

LONDON'S GLOBAL UNIVERSITY



SPECIAL MEETING OF ACADEMIC BOARD

Monday 14 May 2018

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Needleman; Dr Mark Newman; Mr Angus O'Brien; Professor John O'Keefe; Professor Moses Oketch; Professor Martin Oliver; Professor Tadj Oreszczyn; Professor Norbert Pachler; Dr Anne Peasey; Professor Paola Pedarzani; Professor Alan Penn; Dr Rosie Peppin Vaughan; Professor Kevin Pickering; Dr Inés Pineda Torres; Professor David Price; Professor Stephen Quirke; Professor Shamima Rahman; Professor Sarah Randall; Professor Geraint Rees; Professor William Richardson; Professor Helen Roberts; Professor Patricia Salinas; Dr Benet Salway; Professor Vieri Samek-Lodovici; Professor Ralf Schoepfer; Professor Tony Segal; Professor Andrea Sella; Professor David Shanks; Professor Robert Sheil; Professor Stephen Shennan; Professor Talvinder Sihra; Dr Bill Sillar; Trevor Smart; Dr Reecha Sofat; Professor Alan Sokal; Professor Kalia Srail; Professor Helen Stagg; Professor Philip Stanier; Professor James Steele; Professor Judith Stephenson; Professor Claudio Stern; Professor Michael Stewart; Professor Melvyn Stokes; Dr Sherril Stroschein; Professor Judith Suissa; Professor Peter Swaab; Dr Kristza Szendroi; Professor Nicolas Szita; Professor Jeremy Tanner; Professor Alan Thompson; Mr Jon Thomson; Dr Emannuela Tilley; Professor Nigel Titchener-Hooker; Mr Simon To; Professor Andrew Townsend Nicholson; Dr Hans Van de Koot; Professor Ann Varley; Professor Yiannis Ventikos; Professor Gabriella Vigliocco; Dr Nalini Vittal; Professor David Voas; Professor Goya Wannamethee; Professor David Wengrow; Professor Robert West; Professor Andrew Wills; Dr James Wilson; Professor Richard Wortley; Professor Maria Wyke; Professor Christopher Yeo; Professor Jose Zalabardo; Dr Stan Zochowski

In attendance: Mr Derfel Owen (Secretary to Academic Board); Ms Karen Dwyer (Dept.

1 REQUISITION LETTER FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF ACADEMIC BOARD

consultation had not been shared with staff and the position adopted had caused significant concern; academic staff were aware of the issues and case for reform but if they had been consulted to inform and understand the position, it could have limited the level of disquiet about its governance structure amongst the UCL community.

- x In response to perceived lack of academic input decision making, it was noted that the Senior Management Team had significant academic input from Deans and Vice-Provosts
- x It was noted that the motion was not intended to be a criticism of the Senior Management Team but an opportunity for UCL to review and consider its governance arrangements and to report the views of Academic Board to Council.
- x It was noted that many staff feel disconnected from decision making and do not feel there is sufficient opportunity to contribute to decisions that are taken that affect their day to day activities, in particular it was highlighted that Teaching Fellow and early-career researchers felt particularly excluded and that the proposed inquiry would give an opportunity for them to influence the direction of UCL.
- x It was noted that AB's role was limited to advising Council and that it may be beneficial for AB to request that Council establish a review of governance structures at UCL to include an external chair, as it would then have the authority to implement the review's recommendations. However, other members expressed support for AB to exercise its responsibility to advise Council on academic matters. **C**

ⁱ Subsequent to the meeting, members of AB have sought clarification on point (f) in the proposed membership of Commission “Elected members of AB (6)”. Elected members of AB are defined in the statutes, but it is proposed that this should be interpreted as 6 members elected by and from the whole membership of AB. The Secretary to AB will invite any comments or views from members on whether this clause should be interpreted that way, the Provost will then be invited to take Chair’s action on the matter and will formally report back to the next AB meeting on 23 October 2018.