiura	✓
Mrs Karen Morgan	✓
Ms Mehjabeen Patrick	A
Mr Daniel Ramsay	A
Mrs Pam Sissons	✓
The Rt Revd Robert Springett	A
Mr Angus Taylor	A

**Board Apprentices:**

Mr Prince Kamalaneson	✓
Ms Christine Walwyn	A

**In attendance:**

Ms Margaret Bird	Director (Human Resources)
Dr Polly Pick (for item C.19.73)	Director (Business Engagement and Partnership)
Professor David James	Dean (Academic Development)
Dr Richard O'Doherty	Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Mrs Camille Stallard	Director (Finance and Planning)
Mr Duncan White	Executive Director (Estates Strategy)
Dr Matthew Andrews (Officer)	University Secretary and Registrar
Mrs Penny Gravestock (Minutes)	Assistant Secretary to Council

**C.19.55 Prayer**

Mrs Karen Morgan opened the meeting with a prayer.

**C.19.56 Chair of Council Appointment (C/34/19)**

C.19.56.1 Received: an update from the University Secretary and Registrar regarding the appointment of a new Chair of Council. It was reported that Ms Nicola de longh had been elected as the Interim Chair, and that two executive search companies were being interviewed on the afternoon of 14 May 2019 with the aim of appointing a permanent Chair by the end of July 2019.

C.19.56.2 Noted: progress with arrangements for the Chair of Council

**C.19.57 Welcome and Apologies**

C.19.57.1 Received: apologies for absence from Mr Paul Davies, Mr Dai Jones, Ms Mehjabeen Patrick, Mr Daniel Ramsay, the Rt Revd Robert Springett, Mr Angus Taylor, and Ms Christine Walwyn. The Chair requested assurance from members that they had received papers in time to prepare for the meeting.

C.19.57.2 Noted: the Chair's thanks to the Vice-Chancellor for updating Council on the presentation of an Honorary Doctorate to Professor Julian Crampton, and to Mrs Karen Morgan for her work as acting Chair.

**C.19.59 Declarations of Interest**

Received: the following declarations of interest:

- a. from Dr Andrew Misiura as Chair of the UCU for C.19.63 regarding the 'Securing a Sustainable Future' programme and the update on the national pay award;
- b. from Mr Peter Bungard for item C.19.67 for matters related to the Local Government Pension Scheme;
- c. from Mr Matthew Burgess and Mr Martin Jones for C.19.69 and it was agreed that they would leave the meeting for this item.

**C.19.60 Minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2019**

Resolved: the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting held on 26 March 2019.

**C.19.61 Matters Arising (C/35/19)**

- C.19.61.1 [C.19.43.3] *Engineering Technologies Portfolio Development – Business Case*  
Noted: that a meeting had been arranged for Mr Chris Fung to discuss the proposal with Prof Kamal Bechkoum and Dr Salah Al-Majeed on 14 May 2019.
- C.19.61.2 [C.19.50] *Council Schedule of Business*  
Noted: that:
  - a. International Recruitment had been added to the Schedule of Business for the meeting to be held on 25 June 2019;
  - b. an extra meeting of Council had been confirmed for 11.30 am on Friday, 26 July 2019 to confirm the appointment of a permanent Chair.
- C.19.61.3 [C.19.38.3] *CONFIDENTIAL: Financial and Operating Performance Report*  
 This was considered under Confidential Business
- C.19.61.4 [C.19.38.3] *CONFIDENTIAL: Update on recent developments with INTO since January 2019*  
 This was considered under Confidential Business

**C.19.62 Chair's Business**

- C.19.62.1 Noted: that since the last meeting on 26 March 2019, there had been no uses of the Company Seal, no decisions made by circulation, nor any exercise of delegation.
- C.19.62.2 Noted: that since her appointment, the Interim Chair of Council had been active by meeting with a number of key individuals (including members of Council, the Executive, Heads of Schools and Professional Services departments, and the Students' Union) to understand the University at greater depth, noting in particular the importance of the student experience and the care the University took of its students. The Chair also noted the need to ensure the best relationship between Council and the Executive team, working towards a closer, more transparent relationship that would allow Members more input before decisions were made. It was reported that Heads of Schools felt distant from Council, and that the Chair was keen to investigate whether there was the opportunity to pair up Members with Heads of Schools and Departments.

