

**THE UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE**

Minutes: 14 March 2016

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- In the Chair: Professor Richard A Williams, Principal and Vice-Chancellor
- Present Also: Professor Robert Craik, Vice-Principal (Malaysia)\*  
Professor Ammar Kaka, Vice-Principal (Dubai)\*  
Professor Duncan Hand, Interim Deputy Principal (Research and Knowledge Exchange)  
Professor Gill Hogg, Deputy Principal (External Relations)  
Professor John Sawkins, Deputy Principal (Learning and Teaching)  
Professor Gavin Gibson, Interim Head (Mathematics and Computer Sciences)  
Mr Alick Kitchin, Acting Head (Edinburgh Business School)  
Professor Robert MacIntosh, Head (Management and Languages)  
Professor Stephen McLaughlin, Head (Engineering and Physical Sciences)\*  
Dr Peter Morris, Interim Head (Life Sciences)  
Professor Fiona Waldron, Head (Textiles and Design)  
Ms Ann Marie Dalton, Secretary of the University
- In Attendance: Mr Richard McGookin, Director of Planning  
Dr Sandy Kerr, Director, International Centre for Island Technology  
Mr Brett Dodgson, Clerk
- Apologies: Professor Julian Jones, Vice-Principal  
Professor Gareth Pender, Head (Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure, and Society)  
Mr Andrew Menzies, Director of Finance

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\* Indicates member participating remotely

**MINUTE REF  
M16/097**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair welcomed to the meeting the members of the UE and those colleagues who were in attendance.

**M16/098**

**ORKNEY CAMPUS: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

The UE considered a presentation on the Orkney campus and the opportunities to develop the academic activities associated with the campus.

It was noted that research activities at the Orkney campus were organised around four cross-cutting themes: energy systems; marine renewable energy; science in support of governance; and “blue growth” – developing new forms of economic activity in the seas. These research activities were characterised by their multi-disciplinary nature, alignment with UK and Scottish public policy objectives, and strong links with the Orkney community and local industries. Research activities associated with the campus had a significant impact in terms of research outputs; contribution to the local economy; development of public policy; and commercialisation of research findings. Researchers based at the Orkney campus had also developed a network of international partners with strong links with researchers in Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

**[Reserved Section – Ref. FOI(S)A, s.30 and s.33]**

With regards to teaching activities, it was noted that a number of masters degree programmes were delivered through the Orkney campus. These programmes were aligned with the research activities associated with the campus. A small number of students on these programmes were campus based, but the majority were independent distance learners. As with the research

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activities associated with the campus, these programmes were characterised by their strong links to the Orkney community and to local industries.

**[Reserved Section – Ref. FOI(S)A, s.30 and s.33]**

The UE agreed that it should before the end of April 2016 receive a further report outlining the next steps to be taken in pursuit of the opportunities to develop the academic activities associated with the Orkney campus.

**M16/099      DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The UE noted that its next meeting would be held 21 March 2016.

Signed by Chair .....

Date .....