



ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Monday 24th June 2019

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Provost and President (Chair)

Ms Wendy Appleby; Dr Paul Ayris; Dr Simon Banks; Professor David Bogle; Dame Nicola Brewer; Dr Celia Caulcott; Mr Ashley Doolan; Professor Piet Eeckhout; Dr Hugh Goodacre; Dr Arne Hofmann; Professor David Lomas; Professor John Mullan; Professor Alan Penn; Professor Hynek Pikhart; Professor David Price; Dr Aeli Roberts; Professor Sasha Roseneil; Dr Ruth Siddall; Dr Sam Smidt; Professor Anthony Smith; Dr Hazel Smith; Ms Olga Thomas; Professor Andrea Townsend-Nicholson; Professor Andrew Wills.

In attendance: Mr Derfel Owen (Secretary to Academic Committee); Mr Nick McGhee [for Minute 41]; Mr Turlogh O'Brien [member of UCL Council]; Ms Rachel Port (Minutes); Professor David Shanks; Ms Emma Todd [for Minute 40].

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Tracey Allen; Ms Rothna Akhtar; Mr Simon Cane; Mr Farooq Dean; Professor Mark Emberton; Dr Julie Evans; Professor Becky Francis; Professor Graham Hart; Dr Christine Hoffmann; Professor Sandra Leaton-Gray; Professor Ivan Parkin; Mr Saddiqur Rahman; Professor Geraint Rees; Mr Mike Rowson; Professor Alan Thompson; Professor Nigel Titchener-Hooker; Professor Li Wei; Dr Stan Zochowski.

Key to abbreviations

AB	Academic Board
AC	Academic Committee
ASER	Annual Student Experience Review
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
GCRF	Global Challenges Research Fund
GEO	Global Engagement Office
GES	Global Engagement Strategy
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HR	Human Resources
MRC	Medical Research Council
OfS	Office for Students
OVPEA	Office of the Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs)
SLMS	School of Life and Medical Sciences
SSW	Student Support and Wellbeing
TESOF	Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework

Preliminary business

35 MINUTES OF 19 FEBRUARY 2019 MEETING

35.1 Approved – the Minutes of the AC meeting held on 19 February 2019 [AC Minutes 18-34, 2018-19].

36 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

36.1 There were no matters arising.

Matters for discussion

37 PROVOST'S BUSINESS

37A Rankings

37A.1 UCL had risen two places to rank eighth in the 2020 QS World University Rankings and had also risen two places to sixth in the National Taiwan University (NTU) Ranking for the performance of scientific papers for world universities. However, UCL had slipped to 22nd position in 'The Guardian' University league tables 2020. AC noted the different methodologies used for the various rankings and therefore a sense of perspective was required in looking at UCL's results.

37B Brexit

37B.1 UCL's Brexit Mitigation Group had continued to meet regularly and send out communications to staff and students.

37C Augar Review of Fees and Funding

37C.1 The review report had been published and no action would be taken on its recommendations until a new Prime Minister had been appointed. It was considered likely however that its recommendations would not be carried forward.

38 SLMS ANNUAL REPORT
[PAPER 3-26 (18-19)]

38.1 Received – the above annual report, introduced by the Vice-Provost (Health), Professor David Lomas.

38.2 The annual report demonstrated that research was very important and underpinned the work of the School as well as partnership working with its

various partners in London. The following areas were highlighted:

- x UCL retained its place as third ranked in the UK for life sciences and medicine in the QS 2019 rankings.
- x Together with other London universities, UCL continued to excel in attracting research council income and attracted the highest volume of awards from the MRC in 2017-18, ahead of Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial and King's.
- x SLMS secured an overall satisfaction score of 80 in the 2018 NSS. A Task and Finish Group was set up to strengthen the School's teaching and learning resources, especially in the area of assessment and feedback. It was noted that a cultural change was required across the School to embed teaching excellence.
- x UCL's cancer research portfolio had grown with a greater than £40m uplift in strategic cross-disciplinary funding from Cancer Research UK.
- x The £25m SUMMIT study began in 2019 which involved UCL, UCLH and the US company GRAIL collaborating to deliver the largest ever UK lung cancer screening study.
- x In 2017/18 SLMS accounted for 62% of UCL's total research outcome and its research income had increased by some 53% since 2013-14. SLMS had the highest research income in the UK in this area.
- x In terms of its enterprise activity, SLMS in partnership with UCL Business and UCLH, GOSH and Moorfields had created a number of spinouts and partnerships which had raised over £856m.
- x In relation to Athena SWAN, SLMS had 21 awards with 19 Institutes or Divisions at silver or bronze level and 2 at gold level. The Athena SWAN process was becoming harder as 3 Institutes/Divisions had that were previously silver had been accredited bronze in the latest round. It was considered that more males were needed to be involved in the application process as it fell disproportionality to female colleagues.
- x SLMS had increased its annual contribution margin by 2.4% from 17.8% in 2013-14 to 20.3% in 2018-19 with the contribution increasing by some £40m to £137.6m in 2018-19.

38.3 The Chair commended the impressive report on behalf of AC which showed the continued excellence and impact of SLMS and its increase in research income was to be especially commended.

39 UCL 2034 ENABLER A: ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL
[PAPER 3-27 (18-19)]

39.1 Received – the above report, introduced by the Registrar, Wendy Appleby.

39.2 2018-

experience. It was considered that the next annual .7 (he)1 39 Tm ()Tj ET EMC Q 0 Td ()Tj tn

- x UCL's total estimated investment in the GES in 2018-19 was £6m and 68% (£1m) of its non-staff budget was allocated to seed funding schemes.
- x The first five-year GES would conclude in 2020. A consultation was launched in March to review how this first phase had gone. Initial
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40A.4 That AC endorsed the proposal for UCL to have 'Anchor' partner status with the University of Toronto for consideration by the Provost's SMT and Council.

ACTION: AC members (to note)

41 STUDENT COMPLAINTS ANNUAL REPORT 2018
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there was greater visibility of the procedure whilst the backlog of complaints had been cleared by the Casework Team. The revised version would be submitted to AB and Council for formal approval with a view to being implemented in 2020. Members were invited to submit any comments on the revised version subsequent to the meeting to the Deputy Director.

RESOLVED:

41A.4 That AC endorsed the proposed revisions to the student complaints procedure for consideration by AB and Council.

ACTION: AC members (to note)

42 LECTURECAST
[PAPER 3-32 (18-19)]

42.1 Received – a report on the above, introduced by Professor Andrea Townsend-Nicholson.

42.2 A Lecturecast Policy Working Group was convened in February 2019 by Education Committee to develop UCL policy, governing principles and responsibilities for the recording of education events and related usage at UCL. Lecturecast was considered to be an important part of the student experience at UCL but only 58% of central experenw2 and s.6 (f)-6 (e)10.5 (at)4.n C thed W oes7.5 (es)ef t

44 ANNUAL REPORT