

Joint Meeting of the Councils

UNRESTRICTED Minutes of the virtual meeting held at 4.00 p.m. on Thursday 29 September 2022 via Zoom

Present:

Venerable Randolph Thomas (Chair)

Justin Albert

Siwan Davies

Taya Gibbons

Uzo Iwobi

Professor Medwin Hughes

Rowland Jones

Arwel Ellis Owen

Matthew Peake

Victoria Provis

Dr Conny Matera Rogers

Dr Stuart Robb

Geraint Roberts

Nigel Roberts

Dr Liz Siberry

Emlyn Schiavone

Dr Peter Spring

Deris Williams

In attendance:

Sarah Clark, Clerk to Council

Dr Andrew Cornish, Principal, Coleg Sir Gar/Ceredigion

Professor Dylan Jones, Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Shône Hughes, Chief of Staff

Professor Mirjam Plantinga, Pro Vice-Chancellor

Steve Baldwin Director of Resources and Business Planning

Gavin Bessant, Director of Financial Services (via Teams)

Jane O'Rourke, Executive Director of Human Resources

Rebecca Doswell (Head of Policy and Planning)

Catrin Beard (Translator)

Margaret Williams (Secretary)

Minute Number	Main discussion points	Action/decision
22.38 Apologies for absence and welcome to new members	Apologies for absence were RECEIVED from Vanessa Liverpool, Maria Stedman and Dr Kerry Tudor. The Chair welcomed Dr Peter Spring to his first meeting as a newly appointed Academic Staff member.	

Minute Number	Main discussion points	Action/decision
22.39 Declarations of interest	The Councils RECEIVED the Declarations of Interest as noted in the Clerk's report (JCO160).	
22.40 Chairs Report	<p>The Councils RECEIVED an oral update from the Chair.</p> <p><u>Recruitment of new independent members and Chair Designate</u> The Chair reported that interviews for new independent members would take place on 28 October with recommendations being made to the Council meetings in November. The interviewing panel would comprise himself, Maria Stedman, Nigel Roberts, Siwan Davies and the Vice-Chancellor.</p> <p>Regarding the appointment of the Chair Designate, proposals would be presented to the next meeting of the NGC with a recommendation being made to the Council meetings in November.</p> <p><u>Council Planning Day</u> The Chair apologised to members for the postponement of the planning day and reported that arrangements were being made for an alternative date.</p> <p><u>Summer events</u> The Chair reflected on the programme of summer of events and thanked staff for their work on the organisation of the bicentenary celebrations at Lampeter. He commended the University's presence at events such as the National Eisteddfod at Tregaron. He referred to a Health Informatics staff development event that he had attended at Cardiff and commended the recognition received by the University for its work in this area. He also confirmed that a dinner was to be arranged to acknowledge the contribution of recently retired independent members of Council.</p>	
22.41 Vice-Chancellor's report	This is a restricted item and reported within the restricted minutes of the meeting.	
22.42 Council EDI plan Development	<p>The Councils RECEIVED a verbal report from the Chair of NGC on the development of an Equality Diversity and Inclusion plan in response to the Camm Review.</p> <p>The Chair reported that she, together with representatives of Council and CSG Board, had attended a workshop facilitated by Advance HE on 5 September. The workshop had considered the balance and nature of the University, how governing bodies might increase their diversity and mechanisms for better engagement and assurance. NGC would be considering in detail how to take the outcomes forward and would bring a further report to the next meeting of the Councils.</p>	

Minute Number	Main discussion points	Action/decision
22.43 Protocol on the use of translation and online/hybrid meetings	<p>Councils CONSIDERED a draft protocol on the use of translation and online/hybrid meetings (JCO161).</p> <p>Members noted that the document was an updated version of the protocol produced during the first lockdown and focussed on two elements: use of translation particularly when it failed, and the conduct of online meetings. It also proposed a solution for in-person meetings where a member was unable to attend in person.</p> <p>Members referred to translation and the need to be practical in ensuring the smooth running of business. Members acknowledged that everybody had the right to speak in the language they chose but felt that to suspend a meeting where the translation was lost was inefficient.</p> <p>Members noted that the calendar of meetings for 2022/23, including mode, had been approved. There was no intention to revisit the overall pattern of meetings at this stage, but rather to make provision for those occasions where in-person attendance was not possible for an individual.</p> <p>The Councils APPROVED the protocol as an interim working document but asked that NGC give further consideration to the issues raised.</p>	NGC to consider protocol and bring recommendations to next meeting
22.44 Minutes	The Councils CONFIRMED the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2022 (JCO162).	
22.45 Workplan	The Councils APPROVED their workplan for the year (JCO163).	
22.46 Terms of Reference	The Councils RECEIVED their terms of reference (JCO164).	
22.47 Chair's Action	The Councils RECEIVED the report on Chair's Action taken since the last meeting (JCO165).	
22.48 Staff declarations of interest procedure	The Councils RECEIVED the report outlining the Staff Declarations of Interest procedure (JCO166).	
22.49 Declarations of interest	There were no additional declarations of interest reported during the meeting.	
Date and time of next meeting	The next meeting would be held on the 24 November 2022.	

Meeting terminated 5.00 p.m.