



## Minutes of the 10 February 2021 meeting (held via Microsoft Teams)

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**Present:** Professor Peter Slee (Chair), Professor Akintola Akintoye, Professor Cathy Barnes, Dr Oliver Bray, Deveral Capps, Professor Phil Cardew, Professor Andrew Cooper, Professor John Craig, Kate Cunningham, Martin Green, Sherry Iqbal, Terance Dasent James, Jeanne Keay, Aimerance Kady, Stratis Koutsoukos\*, Tracey Lancaster, Professor George Lodorfos, Pete Mackreth, Jo Norry, Professor Damien Page, Barbara Pereira, Professor Chris Prince, Nicola Queenan, Professor Ruth Robbins, Professor Andrew Slade, Dr Duncan Sharp, Professor Lisa Stansbie, Professor Rhodri Thomas, Christopher Till, Professor Emma Wood,

**In attendance:** Rachael Andrews (Secretary), Kate Harvey, Lee Jones, Rob Purdy, Chris Watts\*

**Apologies:** Frances Bostyn, Sarah Roe, Caroline Thomas

\*As indicated in the proceedings

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### Preliminary Items

#### Declaration of interest

032.2021 No declarations of interest were made

#### Minutes

033.2021 The Committee **agreed** that the minutes of its meeting on 04 November 2020 were an accurate record.

#### Matters arising

034.2021 The Academic Board received a report from the secretary which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda. These included:

(a) The Students' Union ("SU") had nominated Aimerance Kady and Terance Dasent James as Students' Union representatives.

(b) The Student's Union and Graduate School had considered ways to further promote engagement from Postgraduate Research Students within Schools and a proposal was made to the Research & Enterprise Committee which recommended that the School Academic Committee's terms of reference should be amended to allow the Students' Union to fill this position through an election held within the Students; Union.

035.2021 The Academic Board

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| <p>(a) <b>RATIFIED</b> the appointments of Aimerance Kady and Terance Dasant James as Student Union Representatives following their nomination from the Students' Union.</p> <p>(b) <b>APPROVED</b> the amendments to the School Academic Committee's terms of reference which proposed that the Postgraduate Research student position will be filled by an election within the Students' Union.</p> |
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## Reports from Officers

### Vice Chancellor's Update

*Minute 032.2021 b-j are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

- 032.2021 (a) The Vice Chancellor provided a summary of sector updates and higher education developments since the last meeting on 04 November 2020.

*Stratis Koutsoukos left the meeting*

### Development of the next Strategic Planning Framework

*Minute 036.2021 b-f are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

- 036.2021 (a) The Academic Board received a verbal update on the development of the next strategic plan which was currently under consideration. It was reported that the first stage had been completed and had included consultation with members of the Board of Governors and 120 senior colleagues. There are four areas of key consideration including: Teaching and Learning, Research, People and Resources.

### Report from the Students' Union

- 037.2021 (a) The Academic Board received a report from the Students' Union providing an update on the work and activities undertaken since the last meeting on 02 November 2020.
- (b) As a result of the various national changes to Government guidance relating to students and then the subsequent national lockdowns, the SU had refocused its priorities for the next six months to support students and prioritise a robust feedback mechanism between the student body and the University through the various internal structures.
- (c) Key highlights of the feedback received included the reintroduction of the safety net for assessment and a successful election process to both filling the positions for School Representatives for the School Academic Committee's and the Black, Asian & Minoritised Ethnicity (BAME) Student Ambassador vacancies.

(d) Key points raised by the student body included issues relating to online provision within certain courses or schools and the access to printing facilities for those students who were unable to travel to the campus. However, the SU were working with schools and central services such as Student Money Advice to seek a resolution.

038.2021 It was **noted** that although concerns raised by the student body were welcome and the University would aim to resolve any issues raised, it would be beneficial for issues relating to the delivery of courses and student provisions to be raised directly at school level through School Fora and School Academic Committees where course or module specific issues can be appropriately addressed. Additionally, as part of a recent internal audit, the School Forum terms of reference were currently being reviewed and this would provide an opportunity to look the remit of the forums and help structure conversations and feedback mechanisms to work harmoniously.

