

**The University of Huddersfield  
Minutes of the Senate  
7 November 2018**

- Present:** Professor R Cryan (Chair), Professor A Ball, Dr S Bastow, Professor P Bissell, Dr S Burns, Mrs S Furmedge, Professor P Goswani, Mr E Haruna, Professor C Jarvis, Professor J Johnes, Professor N King, Professor J Malay, Professor P Miller, Mr M Mills, Dr Y Novakovic, Professor J Owen-Lynch, Ms A Pettican, Mr J Rodgers, Professor P Sanderson, Mr J Stephen, Professor D Taylor, Professor T Thornton (for item 9.1), Professor R Ward, Ms K White, Dr S White
- In Attendance:** Dr R Birds, Mr C Blair, Mrs M Boryslawskij, Ms S Campbell, Ms K Engel, Mr A Mandebura, Mr A McConnell, Professor L Towns-Andrews.
- Apologies:** Professor S Donnelly, Mrs N Firth, Dr J Grainger, Professor M Kagioglou, Dr S Lui, Professor T Schmidt, Professor B Tolchard, Dr L Waters

The Chair welcomed Dr S Bastow, Dr R Birds, Mr E Haruna, Mr J Rodgers & Professor B Tolchard to the Committee.

### **REGS-SC-7Nov18-1.0 SENATE BRIEFING**

#### **1.1 Estates Briefing**

- Members were reminded that the Barbara Hepworth Building was due to be completed by Summer 2019, for use at the start of the 2019 academic year.
- Members were reminded that the Science Building completion was also scheduled for September 2019.
- Members were advised that Bath House on Queen Street would become a Design Centre and café and that University Council had approved the plans meaning that this project should be completed by September 2019.
- Members noted that Queen Street Studios would be remodelled for use by academic staff and should be completed by early 2020.
- Members were advised that the Faith Centre would be replaced and that, depending on the construction method chosen, this could be completed by September 2019.
- Members were informed that the Council had approved a new Western Campus teaching block which would be available for all Schools to use from 2021, subject to favourable site conditions.

### **REGS-SC-7Nov18-2.0 MINUTES**

- 2.1 Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2018 be accepted as a correct record. **(REGS-SC-27Jun18-M)**

### **REGS-SC-7Nov18-3.0 MATTERS ARISING**

- 3.1** There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

## REGS-SC-7Nov18-4.0 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

### 4.1 Strategy Map KPI Performance 2017/18

The Vice-Chancellor delivered a comprehensive presentation on progress in achieving the University's KPIs during the final year of the current Strategy Map. Key aspects included:

- The overall positive trajectory of the KPIs throughout the strategy map period 2013 to 2018, resulting in almost all KPIs being successfully achieved or exceeded.
- The downgrading of the A2 KPI "Top 10% NSS by 2018" from amber to red. This was disappointing given the outstanding NSS scores seen across several courses; and the fact that the University is above the TEF benchmark in all three areas: teaching, assessment & feedback and student support.
- The upgrading of the A4 KPI relating to staff publishing from amber to green. It was noted that international publishing had exceeded the KPI.
- KPI A6 regarding research income remained at amber, despite overall growth over the strategy map period.
- The E1 KPI remained amber despite the pulse survey suggesting that Quality of Working Life had improved; and despite employee engagement and satisfaction being above the UK sector average.
- The upward trend for all international, financial sustainability, estates, and efficiency and effectiveness KPIs where ratings continued to be green and in several cases exceeded the KPIs.
- Overall the KPIs had been achieved or exceeded, with the exception of one red performance area relating to NSS; and two amber performance areas relating to research income and Quality of Working Life.
- The Chair reminded the Committee of the huge progress that had been made from 2013 to 2018 ensuring that the University was now nationally and in some cases internationally recognised. The Chair celebrated the substantial number of prestigious awards that had been given to the University during the strategy map period and thanked the Committee for its hard work during this period of success.

**Resolved:** to approve the KPIs as presented for onward recommendation to Audit Committee and University Council.

### 4.2 Strategy Map 2018 to 2025

The Chair presented the draft Strategy Map 2018-2025 to the Committee. Members were advised that an extensive consultation process had taken place on each aspect of the map, involving staff across the University.

Members were reminded of the current challenges faced by the sector and the opportunities that this would bring for the University.

The new strapline, mission statement and values were agreed by the Committee.

