

University of Cambridge

COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held in the Council Room, The Old Schools, at 10.15 am on Monday 23 September 2013.

Present: Vice-Chancellor (Chairman); the Master of Christ's, the Master of Jesus, the Warden of Robinson; Professor Donald, Professor Gay, Professor Hopper, Professor Karet; Dr Bampos, Mr Caddick, Dr Cowley, Mr Du Quesnay, Dr Good, Dr Lingwood, Dr Oosthuizen, Dr Padman; Mr Lewisohn, Dame Mavis McDonald (Deputy Chairman), Professor Pearce, Mr Shakeshaft; Mr Jones, Ms Old, Ms Osborn; with the Registry, the Head of the Registry's Office, the University Draftsman, and the Academic Secretary, the Director of Finance; the Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education), the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Institutional Affairs) and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research).

Apologies for absence were received from the Master of Fitzwilliam.

The Senior and Junior Proctors were present.

**UNRESERVED BUSINESS**

**PART A: PRELIMINARY, LEGISLATIVE AND STRAIGHTFORWARD BUSINESS**

**1. Declarations of Interest**

No personal or prejudicial interests were declared.

**2. Minutes**

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2013 were received and approved.

**Action:** Personal Assistant to the Head of the Registry's Office to web.

**3. Procedure of the Council**

**(a) To approve arrangements for the chairing of agenda items**

It was proposed that the Vice-Chancellor should chair all items of business at the Council's formal meeting and that the Deputy Chair would chair the strategic meeting which would follow. The Council approved this arrangement.

**(b) To approve confirmed business starred as straightforward**

The Council approved matters for decision set out in the confirmed starred items.

### (c) Council Circulars

The Council noted the issue and approval of the following:

<b>Circular</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Approval</b>
20/13	19 July	29 July
21/13	26 July	5 August

### 4. Vice-Chancellor's Report

- (a) The Vice-Chancellor congratulated members of the University recently elected to the Fellowship of the British Academy: Professor Eilís Ferran, *CTH*; Professor Usha Goswami, *JN*; Professor Richard Hunter, *T*; Professor John Kerrigan, *JN*; Professor Christopher Page, *SID*; Professor Hamid Sabourian, *K*; Professor Gareth Stedman Jones, *K*; Professor Roel Sterckx, *CL*; Professor Hans van de Ven, *CTH*.

**Action:** Vice-Chancellor's Private Secretary

- (b) The Vice-Chancellor congratulated members of the University honoured by the Royal Society as follows:  
Professor Henning Siringhaus, *CHU* who had been awarded the Hughes Medal;  
Professor Lynn Gladden, *T* who had been awarded the Bakerian Lecture;  
Dr Duncan Odom, who had been awarded the Francis Crick Lecture.
- (c) It was noted that a new senior leadership team was now in place in the Development and Alumni Relations Office. The Council received information about the recent appointments as provided on the University website.
- (d) The Vice-Chancellor and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International Strategy) had undertaken a successful trip to India from 9 and 21 September 2013 during which they had visited Delhi, Bangalore and Mumbai. There had been constructive meetings with alumni; with government ministers, including the Prime Minister; and with the recently established circle of advisers to the University. A full written report would be provided to the Council in due course.

**Action:** Pro-Vice-Chancellor  
(International Strategy)

### 5. Council, legislative and comparable matters

#### (a) Council Work Plan 2013-14

The Work Plan for 2013-14 was received and approved.

#### (b) Business Committee

No meeting was held on 16 September 2013.

### **(c) The Council's Annual Report 2012-13**

A first draft was received for comment. Council members were asked to submit detailed drafting suggestions to the Registry or the Head of the Registry's Office. Drafts would be brought back to the Council for comment at its meeting on 21 October 2013 and for signature and publication with the financial statements at its meeting on 25 November 2013.

### **(d) Council fundamental documents**

The Council, at its meeting on 15 July 2013, had received and discussed: a paper setting out the role of the Council and of individual Council members/trustees; the Statement of Primary Responsibilities; the Code of Practice; the Council Standing Orders; and the Statement of Corporate Governance. Amended versions of the documents, taking account of the Council's comments at that meeting, were received. The Council approved these materials subject to a minor amendment to paragraph 9 of the paper concerning 'The role of the Council and the duties and responsibilities of its members'. It was noted that these revised materials would be included in the new edition of the Council Handbook which would be issued in December 2013 for use with effect from 1 January 2014.

### **(e) Strategic meeting 23-24 September 2013**

The programme was received for any necessary reference during the present meeting. A pack of papers had been distributed. A note of the meeting would be circulated as soon as possible. The Council would review the conclusions from the strategic meeting at its meeting on 21 October 2013.

