

UNIVERSITY CENTRE WEST ANGLIA

Minutes of a meeting of the Directors of University Centre West Anglia held on 7th June 2017 in Milton.

PRESENT: Professor L Dobree (LD) (Chair)
Ms A Clark (AC)
Mr P Bogle (PB)

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms C Ludlam
Mr C Challenger
Mr S Hindle

Action

298. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

298.1 There were no declarations of interest.

299. APOLOGIES

299.1 Apologies were received from Professor Iain Martin and Mr David Pomfret.

300. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

300.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2016 were **AGREED** as a true and correct record.

301. MATTERS ARISING

301.1 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2016.

302. COLLEGE OF WEST ANGLIA STRATEGIC UPDATE

302.1 It was noted that the new HE strategy was approved last month running to 2020 and the College was targeting its own FE to HE growth and currently working with over 1000 employers.

302.2 It was noted that the College was starting to look at land space and opportunities for student accommodation on the Milton site. This was dependent on a LEP funding bid being successful otherwise the option would not be further pursued.

302.3 It was noted that the strategic plan was being reviewed and that new veterinary nursing modules were being developed. Concerns were

noted around the experience of veterinary nursing students being affected by uncertainty around their status. **AC/LD**

- 302.4 It was reported that the CWA Academy Trust had pulled their sponsorship.
- 302.5 It was reported that the College had a good outcome from the area review and had retained its independence.
- 302.5 It was reported that the College had recently had an Ofsted inspection of its FE provision which disappointingly had resulted in a grade 3 outcome although grade 1 had been achieved for apprenticeships. The College were taking active steps to address the issues raised and were reasonably confident of being able to do so.
- 302.6 It was reported that the College had extended its leadership capacity at SME level to 5 people. It was noted that staff turnover more generally had been an issue.

303. ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC UPDATE

- 303.1 It was reported that Iain Martin had been at the University for over a year now and was in the process of putting a new strategic / corporate plan in place which was due to be launched on 16th June at an event celebrating the 25th anniversary of ARU becoming a University.
- 303.2 It was reported that the University's education portfolio had consolidated in relation to partnerships.
- 303.3 It was noted that the University had put significant investment into IT and were moving to Canvas and this new VLE should be rolled out to partners within the next 12 months. The University's digital strategy was a distinctive feature of the new Corporate Plan as was the emphasis on significantly growing research capacity and capability
- 303.4 It was reported that the turf cutting had taken place on the Chelmsford campus for the proposed medical school and that the application was now at stage 4 in terms of the GMC regulatory approval process.
- 303.5 It was reported that the University was not expecting to see significant growth in student numbers in the short to medium term although there were longer term opportunities around international student recruitment and changes to the University's curriculum offer. Student retention was being given much greater priority particularly in terms of progression from year 1 to 2.

304. REVIEW OF THE JOINT VENUTRE RISK REGISTER

304.1 The Board reviewed and updated the joint venture risk register.

305. RETIREMENTS & APPOINTMENTS

305.1 The Board **NOTED** the retirement of Steve Bennett from the Board effective from 1st January 2017.

305.2 The Board **NOTED** the appointment of Paul Bogle as both Secretary & Director of the UCWA Board effective from 3rd January 2017.

305.3 The Board **NOTED** the retirement of Lesley Dobree from the Board effective from 31st July 2017.

305.4 The Board **APPROVED** the appointment of Dr Trevor Bolton as a Director of the UCWA Board effective from 31st July 2017.

306. MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT

306.1 The Board **NOTED** the Modern Slavery Statement.

307. ARU INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW OF THE UCWA COLLABORATIVE PROVISION – OUTCOMES & ACTIONS

307.1 It was noted that that institutional review tool place on 18th & 19th May 2017 and the unconfirmed report had been received. A response to the report is needed by 16th June 2017.

307.2 It was noted that points 2.2.5 & 2.2.6 in the report table needed further discussion.
AC & TB

307.3 It was noted that the academic agreement should be removed as a condition. It was further noted that the board may want to review the joint venture agreement as it had been in effect for a long period of time and may need updating.
LD & TB

308. UCWA INVOLVEMENT IN HEFCE NATIONAL NETWORKS FOR COLLABORATIVE PROVISION

308.1 It was noted that there were two collaborative networks and the college had been involved in the pilots previously.

308.2 It was noted that the college now had a resource based on campus funded by the bid.

309. UCAS 2017 APPLICATIONS

309.1 It was noted that the college was 4% down on applications compared to 2016 but that a significant numbers of applications for Kings Lynn were not received via UCAS.

309.2 It was noted that (to date) firm acceptances were significantly higher than last year (currently 37.5%) which represented a very positive position.

310. UCAS 2017 CLEARING PROVISION

310.1 It was noted that the college intended to run the same process as the previous two years.

311. GRADUATIONS 2017

311.1 It was noted that invitations had now gone out and ticket sales open next week. Ticket allocation had been reduced this year.

311.2 It was noted that there was a good turnout of ARU staff at the last graduation.

312. UCWA HE PROVISION

312.1 It was noted that the bio-science accreditation had been achieved last year but unfortunately viable numbers had not been achieved so the course had been pulled for 2017.

312.2 It was noted that the humanities suite had unexpectedly grown and this could be due to the active involvement of the new course director.

313. BUDGET FOR 2017-18

313.1 The Board **APPROVED** the budget for 2017-18.

314. FORECAST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 2017

314.1 The Board **NOTED** the forecast financial statements for the year ending 31st July 2017.

315. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

315.1 There was no other business to discuss.

316. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

316.1 It was noted that the next meeting would take place at 10am on 1st November 2017 in Milton, Cambridge.

CHAIRMAN

DATE