The University's Key Performance Indicators were linked to the following aims and enablers:

- Inspiring
- Innovative
- International
- People First
- Financial Sustainability
- Growth and Efficiency

The Dean of Graduate School asked how the postgraduate experience would be recognised in the new strategy map and the Vice Chancellor confirmed that this would constitute a performance indicator, at a level immediately below the key performance indicators.

**Resolved:** to recommend the new Strategy Map to the University Council for approval subject to the PVC Research concluding the meetings arranged with Unit of Assessment Coordinators. It was agreed that the KPIs may be revised downwards in light of feedback received from the Coordinators and that Chair's Action could be taken to approve any downward revisions.

## **REGS-SC-7Nov18-5.0      UNIVERSITY NEWS**

**5.1** Members were briefed on a range of news from around the University including the following items:

- A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed between the University, Kirklees Council and Arts Council England. The Memorandum will initiate a range of activities which could lead to the creation of a cultural quarter in Huddersfield.
- The Holocaust Exhibition and Learning Centre was officially launched at the University in September and is set to become an important visitor destination and educational resource in the North.
- The UK Government-backed Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) has agreed to provide almost £300,000 in funding for one of the University's researchers to participate in the multi-national project known as MOSAiC.
- A £4.5 million domestic abuse project by the None in Three Research Centre (Ni3) to develop a computer game that will help reduce levels of domestic abuse and sexual violence around the world, was selected to be showcased at the very prestigious London Design Fair in an exhibition by the Arts Humanities and Research Council entitled Design Research for Change.
- Scientists have discovered a synthetic chemical that encourages brain tumour cells to 'self-destruct' and die whilst leaving healthy brain cells untouched and the University's Dr Simon Allison was one of the specialists chosen, from a number of institutions, to analyse the 'KHS10' molecule.
- Professors Craig Rice and Roger Phillips have developed and tested a chemical compound with the potential to destroy hard-to-treat cancer cells.

The breakthrough was published by the leading international journal *Angewandte Chemie*.

- Eight recipients received the award of Honorary Doctorate of the University at the July ceremonies.
- 82 members of staff were presented with their awards, having achieved the qualification of Chartered Manager, at a special presentation attended by Ann Francke, CEO of the CMI. This marked the University's first step to becoming the world's first large organisation where all its managers have achieved CMI Chartered Manager status.
- The University was delighted to welcome to campus in July His Excellency Liu Xiaoming, the Chinese Ambassador to the UK. The Vice-Chancellor signed a commitment with Fujian's Deputy Party Secretary to make an application to create a Joint Institute which will provide an opportunity for UK and Chinese students to take part in study and research exchanges.
- A £71 million programme of new construction work, plus upgrades and refurbishments to existing buildings, is transforming the campus and making huge improvements to the University's facilities.
- Young scientists throughout the region will receive a massive boost to their A-level and BTEC studies when the University opens an £18.2m science block and a superbly-equipped laboratory, including facilities designed to enable school and college students to form links with their local university and stimulate their passion for science.
- The Rt Hon Gordon Brown, the UK's last Labour premier, is to deliver this year's annual Harold Wilson Lecture dedicated to one of his predecessors, Huddersfield-born Harold Wilson. Mr Brown's talk takes place at the University on 12 November and is titled "Purpose in Politics".

**To consider and approve:**

#### **REGS-SC-7Nov18-6.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE & MEMBERSHIP**

**6.1 Resolved:** to approve the terms of reference and membership of Senate.  
**(REGS-SC-7NOV18-6.1)**

#### **REGS-SC-7Nov18-7.0 ANNUAL ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE REPORT**

**7.1 Resolved:** to approve the Annual Academic Governance Report, including the assurance statements therein, for onward recommendation to Audit Committee and University Council.  
**(REGS-SC-7NOV18-7.1)**

#### **REGS-SC-7Nov18-8.0 HONORARY AWARDS**

**8.1** Members were updated on the Honorary Award recipients for 2018 and 2019 and were asked to invite colleagues to propose nominees for future years. Members were reminded that the names of those nominated were to be kept confidential until formally announced by the University.

**Resolved:** to recommend the nominations to Council.

## **REGS-SC-7Nov18-9.0 ENROLMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018 AND APPLICATIONS FOR 2019**

- 9.1** The Deputy Vice-Chancellor joined the meeting and updated members on the September 2018 enrolment numbers, which were in line with previous years, and applications for 2019, which were encouraging given the challenging environment. Members were reminded of the need for ongoing innovation across the portfolio and hard work to ensure effective applications and conversions. Members were advised that the approaching admissions cycle will continue to be competitive and cautioned against complacency. Members were reminded that there was an open day being held today.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor left the meeting.