## **PART B: MAIN BUSINESS**

### **6. University Finance Finance Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 10 July 2013 were received.

These minutes, together with papers FC(13)77 and FC(13)78 proposing revisions respectively to the Investment Board's Terms of Reference and to the CUEF's investment objectives, roles and responsibilities had been provided to the Council in Circular 20-13 on 19 July 2013. The proposed revisions to the Investment Board's Terms of Reference and the CUEF's investment objectives, roles and responsibilities (Finance Committee minute 131) had therefore been approved by circulation on 29 July 2013.

The Council had received and approved the financial forecasts for submission to HEFCE at its meeting on 15 July 2013.

### **7. North West Cambridge Project**

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Institutional Affairs) reported. There had been considerable progress over the summer. In particular, work had commenced on the construction access road. Agreement had been reached with Natural England on the matter of the

greater crested newts. There would be a further meeting with the Colleges' Rental Group during the first week of October. There remained some uncertainty around the detail of aspects of the project programme, budget and design. It was anticipated that these residual uncertainties would be resolved by January 2014. Written progress reports would be brought back to the Council at its meetings on 21 October 2013 and 20 January 2014.

The following points were amongst those raised in the course of discussion:

- There would be ongoing consultation about the design and fittings in the student and key worker accommodation and the facilities, infrastructure and resources on the site.
- The recovery from economic recession had been more rapid than had been anticipated; there was, therefore, a risk that construction prices would be higher than had been forecast. A report would be provided to the Finance Committee at its meeting on 9 October 2013.

## **8. University Employment Nominating Committee for the Office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor**

The Pro-Vice-Chancellors left the meeting.

The unreserved minutes of a meeting of the Nominating Committee for the Office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor held on 3 June 2013 were received.

The Vice-Chancellor reported. The Committee had considered its own terms of reference and membership; eligibility for the office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor; and succession planning for the Pro-Vice-Chancellors. The last matter related to named individuals and therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Statute K,20, would be considered under reserved business. The Pro-Vice-Chancellors provided academic leadership and were integral to the delivery of the University's strategic objectives. Their respective portfolios interrelated but did not significantly overlap and the group operated as an integrated team, led and coordinated by the Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

The Committee had discussed, at length, the question of eligibility for the office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor and, in particular, the meaning of Statute D,IV,2 and whether it precluded an individual who had held the office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor for six years from being appointed subsequently to one of the other Pro-Vice-Chancellorial offices. The Committee had concluded that it was clear that the meaning of D,IV,2 was that no person could serve a second six year term as a Pro-Vice-Chancellor. However, the Committee had agreed that it wished, at its next meeting, to consider an amendment to Statute D, IV (and associated provisions), to: create the separate office of Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor; and explicitly to permit individuals who had served for six years or fewer as a Pro-Vice-Chancellor subsequently to be appointed to the new role of Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor for two terms (i.e. six years or fewer).

The following points were amongst those raised in the course of discussion:

- There was general support for a review of the provisions of Statute D,IV as proposed. The Council would, however, wish to receive a more detailed case for the establishment of the substantive post of Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor including a statement of the proposed role and responsibilities. It was suggested that the review should also consider the question of whether those holding the office of

Pro-Vice-Chancellor should also hold a substantive office in the University or the Colleges.

- It was not intended that the proposed changes would alter the general expectation that those holding the offices of Pro-Vice-Chancellor would remain engaged (to the extent to which the demands of the role permitted) with their research and other academic activities. It was noted, in this regard, that the administrative and infrastructural support provided to the Pro-Vice-Chancellors had been enhanced in order better to facilitate this ongoing engagement.
- The current proposals related only to the office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor. Appointment to the offices of Heads of School was a separate matter and was not under discussion at this stage.
- It was clearly important that those appointed to the office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor had a proven track record of leadership. It was recognised that the various portfolios would change in response to the prevailing strategic, political and financial imperatives. The expertise and experience required of those in the office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor would also vary accordingly.

It was agreed that the current Pro-Vice-Chancellors should be consulted about the proposals. A paper would then be taken back to the Nominating Committee and the matter would, thereafter, be brought to the Council for further discussion and decision.

**Action:** Registry

## **PART C: RESERVED BUSINESS**

### **9. University Employment Nominating Committee for the Office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor**

Officers other than the Registry and the Head of the Registry's Office withdrew.

The reserved minutes of a meeting of the Nominating Committee for the Office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor held on 3 June 2013 were received. A minor correction was noted in respect of the date of the end of Professor Sanders' first term of office.

The Vice-Chancellor reported. The Committee had received a paper setting out the expiry dates for the tenure of office for the current Pro-Vice-Chancellors and the Vice-Chancellor and had considered succession arrangements in order to ensure continuity. A detailed project plan for an appointment process would be brought back in due course.

In the course of discussion, it was agreed that the procedure for the award of contribution payments to those in the office of Pro-Vice-Chancellor, which had been resolved on an interim basis during the 2012-13 academical year, should be formalised by means of a Report.

**Action:** Registry

Vice-Chancellor  
21 October 2013

