



ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Thursday 4 July 2013

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Professor Anthony Smith (*Chair*)

Mr David Ashton	Dr Arne Hofmann
Professor David Bogle	Dr Helen Matthews
Professor Robert Brown	Mr Dante Micheaux
Mr Edwin Clifford-Coupe	Dr Peter Raven
Dr Caroline Essex	Ms Mary Rimington
Dr Julie Evans	Dr Ruth Siddall
Professor Mike Ewing	Dr Eva Sorensen
Mr Marco Federighi	Ms Susan Ware
Professor David Green	Professor Jonathan Wolff
Dr Leonie Hannan	Professor Michael Worton
Dr Christine Hoffmann	

In attendance: Mr Jason Clarke (Secretary); Mr Kier Gallagher; Ms Judith Hillmore; Ms Harriet Lilley; and Mr Ben Towse.

Apologies for absence were received from: President and Provost; Dr Paul Ayriss; Professor Anthony Finkelstein; Professor Alan Penn; and Mr Tim Perry.

48 RETIRING MEMBERS OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Noted:

48.1 The following members of AC would be standing down from the Committee, and in some cases also leaving UCL, before the start of the 2013-14 academic session:

- Professor Sir Malcolm Grant, Provost and President;
- Professor Michael Worton, Vice-Provost (International);
- Professor Stephen Smith, Dean of the Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences;
- Mr Edwin Clifford-Coupe, Education and Campaigns Officer, UCL Union;
- Mr Dante Micheaux, Medical and Postgraduate Students' Officer, UCL Union.

Reported:

48.2 The Chair, on behalf of all of the members of AC, thanked the Provost and President and Professor Worton for their outstanding achievements on behalf of UCL and wished them well in their retirement. The Chair also thanked Professor Smith for his contribution to the work of AC during his tenure as Dean of the Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences.

48.3 The Chair also expressed his thanks to Mr Clifford-Cope and Mr Micheaux for their contribution to AC during their time as full-time officers in the UCL Union and wished them well in their future careers.

49 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 9 MAY 2013

Confirmed:

49.1 The Minutes of the meeting of AC held on 9 May 2013 36-47, 09.05.13pn 9 May1CID 26 BDC T11.874T

- 51.6 That UCL should in principle participate in the HEA-sponsored national pilot of the GPA, subject to UCL satisfying itself as to the details of how the pilot would operate.

[ACTION: Professor Mike Ewing, Mr Rob Traynor – to note]

- 51.7 That, depending on the timescale for the HEA-sponsored pilot, UCL should consider piloting the GPA system in 2014-15 (in parallel with the degree classification system) for incoming

RESOLVED:

- 52.5 That AC approve the report from the Working Group on Programme Review at AC 5-27 (12-13).

[ACTION: Professor Anthony Smith, Ms Sandra Hinton – to note]

53 ANNUAL MONITORING – REPORT FROM THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Noted:

- 53.1 A report from QMEC on the outcomes of the latest Annual Monitoring cycle at AC 5-28 (12-13), introduced by the Dean of Students (Academic), as Chair of QMEC.

Reported:

- 53.2 The QMEC Chair reported that the main issues raised by departments and faculties arising from the latest AM cycle concerned fundamental issues with the UCL estate, such as inadequacy of teaching rooms and computer cluster room space, the quality of teaching spaces, overcrowding and timetabling issues. There was a perception that there was not an effective forum within UCL in which fundamental issues regarding the UCL estate could be discussed and resolved. However, it was noted that dialogue with UCL Estates had improved, for example, the Director of UCL Estates had recently attended the Summer Term meeting of QMEC to discuss issues with the estate which had been raised by departments and faculties, and which impact directly on the student experience.

Discussion:

- 53.3 The Chair noted that the new Student Experience Forum, the membership of which included the heads of key Professional Services and other relevant colleagues, would provide a forum in which issues relating to the impact of the estate on the student experience could be discussed and action agreed and followed-up.
- 53.4 On behalf of UCL Union, the Education and Campaigns Officer welcomed the establishment of the StEF and that it would include representation from UCL Union, as the Estates Management Committee had no student representation.
- 53.5 AC members also noted the apparent lack of an appropriate forum to discuss issues concerning the development and funding of Portico.

RESOLVED:

- 53.6 That AC approve the report from QMEC on the outcomes of the latest Annual Monitoring cycle at AC 5-28 (12-13).

[ACTION: Professor Mike Ewing, Ms Sandra Hinton – to note]

54 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

54A Global Citizenship Programme

Reported

- 54A.1 The Chair reported that the Global Citizenship post-examinations programme pilot had taken place and the students who had participated had provided positive feedback. However, there had been a discrepancy between the number of students who had signed-up to the programme and the number of students eventually taking part. A full report on the pilot would be submitted to AC next session.
- 54A.2 The AC Chair thanked Dr Caroline Garaway from the Department of Anthropology, Dr Tim Beasley-Murray from the School of Slavonic and Eastern European Studies, Mr Josh Blacker, and Ms Judith Hillmore, and the PGTAs who took part in the programme, for their vital input into the pilot.

54B Timetabling Review Group

Reported:

- 54B.1 The Chair reported that the Timetabling Review Group, which he had chaired, had investigated a range of issues relating to timetabling and improving the use of the estate at UCL. A report had been submitted to the Provost's Senior Management Team which had been accepted. The outcomes of the Group's work and next steps in terms of implementation of the Group's recommendations would be on the agenda of the relevant committees in the Autumn Term next academic session.

55 ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE

55A Review of Academic Committee and its Substructure [AC Min.38.7, 09.05.13]

Noted:

- 55A.1 In June 2013, the AC Chair took action on behalf of AC to approve revised proposals for the establishment of the new Student Experience Forum and the Student Recruitment and Admissions Committee, which had been submitted to Council.

55B Academic Committee Working Group on Collaborative Agreements

Noted:

- 55B.1 In May 2013, the AC Chair took action on behalf of the Committee to approve terms of reference and membership of the AC Working Group on Collaborative Agreements, which were, for information, at [AC 5-29 \(12-13\)](#).

56 ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL ON APPROVAL OF NEW PROGRAMMES OF STUDY

Noted:

- 56.1 The Annual Report from EdCom, on behalf of AC, to Council on new programmes of study approved within the previous twelve months was, for information, at AC 5-30 (12-13).

57 REPORTS OF SUB-COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS ETC OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Noted:

- 57.1 The AC officers had received on behalf of AC, since the last meeting of AC, Minutes of the following:
- Education Committee - 30 April 2013;
 - Joint Staff Student Committee - 15 May 2013;
 - Library Committee - 16 April 2013;
 - Research Governance Committee - 14 March 2013;
 - Scholarships and Student Funding Committee - 4 June 2013;
 - International Strategy Board - 4 June 2013.

58 DATES OF MEETINGS IN SESSION 2013-14

Noted:

- 58.1 As previously advised by the AC Secretary's office, meetings of AC in session 2013-14 had been scheduled as follows (venues would be confirmed in due course):
- Thursday 17 October 2013, 9.00am;
 - *Tuesday* 10 December 2013, 9.00am;
 - Thursday 20 March 2014, 9.00am;
 - Thursday 8 May 2014, 9.00am;
 - Thursday 3 July 2014, 9.00am.

59 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted:

- 59.1 The next meeting would be on **Thursday 17 October 2013 at 9.00am.**