## **REGS-SC-7Nov18-10.0 REPORTS FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR (TEACHING AND LEARNING)**

### Attainment

- 10.1** The Pro Vice-Chancellor reported that the University had met its target on attainment. Members were reminded about government concerns in relation to the rising proportion of higher degree classifications and were advised that the University's calculation algorithm had not been amended.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor informed members that the BAME attainment gap had significantly improved and thanked colleagues for their hard work in this area. Multi-factoral analysis was required to understand better the intersectionality between BAME status and other influential factors like previous qualifications to support continued efforts in further reducing the gap.

Members noted that disabled students were slightly outperforming non-disabled students and that outcomes for overseas students had significantly improved. The Pro Vice-Chancellor thanked members for their work in supporting students and helping to close or reduce these attainment gaps.

### NSS

- 10.2** The Pro Vice-Chancellor reported that the KPI in this area had not been met and expressed her disappointment. Members were advised that the areas of concern would need to improve and that initiatives were on-going within the Schools to enable this improvement.

### Teaching Excellence Framework

- 10.3** The Pro Vice-Chancellor advised that the University was preparing for subject level TEF and that 25 separate submissions would be required across the institution. The Pro Vice-Chancellor confirmed that more briefings would be held and subject leads would receive additional support in making the submissions.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor outlined that the TEF has been expanded to include additional metrics including graduate salaries but had also removed some metrics that had been previously used such as destination of leavers.

### UTLC Summary

## 10.4

The summary of the 25 September 2018 meeting was noted.

Members' attention was drawn to an increase in extenuating circumstances claims and appeals. Members noted that complaints remained stable and at a low level given the conciliation measures that the University used to resolve these at the earliest stage possible.

Members were advised that discussions around academic integrity and attendance monitoring were on going and changes were likely to be made in these areas. The SU Education Officer voiced his support for these necessary changes.

**(REGS-SC-7NOV18-10.4)**

## **REGS-SC-7Nov18-11.0 REPORT FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR (INTERNATIONAL)**

### Update on International Enrolments & Recruitment

**11.1** The Pro Vice-Chancellor advised that recruitment was encouraging, in comparison with our competitors, given the challenging circumstances in the sector. Members were advised that a review of International Office processes had taken place and confidence continued to be strong going forwards.

### **11.2** University International Committee Summary

The summary of the 17 October 2018 meeting was noted. Members attention was drawn to the creation of a student hardship fund. Members were informed that the Study Group had been reconfirmed as a Pathway Provider and was undergoing a revalidation. Members were advised that overseas student classifications were above the national average and the University had placed in the top 600s in the World Rankings. It was noted that several subjects had also ranked in the top 300s.

**(REGS-SC-7NOV18-11.2)**

## **REGS-SC-7Nov18-12.0 REPORT FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH & ENTERPRISE)**

### Research Annual Integrity Statement

**12.1** It was noted that this had been recommended for approval by the University Research Committee and this was approved at Senate to be presented to Audit Committee and University Council.

**(REGS-SC-7NOV18-12.1)**

### **12.2**

### University Research Committee Summaries

The summaries of the 12 June 2018 and 18 September 2018 meetings were noted. Members attention was drawn to the June 2018 minutes in which the changes to the Student Handbook of Regulations and the Regulations for Awards for Postgraduate students were approved by Senate, having been previously considered by the Research Committee. The Graduate Board terms of reference were also approved by Senate as recommended by the Research Committee.

**(REGS-SC-7NOV18-12.2)**

**REGS-SC-7Nov18-13.0 SCHOOL BOARD SUMMARIES**

**13.1** The summaries of the School Boards were noted.  
(REGS-SC-7NOV18-13.1-13.5)

**REGS-SC-7Nov18-14.0 UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**14.1** The University Council minutes of 5 July 2018 were noted.  
(REGS-SC-7NOV18-14.1)

**REGS-SC-7Nov18-15.0 WHISTLEBLOWING REPORT**

**15.1** The Committee noted a nil return for the year to 31 July 2018.  
(REGS-SC-7NOV18-15.1)

**REGS-SC-7Nov18-16.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**16.1** There were no additional matters to discuss.

**REGS-SC-7Nov18-17.0 AVAILABILITY OF AGENDA, PAPERS AND MINUTES**

**17.1** There were no papers excluded from the Library under Standing Order 11.8.

**REGS-SC-7Nov18-18.0 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

**18.1** 13 March 2019 at 9.30am in the McClelland Suite

Katie Engel  
Registry  
November 2018