

- In the Chair: Professor Julian Jones, Vice-Principal
- 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 Robert MacIntosh, Head (Management and Languages)
Professor Stephen McLaughlin, Head (Engineering and Physical Sciences)*
Professor Beatrice Pelloni, Head (Mathematics and Computer Sciences)
Professor Gareth Pender, Head (Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure, and Society)
Professor Fiona Waldron, Head (Textiles and Design)
Ms Ann Marie Dalton-Pillay, Secretary of the University
Mr Andrew Menzies, Director of Finance
- In Attendance: Mr Richard McGookin, Director of Planning
Mr Mark Adderley, Director of Human Resources Development
Dr Alicia Greated, Director of Research and Enterprise Services
Mr Robert Goodfellow, Technology Transfer Manager
Mr Brett Dodgson, Clerk
- Apologies: Professor Richard A Williams, Principal and Vice-Chancellor
Mr Alick Kitchin, Acting Head (Edinburgh Business School)
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* Indicates member participating remotely

MINUTE REF
M16/277

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Chair noted that apologies had been received from Mr Alick Kitchin. It was noted that Mr Kitchin would complete his term as Acting Head of the Edinburgh Business School at 31 August 2016. The UE thanked Mr Kitchin for his work as Acting Head.

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BLUE PAPERS

The UE received the Blue Papers for the meeting.

M16/279

STUDENT RECRUITMENT AT MALAYSIA AND DUBAI CAMPUSES

The UE considered a report on student recruitment at the Malaysia and Dubai campuses.

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

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M16/280 RESEARCH PROPOSALS AND AWARDS ANALYSIS: JULY 2016 [Paper: UE/16/190]

The UE considered an analysis of research proposals and awards as at July 2016.

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

M16/281 UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP FORUM

The UE considered a report on the fourth University Leadership Forum which would be held 2 September 2016.

It was noted that the Principal and Vice-Chancellor with the designated theme leaders would present to the University Leadership Forum a report on the proposed Transformational Initiatives [minute 16/264]. It was agreed that the Director of Human Resources Development should provide the theme leaders with further advice on the format and objectives for the planned facilitated discussion of the Transformational Initiatives.

M16/282 UNIVERSITY INNOVATION FUND AND SUPPORT FOR ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION ACTIVITIES [Paper: UE/16/187]

The UE considered changes approved by the Scottish Funding Council to the Knowledge Transfer Grant and proposals to reorganise institutional support for enterprise and innovation activities.

It was noted that:

1. the Knowledge Transfer Grant would, with effect from the 2016-17 academic year, be replaced with a University Innovation Fund;
2. awards made from the University Innovation Fund would have two components – (i) a platform grant to support core expenditure; and (ii) a collaborative component to be used to support initiatives delivered in partnership with other Scottish universities and aligned with the Scottish Government’s strategic objectives for enterprise and related activities;

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

M16/283 FINANCIAL LEADING INDICATORS [Paper: UE/16/188]

The UE considered an analysis of leading indicators in respect of the University’s financial position relative to the 2016 Five Year Financial Plan.

It was noted that:

1. the analysis indicated that the Plan as approved was robust, that the underlying assumptions were credible, and that variances between the Plan and current forecasts were within an acceptable range of uncertainty for the years 2017-18 onwards;
2. the University had achieved a steady increase in income since 2007 of around 12% each year and this had been one of the fastest rates of growth among mainstream Scottish universities; the Plan assumed that there would be a slight fall in income in 2015-16 but annual growth of around 6% each year was projected over the remainder of the Plan period;
3. the Plan assumed that an operating surplus of around £1.9 million would be achieved in 2016-17 which was smaller than had been typical in recent years and in part reflected significant expenditure associated with the University’s investment programme;

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

M16/284 TUITION FEES 2017-18 [Paper: UE/16/191]

The UE received the proposed tuition fees for programmes of study from the 2017-18 academic year.

It was noted that the proposed fees were presented for endorsement on the recommendation of the Fees Working Group.

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

The UE endorsed the proposed fees and agreed that these should be presented to the Finance Committee for approval.

M16/285 OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING WORLD-LEADING RESEARCH ACTIVITY IN ENERGY, EARTH SCIENCES, AND RELATED FIELDS [Paper: UE/16/193]

The UE received the proposed terms of reference for a commission to conduct an options appraisal with respect research in energy, earth sciences, and related fields.

It was noted that the commission would consider options for the development of University-wide transdisciplinary research in energy and related fields building on the University's existing research expertise and activities. It was intended that the commission would report to the UE early in 2017. The UE approved the terms of reference.

M16/286 ACADEMIC WORKLOADS: UPDATE REPORT [Paper: UE/16/189]

The UE agreed that consideration of this item should be deferred to the next meeting.

M16/287 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The UE noted that its next meeting would be a business meeting and would be held 5 September 2016.

Signed by Chair

Date