

COUNCIL

Thursday 9 July 2015

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Dame DeAnne Julius (Chair)

Professor Michael Arthur (President and Provost)	Professor David Attwell
Lord Clement-Jones	Mr Ven Balakrishnan
Dr John Hurst	Dr Martin Fry
Mr Lukmaan Kolia	Mr Omar Khan
Mr Simon Melliss (Treasurer)	Dr Saladin Meckled-Garcia
Ms Vivienne Parry	Ms Lindsay Nicholson
Mr Philip Sturrock	Dr Gill Samuels
Baroness Valentine	Professor Nick Tyler
	Baroness Warwick

In attendance: Mr Mohammad Ali (UCLU Sustainability, Engagement & Operations Officer-elect) [for Minutes 68-74]; Ms Wendy Appleby (Secretary to Council); Dame Nicola Brewer (Vice-Provost (International)); Mr Philip Harding (Director of Finance and Business Affairs); Professor Chris Husbands (Vice-Provost (Academic Development and London)); Mr Rex Knight (Vice-Provost (Operations)); Mr Nick McGhee (Assistant Secretary to Council); Professor David Price (Vice-Provost (Research and Enterprise)); Ms Wahida Samie (UCLU Education and Campaigns Officer-elect) [for Minutes 68-74]; Professor Anthony Smith (Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs)).

Apologies for absence were received from: Professor David Coen, Ms Nahid Majid and Professor Sir John Tooke (Vice-Provost (Health)).

Key to abbreviations used in these Minutes:

BASc	Bachelor of Arts and Sciences Degree
BME	black and minority ethnic
FC	Finance Committee
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council for England
HEI	Higher Education Institution
IoE	Institute of Education
KPI	key performance indicators
KWI	key workforce indicators
QR	Quality Research Funding
REF	Research Excellence Framework
UCLU	UCL (Students') Union

Preliminary Formal Business

68 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

68.1 No interests were declared.

69 MINUTES

69.1 **Approved:** the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 May 2015 [Council Minutes 48-67, 2014-15], confirmed by Council and signed by the Chair.

70 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
[see Minutes 72 and 77 below]

Matters for discussion

that the concept of 'added value' was likely to form a key element of the framework.

- 71B.2 The Chancellor had announced the replacement of student maintenance grants with a loans system, along with an increase to £8,200 of the maximum amount per annum and a £21,000 income repayment threshold. The Budget also removed the current loophole enabling HEIs and charities to claim R&D tax credits, although this would not be retrospectively applied.

merging the two bodies. At its meeting on 2 July, Finance Committee had recommended that the budget be approved with the exception of the additional £160k sum. FC proposed that a decision on this matter be deferred pending further review of more concrete proposals from the UCLU General Manager at its next meeting. The Treasurer characterised this recommendation as a practical approach recognising the need for the Union to get on with running its activities whilst signalling UCL's expectation that a more sustainable financial performance be achieved.

- 72.4 Council members welcomed progress in reducing the size of the budgeted deficit. It was suggested however that KPIs and detail of actions taken to meet them were necessary for members to understand more fully the future direction of the Union. It was agreed that these would be produced in time for discussion in the autumn.

RESOLVED

- 72.5 That Council approve the UCL U draft Budget for 2015-16, incorporating a grant from UCL of £2.71m, but that the request for an additional £160,000 funding be reconsidered in the autumn;
- 72.6 That the proposed merger of UCL U and the IoE Students' Union with effect from 1 August 2015 be approved;
- 72.7 That the proposed revised UCLU bye-laws be approved.

73 HR DATA REPORT; EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY STRATEGY
[PAPER 5-50, 2014-15]

- 73.1 **Received:** an oral introduction to the paper from Mr Rex Knight, Vice-Provost (Operations).
- 73.2 The paper incorporated an update on UCL's Key Workforce Indicators (KWIs), and the Equalities and Diversity Strategy 2015-2020. The new

- 73.4 It was suggested that in future reports a benchmark against the rest of the sector would be useful, as would absolute numbers alongside the proportions stated. Council noted the difficulty of bringing about a transformation of the composition of the workforce when staff turnover was low, as well as the adverse impact of the withdrawal of the statutory retirement age. It was suggested also that recruitment strategies in the run-up to the REF were likely to mitigate against improvements in the area.

RESOLVED

- 73.5 That the UCL Equalities and Diversity Strategy 2015-2020 be approved.

74 UCL BUDGET 2015-16
[PAPER 5-51, 2014-15]

- 74.1 **Received:** an oral introduction to the paper from Mr Simon Melliss, Treasurer, and Mr Phil Harding, Director of Finance and Business Affairs.

- 74.2 At its meeting on 2 July, Finance Committee had recommended that the Budget be approved. It was consistent with the required trajectory in order to achieve a 5.5% surplus by 2017-18, which would place UCL (at current levels) near the median for the sector. In the context of a £33m shortfall

Matters for approval or information

- 75 NEW STUDENT CENTRE
[PAPER 5-52, 2014-15]

RESOLVED – on the recommendation of the Finance Committee

75.1 That the proposal to build a New Student Centre be approved.

- 76 ASTOR COLLEGE REFURBISHMENT
[PAPER 5-53, 2014-15]

RESOLVED – on the recommendation of the Finance Committee

76.1 That the business case for the refurbishment and extension of Astor College be approved.

- 77 HEFCE FINANCIAL FORECASTS
[PAPER 5-54, 2014-15]

RESOLVED – on the recommendation of the Finance Committee

77.1 That the annual accountability returns to be submitted to HEFCE be approved.

- 78 ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT ON NEW PROGRAMMES OF STUDY
[PAPER 5-55, 2014-15]

78.1 **Received** – the annual report of programmes withdrawn and approved, in accordance with Academic Committee's schedule of delegated powers.

- 79 MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL 2015-16
[PAPER 5-56, 2014-15]

79.1 **Received** – details of the membership of Council in 2015-16.

RESOLVED

79.2 That Mr Andrew Gould and Mr Dominic Blakemore be appointed members of Council for an initial term extending from 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2018.

