

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Thursday 24 March 2011

UCL Academic Committee - Minutes - 24 March 2011

16.A.7 Given the importance of UCL's commitment to an academic-led strategy, the establishment of groups such as the two teaching task forces was an important means of involving junior staff in discussions about teaching and learning policy, especially if they went on to become actively involved in the institution's decision-making processes.

17 DRAFT UCL ACCESS AGREEMENT

[Ms Bella Malins and Ms Yvonne Bentley attended for this item]

Received

- 17.1 At <u>APPENDIX AC 2/10 (10-11)</u> a copy of UCL's draft Access Agreement, which had been considered by the Provost's Senior Management Team and Finance Committee, and would be considered by Council at its meeting on the afternoon of 24 March 2011, prior to its submission to OFFA.
- 17.2 An oral report by the **AC Chair**.

Reported

- 17.3 Although the proposed Access Agreement had been endorsed by Finance Committee, it was still in draft from pending its approval by Council.
- 17.4 It was proposed that UCL should charge the maximum fee permissible of £9k per year from session 2012-13 onwards. Furthermore, it was proposed that 30% of the additional fee income coming into UCL would be allocated to widening participation and outreach initiatives, as well as student bursaries.
- 17.5 UCL had decided not to follow the guidance from the Government and OFFA that a proportion of fee income should be spent on fee waivers. Instead, UCL proposed to support students from less advantaged backgrounds by allocating a proportion of the additional fee income to fund student bursaries as this was seen as a more practical way of

18 DEADLINES FOR ADMISSIONS AND ENROLMENT

[Ms Bella Malins attended for this item]

18.1 At <u>APPENDIX AC 2/11 (10-11)</u> – a paper form the Director of Student Services and the Head of Outreach and Admissions on the above, following discussion of this matter by EdCom at its meeting on 14 December 2010. cut by 1.07%, UCL had seen a 1.36% increase. HEFCE had announced the reinstatement of teaching capital funding, worth £1.1 million to UCL next year. Also, UCL had benefited from the ringfencing of the science budget, although this would remain flat in cash terms.

19.3 In subsequent years the position was less clear as the new fees regime would be introduced and its full impact would need to be assessed. However, the introduction of fees was not additional income to universities as it would simply be replacing the funding for teaching which had been withdrawn by the Government. Also, the introduction of fees could not be used as a means of cross-subsidising research or institutional inefficiency. The introduction of increased fees was necessary to allow for the financial sustainability of UCL over the coming years and to allow for much needed investment in student residences and other student services.

Discussion

19.4 Concern was expressed about the implications of the £9k fee for graduate entry to medicine. The Provost noted that the Vice-Provost B 77ion of graduTad

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relevant post-implementation reviews. It was agreed that the AC and JSSC officers should review the future format of the report.

RESOLVED

21.5 That AC welcome the 2010 Student Data Overview Report at <u>APPENDIX AC 2/13 (10-11)</u>.

[ACTION: Dr Ruth Siddall, Mr Rob Traynor – to note]

21.6 That the AC and JSSC officers review the format of the Student Data Overview Report.

[ACTION: Professor Michael Worton/Mr Jason Clarke, Dr Ruth Siddall/ Mr Rob Traynor]

22 REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS OF FACULTY TEACHING COMMITTEES IN SESSION 2008-10 Each to Idnau B coo Tw -3.279 -1.049 Td(2 B34C 0.001 Tc -0.00081 Tw 2 tows. It was df1)-124

Noted

22.1 Each year, AC receives a report on FTC proceedings in the previous academic session. The report is submitted to AC *via* QMEC, in order to enable QMEC to identify any particular quality management and

RESOLVED

22.7 That AC approve the report on FTC proceedings in session 2009-10 at <u>APPENDIX AC 2/14 (10-11)</u>.

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

22.8 That Deans of Faculty/Faculty Tutors submit the report to their FTCs.

[ACTION: Deans of Faculty/Faculty Tutors]

23 JOINT STAFF STUDENT COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT FOR SESSION 2009-10

Received

23.1 At <u>APPENDIX AC 2/15 (10-11)</u> – JSSC's annual report for session 2009-10.

RESOLVED

23.2 That AC approve the JSSC's annual report for session 2009-10.

[ACTION: Dr Ruth Siddall, Mr Rob Traynor – to note]

24 QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE uth SCID P REPORT FOR SESSION .1003Tm(JFEMC P M2LuRQABDC JTT1 1 Tf0.0012 Tc 0.1909 Twrepor

and UCL. The Chair also noted the appointment of Mr Tim Perry to the new post of Director of Registry and Academic Services, with effect from 3 May 2011.

26 APPROVAL OF A NEW DEGREE AWARD

Noted

- 26.1 At its meeting on 7 July 2008, AC approved a procedure for the approval of new degree awards at UCL.
- 26.2 At its meeting on 21 March 2011, the Research Degrees Committee approved, on the recommendation of, and following full scrutiny by, the Programme and Module Approval Steering Group, a proposal that UCL establish a Doctorate in Orthopaedics (Doc.Orth).
- 26.3 In accordance with the procedure for the approval of new degree awards, RDC Resolved that the proposal be submitted to AC for approval.

RESOLVED

- 26.4 That AC formally approve, on the recommendation of the RDC, the creation of the following new UCL degree award:
 - Doctorate in Orthopaedics or Doc.Orth

27 SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS FOR REMAINING MEETINGS OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE IN SESSION 2010-11

Received

27.1 At <u>APPENDIX AC 2/17 (10-11)</u> – a note from the AC officers setting out a schedule of business for the two remaining meetings of AC in the current session.

28 ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE

28A Amendment to the Staff Intellectual Property Rights Policy

Noted

28A.1 On 26 October 2010, the AC Chair, acting on behalf of the Committee and on the recommendation of the Director of Library Services, took action to approve a minor amendment to the UCL Staff Intellectual Property Rights Policy, regarding performance rights.

28B UCL SERAus Academic Board

Noted

28B.1 Under Australian legislation, UCL SERAus is required to have in place its own Academic Board, comprising primarily external members from other Australian universities, in order to ensure that the School is complying with Australian academic and quality assurance requirements. On 22 February 2011, the AC Chair, acting on behalf of