**C.19.63 Vice-Chancellor's Report (C/36/19)**

- C.19.63.1 Received and noted: a paper updating Council on major developments affecting the University since the meeting held in March 2019. The following were highlighted:
  - a. the presentation of an Honorary Doctorate to Professor Julian Crampton;
  - b. the sad news regarding the death of one of the University's students, about which members of Council had been notified via email. It was reported that, whilst the police had confirmed that there was nothing suspicious, the cause of death was being investigated, and that the University would take on board what could be learned. Council noted that the University and Students' Union were in contact with the family;
  - c. recent interventions from the Education Secretary, including concerns regarding the level of 'conditional unconditional' offers being made to prospective students. It was reported that the 23 institutions that had been written to had taken legal advice to establish whether the Secretary was exceeding the powers of the office;
  - d. that the sector was still waiting to hear the outcomes of the Augur review;
  - e. the new Office for Students (OfS) Survey of Taught Postgraduate Students being run in 2019 for the first time, and the University's participation in it. It was reported that data

would not be published in full for the first year, with only sector-level results being made more widely available, but that it was anticipated that results would be published fully in future years.

C.19.63.2 This item was considered under Confidential Business.

C.19.63.3 This item was considered under Confidential Business.

**C.19.64 Report from the Students' Union (C/37/19)**

Received and noted: an update from the Students' Union. The following were highlighted:

- a. that the new full time officer team would take up their posts in June 2019, and would be observing at the next meeting of Council;
- b. the Students' Union engagement with the review of Your Future Plan activity;
- c. the plans to address the University's attainment gap for students of Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds, including an upcoming workshop with students, noting that the National Union of Students (NUS) and Universities UK had launched a new report into the issue;
- d. the issue of cost of living for students, as raised at the Council away day, noting in particular concerns regarding parking and bus prices;
- e. the work undertaken by the NUS to secure its financial future;
- f. the latest iteration of the Operational Plan, noting that financial constraints may affect the launch of the independent academic advice service;
- g. the programme of activities to support students during the exam period.

**C.19.65 CONFIDENTIAL: Financial and Operating Performance Report (C/38/19)**

This item was discussed under Confidential Business.

**C.19.66 CONFIDENTIAL: 2019-20 Financial Plan (C/39/19)**

This item was discussed under Confidential Business.

Mr Peter Bungard left the meeting.

**C.19.67 CONFIDENTIAL: Update on recent developments with INTO since January 2019 (C/40/19)**

This item was discussed under Confidential Business.

Mr Peter Bungard returned to the meeting.

**C.19.68 Future Scenario Discussions (C/41/19)**

This item was discussed under Confidential Business.

Mr Matthew Burgess and Mr Martin Jones left the meeting.

**C.19.69 CONFIDENTIAL: SGS/WISE Campus (C/42/19)**

This item was discussed under Confidential Business.

Mr Matthew Burgess and Martin Jones returned to the meeting.

**C.19.70 CONFIDENTIAL: Swindon Institute of Technology (C/43/19)**

This item was discussed under Confidential Business.

**C.19.71 Annual Review of OfS Conditions of Registration (C/44/19)**

C.19.71.1 Received: a summary of conditions of registration with the Office for Students (OfS) to provide assurance about the way in which the University ensured conditions which applied to it were satisfied, and to remind Council of its responsibilities under the Regulatory Framework.

C.19.71.2 Noted: the summary of conditions of registration with the Office for Students.

**C.19.72 Research Update and Preparations for the REF (C/45/19)**

C.19.72.1 Received and noted: the research update, details of the University's progress and its preparations for the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2021.

C.19.72.2 Considered: the University's progress in preparing for the REF, including the work to maximise the number of eligible staff to submit.

- C.19.73 CONFIDENTIAL: Apprenticeships Update (C/46/19)**  
This item was discussed under Confidential Business.
- C.19.74 Council Schedule of Business (C/47/19)**  
Considered: the Schedule of Business, and made no recommendations for change.
- C.19.75 Prevent Monitoring: ADR and risk assessment outcome\* (C/48/19)**  
Received and noted: the outcome of the assessment of the accountability and data return (ADR) and the subsequent risk assessment made by the Office for Students on the risk of future non-compliance with the statutory Prevent Duty.
- C.19.76 Annual Report from Integrity and Ethics Committee\* (C/49/19)**  
Noted: the annual report summarising the work of Integrity and Ethics Committee in 2018/19.
- C.19.77 Annual Chaplaincy Report\* (C/50/19)**  
Received and noted: the annual Chaplaincy report (as previously presented to the Council and Foundation Standing Group on 1 May 2019).
- C.19.78 Feedback from Council Away Day\* (C/51/19)**  
Noted: the feedback received and recommendations made for the 2020 Council Away Day.
- C.19.79 Minutes from Council Committees\***  
Noted: that the minutes from the following meetings would be available from <https://inonet.glos.ac.uk/departments/registry/committees/Pages/default.aspx>:  
a. Finance and General Purposes Committee, 7 May 2019.
- C.19.80 Any Other Business**  
No other business was raised.
- C.19.81 Date of Next Meeting**  
Tuesday, 25 June 2019 at 3.15 pm (in FW015, Fullwood House, Park Campus)