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- In the Chair: Professor Richard A Williams, Principal and Vice-Chancellor
- Present Also: Professor Julian Jones, Vice-Principal
Professor Ammar Kaka, Vice-Principal (Dubai)*
Professor Robert Craik, Vice-Principal (Malaysia)*
Professor Gill Hogg, Deputy Principal (Engagement and Staff Development)
Dr Gillian Murray, Deputy Principal (Enterprise and Business)
Professor Gareth Pender, Deputy Principal (Research and Innovation)
Professor John Sawkins, Deputy Principal (Learning and Teaching)
Professor Malcolm Chrisp, Head (Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure, and Society)
Professor Robert MacIntosh, Head (Social Sciences)
Professor Beatrice Pelloni, Head (Mathematical and Computer Science)
Professor Fiona Waldron, Head (Textiles and Design)
Professor Mushtak Al-Atabi, Senior Deputy Vice-Principal (Malaysia)*
Ms Ann Marie Dalton-Pillay, Secretary of the University
Mr Andrew Menzies, Director of Finance
Mr Mark Adderley, Director of Human Resource Development
- In Attendance: Ms Sue Collier, Director of Governance and Legal Services
Mr Brett Dodgson, Clerk
- Apologies: Professor Heather McGregor, Executive Dean (Edinburgh Business School)
Professor Stephen McLaughlin, Head (Engineering and Physical Sciences)
Mr Richard McGookin, Director of Planning

* Indicates member participating remotely

MINUTE REF
M17/026

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

M17/027

BLUE PAPERS

The UE received and noted the Blue Papers including the Operational Plan and Actions Log.

M17/028

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The UE noted that the minutes of the meetings held 24 January 2017 and 31 January 2017 would be circulated for approval by correspondence.

M17/029

REPORT FROM THE PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

In a verbal report the Principal and Vice-Chancellor noted that he had attended a constructive meeting with colleagues from Study World and there was now a clear schedule for the appraisal of options regarding the University's future relationship with Study World. While at the Dubai campus the Principal had opened a new Student Service Centre which would offer an integrated support service for students. The Principal noted that student admissions for January 2017 had seen a late improvement and were equivalent to the numbers achieved in January 2016.

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The Principal drew attention to recent media coverage regarding the financial performance of a number of Scottish universities based on analyses of their published accounts. It was agreed that the Director of Finance and the Director Marketing and Communication should prepare and circulate to members briefing notes on the University's most recent financial statements and the impact of new financial reporting standards.

Finally, the Principal reminded members that the University would that evening host a performance by musicians from Tianjin University of Finance and Economics in celebration of the Chinese New Year.

M17/030 PREVENT DUTY: ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

The UE considered a report on the operation of the Prevent duty within the University in the 2015-16 academic year.

It was noted that, over the 2016-17 academic year, work would continue to:

1. provide for relevant staff training on the Prevent duty;
2. develop procedures for use of external speakers at the Dubai and Malaysia campuses;
3. develop policy with respect to faith-related activities and activities;
4. review procedures with respect to security-sensitive research;
5. update publically available information on the University's approach to the Prevent duty.

The UE agreed that the report should be presented to the Audit and Risk Committee and, subsequently, to the Court.

M17/031 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT: PREVENT DUTY [Paper: UE/17/017]

The UE considered the scope of the audit, its findings, and the management actions arising. The UE approved the recommended management actions.

M17/032 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT: INFORMATION SERVICES DISASTER RECOVERY [Paper: UE/17/018]

The UE considered the scope of the audit, its findings, and the management actions arising. It was noted that the report would be updated pending advice from the School of Engineering and Physical Sciences on matters relating to information services infrastructure within the School. The UE approved the recommended management actions.

It was agreed that the UE should, at a future date, consider School-level information services infrastructure and support and issues relating to this.

M17/033 ETHICAL BUSINESS: CHARITABLE GIFTS ACCEPTANCE POLICY [Paper: UE/17/019]

The UE received and, subject to minor amendments, endorsed a new Charitable Gifts Acceptance Policy. The UE agreed that the Court should be invited to approve the Policy.

M17/034 STRATEGIC PROJECTS REGISTER [Paper: UE/17/020]

The UE received and noted the Strategic Projects Register at January 2017.

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M17/035 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The UE noted that its next meeting would be a business meeting and would be held 14 February 2017.

Signed by Chair

Date