

Joint Meeting of the Councils

UNRESTRICTED Minutes of the meeting held at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday 30 September 2021 in the Vivian Hall, Dylan Thomas Centre, Swansea

Present:

Venerable Randolph Thomas (Chair)
Tony Ball
Pam Berry
Tania Davies
Margaret Evans
Eifion Griffiths
Professor Medwin Hughes
Dr Conny Matera Rogers
Rowland Jones
Vanessa Liverpool

Liam Powell
Victoria Provis
Dr Stuart Robb
Geraint Roberts
Nigel Roberts
Dr Liz Siberry
Maria Stedman
Dr Kerry Tudor
Deris Williams

In attendance:

Justin Albert
Siwan Davies
Sarah Clark, Clerk to Council
Professor Dylan Jones, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Professor Catrin Thomas, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
Shône Hughes, Chief of Staff

Steve Baldwin Director of Resources and Business Planning
Gavin Bessant, Director of Financial Services
Jane O'Rourke, Executive Director of Human Resources
Catrin Beard (Translator)
Margaret Williams (Secretary)

Agenda item	Main discussion points	Action/decision
21.48 Apologies for absence	APOLOGIES for absence were received from Andrew Curl, Arwel Ellis Owen, Mathew Peake and Andrew Cornish.	
21.49 Declarations of Interest	The Councils RECEIVED the full register of members' interests 2021/22 (JC0107).	
21.50 Appointment of new independent members	<p>The Councils APPROVED the following recommendations of the interview panel for new independent members, appointed through NGC (JCO108).</p> <p>(a) Recommended for appointment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to the UWTSD Council from 1 October 2021 until 31 July 2025 • to the UW Council as a co-opted member from 1 October 2021 until 31 July 2022 and as an appointed member from 1 August 2022 until 31 July 2025 <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Justin Albert OBE Siwan Davies</p> <p>(b) Recommended for appointment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to the UWTSD Council from 1 October 2021 until 31 July 2025 <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Uzo Iwobi OBE Emlyn Schiavone</p>	
	<p>Justin Albert OBE and Siwan Davies joined the meeting as observers.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Uzo Iwobi and Emlyn Schiavone.</p>	
21.51 Presentation by the Vice-Chancellor	<p>The Councils RECEIVED a presentation by the Vice-Chancellor.</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor outlined the key priorities for the University in 2021/22 in the context of Welsh Government and UK Government Policy. He noted the importance of reaffirming the distinctiveness of UWTSD, establishing resilience and the consolidated offer of bringing HE and FE together.</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor referred to 2022 and the Bicentennial celebrations and proposed that 2022 was the year that the University established a platform for the future infrastructure to serve the people of Wales.</p>	

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	<p>Members supported the vision of the Vice-Chancellor and commended the progress of the University.</p>	
<p>21.52 Determination of risk appetite</p>	<p>The Councils CONSIDERED its risk appetite for 2021/22 (JCO109).</p> <p>The Senior Directorate had made a preliminary assessment of the risk appetite that might be adopted for the institutional priorities for 2021/22, as set out in <i>Agenda 2021/22</i>, using the assessment tool presented.</p> <p>In discussion, members queried the conservative approach proposed for culture and values. The Vice-Chancellor clarified that this was to ensure that no risks were taken in respect of the Welsh language. Members also noted that it would be useful for future assessments to permit greater nuancing in respect of innovation.</p> <p>The Councils APPROVED the risk appetite recommendation of officers.</p>	<p>Clerk to note for future assessments</p>
<p>21.53 Organisation culture</p>	<p>In the context of their commitments under the Governance Charter for Universities in Wales, the Councils CONSIDERED the first data report on organisation culture (JCO110).</p> <p>Members noted that the report proposed a working definition of desired culture for consideration and drew together data from a range of sources. The Councils were asked to consider the working definition; consider if the data presented suggested that there were any gaps between the actual and desired culture; and determine, if applicable, what action was needed to close the gap to achieve the desired culture. Officers were also seeking advice on the contents and focus of future reports.</p> <p>Following preliminary discussion, the Councils AGREED that a meeting should be arranged to give focused attention to this matter.</p> <p>Members were reminded that the Governance Charter also included a commitment from governing bodies, in their annual reports, to explain how key stakeholders had been engaged during the year. Camm had envisaged that this work would stem from a sector-wide 'good practice guide to ensure the effective engagement with key stakeholders and consideration of their views in the development of university strategy'. The development of the guide had recently commenced. Members agreed</p>	<p>Clerk to take forward</p>

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	that the University approach to collating stakeholder data would require consideration in due course.	
21.54 Approval of the minutes of the last meeting held 08/07/2021	The Councils APPROVED the Unrestricted Minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2021 (JCO111)	
21.55 Approval of the Restricted minute of the meeting held on 8 July 2021	The Councils APPROVED the Restricted Minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2021 (JCO111)	
21.56 Terms of Reference	The Councils RECEIVED their terms of reference (JCO112).	
21.56 Councils' workplan	The Councils APPROVED their workplan 2021/22 (JCO113). The Clerk reported that the annual report of Senate was normally presented to the November meeting of Councils, however, this year the reflective analysis report being prepared for the QAA review would be presented in its place.	
21.57 Report on Chair's Action	The Councils RECEIVED the report on Chair's action since the previous meeting (JCO114).	
21.58 Declarations of Interest	No additional declarations of interest were received during the meeting.	
21.59 Date and time of next meeting and future meetings	Thursday, 25/11/2021 Thursday, 27/01/2022 Tuesday, 29/03/2022 and Thursday, 31/03/2022 Thursday, 07/07/2022	

Meeting terminated 12.30