039.2021 The Academic Board thanked the Students' Union for including positive feedback and highlighting successes where the University and SU have made changes for a better student experience.

#### **Access and Participation Plan Update**

*Minute 041.2021 & 042.2021 are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

040.2021 The Academic Board received an update from the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Resources) on the progress made against the Access and Participation Plan (APP), and the work undertaken by the Access and Participation Scrutiny Committee (APSC).

*Chris Watts joined the meeting*

#### **Student Recruitment and Enrolment Update**

*Minute 043.2021 b-d & 044.2021 are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

043.2021 (a) The Academic Board received an update from the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Resources) providing the University's position on student recruitment for coming academic year 2020/21.

#### **Conferral of Emeritus Professors and Visiting Titles**

045.2021 The Academic Board **noted** the following titles which have been awarded by the Vice Chancellor in his capacity as Chair of the Academic Promotions Board:

- i. Visiting Fellows
- ii. Dr Gemma Phillips, Carnegie School of Sport

The following extensions to titles were made:

#### Visiting Professors

- iii. Dr Steve McKeivitt (Leeds Business School)
- iv. Dr Joey Eisenmann (Carnegie School of Sport) for a period of 2 years
- v. Professor Shina Li (School of Events, Tourism & Hospitality Management) for a period of 2 years
- vi. Professor Karen Middleton (School of Clinical and Applied Sciences) for a further year

#### Visiting Fellow

- vii. Colonel Paul Parker (Carnegie School of Sport) for a further year

### **Home Undergraduate Entry Tariffs – 2022**

*Minute 046.2021 & 047.2021 are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

*Chris Watts left the meeting*

### **Structure of Academic Delivery in 2021/22**

*Minute 048.2021 a(i-ii) –(d) are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

048.2021 a. The Academic Board received a report from the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) which outlined the proposals of the academic calendar for 2021/22 academic year. The proposals asked members of the Academic Board to consider

049.2021 The Academic Board **APPROVED** the proposals for the Academic Calendar for 2021/22

## **Quality & Student Matters**

### **Academic Assurance Report**

*Minute 050.2021 d-e & 051.2021 are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

050.2021 The Academic Board received a report from the Acting Director of Quality which provided an overview of the evidence and outcomes for the 2019/20 academic year. Key highlights of the report included:

- (a) Evidence had been received and reported to Academic Quality and Standards Committee which provided assurances on the University Academic Standards and Assurances.
- (b) As part of the COVID-19 responses, the University's Covid-19 Response Schema guidance and Regulations which was approved by the Academic Board in 2019/20 will be reintroduced from January 2021, in response to the national lockdown and ongoing pandemic response.
- (c) 100% of Postgraduate examiners report had confirmed that University standards and awards were attained and achieved.

052.2021 The Academic Board **RECOMMENDS** that the Board of Governors receives the Academic Assurance report as evidence and assurance of academic quality and standards relating to the 'B' conditions of registration.

## Research Matters

### Research Excellence Framework (REF) Submissions

*Minute 053.2021 b-e are exempt from publication under section 43 (2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.*

053.2021 a. The Academic Board received a report from the Director of Research & Enterprise providing an overview of the progress made for the REF 2021 submission which was due to be submitted on 31 March 2021.

## Reports from Committees/Groups

### Academic Quality & Standards Committee

054.2021 The Academic Board received a summary of the Academic Quality & Standards Committee which met on

### Research & Enterprise Committee

055.2021 The Academic Board received a summary of the Research & Enterprise Committee which met on 15 October 2020

### Sports Committee

056.2021 It was **noted** that the Sports committee had not met this academic year but would be considered as part of the 'anchor' strand of the strategic plan.

## **Other Business**

### **Schedule of meetings and business 2020/21**

057.2021 The Academic Board received its schedule of business for the 2020/21 academic year.

### **Date of next meeting**

058.2021 The next meeting of the Academic Board would be held on 28 April 2021 at 14:00 via Microsoft Teams.

### **Other business**

059.2021 No other business was raised.

Confirmed by the Committee/Board as a correct record and signed by the Chair:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_