

Joint Meeting of the Councils

UNRESTRICTED Minutes of the meeting held at 10.30 a.m. on Thursday 28 January 2021 via Zoom

Present:

Venerable Randolph Thomas (Chair)
Tony Ball
Pam Berry
Andrew Curl
Tania Davies
Margaret Evans
Eifion Griffiths
Professor Medwin Hughes
Rowland Jones
Dr Conny Matera Rogers

Arwel Ellis Owen
Matthew Peake
Victoria Provis
Dr Stuart Robb
Geraint Roberts
Nigel Roberts
Dr Liz Siberry
Maria Stedman
Georgia Thomas
Dr Kerry Tudor
Deris Williams

In attendance:

Sarah Clark, Clerk to Council
Tammie Bowie, Student Union Observer
Steve Baldwin Director of Strategic Financial Planning and Business Analysis
Gavin Bessant Director of Financial Services
Dr Andrew Cornish, Principal, Coleg Sir Gar
Shône Hughes, Chief of Staff
Professor Dylan Jones, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Professor Catrin Thomas, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
Jane O'Rourke, Director of Human Resources

Catrin Beard (Translator)
Margaret Williams (Secretary)

Agenda item	Main discussion points	Action/decision
21.1 Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Sian Eirian. The Chair welcomed new staff members Dr Conny Matera Rogers, Dr Kerry Tudor and Matthew Peake to their first Council meeting.	
21.2 Presentation on campus development	The Councils RECEIVED presentations on Campus Developments from Professor Ian Walsh, Provost of Swansea/Cardiff and Gwilym Dyfri Jones, Provost of Carmarthen/Lampeter. Members commended the vision of the University and noted the distinctive characters of the campuses and the opportunities and challenges in terms of marketing.	
21.3 Declarations of Interest	The Councils RECEIVED the Declarations of Interest as noted in the Clerk's report (JCO070).	
21.4 Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2020	The Councils CONFIRMED the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2020 as an accurate record (JCO071).	
21.5 Action Points	The Councils RECEIVED the updated table of Action Points (JCO072).	
21.6 Report of the Chair of Council	The Councils RECEIVED the report of the Chair of Council (JCO073). The Chair referred to the recent retirements of Professor Robert Brown, DVC, and Professor Dafydd Johnston, Director of CAWCS, and thanked them for their contributions to the work of the University of Wales and UWTSD.	
21.7 Report of the Vice-Chancellor	The Councils RECEIVED the report of the Vice-Chancellor (JCO074). The Vice-Chancellor referred to the following: <u>Covid-19</u> The Vice-Chancellor reported that the University intended to extend online learning, as was the general approach across the sector. Officers would be monitoring the position particularly in	

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	<p>regard to arrangements for the third term. The Welsh Government had announced an additional £40m for student support for HE which would be distributed through HEFCW. The exact criteria was yet to be established. This was additional to the HEIR funding announced previously.</p> <p><u>Structural Changes within the Management team</u> The Vice-Chancellor reported that the Registrar would be leaving the University in March 2021. It was his intention to restructures the role of Registrar and Director of Strategic Planning and Business Analysis in order to enhance integration between financial and resource planning.</p> <p><u>USW Strategic Alliance</u> The Vice-Chancellor reported on continuing discussions regarding the development of the relationship.</p> <p><u>Joint Venture</u> The Vice-Chancellor provided an update on discussions with the Joint Venture partner. A full report would be presented to the next meeting of the Resources and Performance Committee.</p> <p><u>Bicentenary Celebrations 2022</u> The Vice-Chancellor reported that a draft programme of events was currently being finalised with contingency arrangements if the pandemic continued. The programme would be presented for members' consideration in the next few months.</p> <p><u>Confucius Institute</u> The Vice-Chancellor referred to recent correspondence relating to possible political influence on the Confucius Institute and provided assurance in respect of the matters raised.</p> <p>In discussion, members referred to the Covid-19 and the impact on mental health and enquired as to the support provided to staff and students. The Vice-Chancellor reported that the University had a well-established infrastructure to support students and was proactive in its engagement, and that the WG funding would allow the University to invest further in this area. The University had also been alert to its commitment to staff and detailed engagement had taken place with Unions in supporting staff. The DHR outlined the online resources available to staff and reported on the 24 hour online support service available together with Wellbeing Modules, with further modules and online service being developed jointly across Welsh universities.</p>	

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21.8 UW and UWTSD Operational Integration plan	<p>The Councils RECEIVED an overview of the planning undertaken for the UW and UWTSD integration together with an update on progress (JCO075).</p> <p>The consolidated list identified those milestones which had been completed, were in progress, or were to be addressed closer to the point of full integration. There had been only limited changes to the consolidated list since its last presentation, reflecting the fact that the majority of outstanding actions now related to the final stages of integration.</p>	
21.9 UW and UWTSD integration Risk Register	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the UW-UWTSD integration Risk Register (JCO076). The risk register had been adapted to the revised format.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that no breaches of risk appetite and no high risks had been identified. The highest risks had already been transferred to the Corporate risk register.</p> <p>Members AGREED that it was appropriate to archive the integration risk register as a separate document, noting that risk monitoring reports would continue to be presented the ARC through the Corporate risk register.</p>	Clerk to arrange for archiving of integration risk register
21.10 Remuneration matters	The Councils RECEIVED the report of the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 9 December 2020 (JCO77).	
21.11 Remuneration Committee Annual report to Council	The Councils RECEIVED the Annual Report of the Remuneration Committee (JCO078)	
21.12 Nominations and Governance Committee	<p>The Council's RECEIVED the report of the Nominations and Governance Committee meeting held on 21 January 2021 (JCO079).</p> <p>NGC had considered the proposed formal role description for independent Council members, to be used during the recruitment and selection process and as a standalone document. In addition to providing information for applicants, the description was intended to provide clarification on the wider contribution of governors, as requested in the Governance Effectiveness Reviews. The role description was presented to the Council's for consideration and approval.</p> <p>The Councils APPROVED the role description (JCO080) .</p>	

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	<p data-bbox="521 156 1245 188"><u>Appointment of staff governors to standing Committees</u></p> <p data-bbox="521 188 1747 256">The Councils APPROVED the recommendations of the NGC for the following appointments of staff governors to standing committees:</p> <ul data-bbox="521 292 1776 427" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="521 292 1747 360">• Academic Committee: Dr Kerry Tudor and Matthew Peake (in place of Dr Gareth Hughes and Emma Hughes) <li data-bbox="521 360 1621 392">• Remuneration Committee: Dr Conny Matera-Rogers (in place of Dr Gareth Hughes) <li data-bbox="521 392 1776 427">• Resources and Performance Committee: Dr Conny Matera-Rogers (in place of Andrew Gibson) 	
21.13 Health and Safety Report	The Councils RECEIVED the Health and Safety Report (JCO081).	
21.14 Conflict of Interest	No additional Declarations of Interest were reported during the course of the meeting.	
21.14 Date and time of next meeting	The next meeting would be held on 24 March 2021.	

13.30