



ACADEMIC BOARD

Wednesday 26 October 2011

MINUTES

*PRESENT*¹:

President and Provost (*Chair*)

Mr Malcolm Bailey, Dr Bob Barber, Professor David Bogle, Mr Tony Brown, Mr Neil Chowdhury, Dr Beverley Clark, Professor Susan Collins, Professor Peter Delves, Dr Vanessa Diaz, Dr Snezana Djordjevic, Dr Caroline Essex, Mr Marco Federighi, Dr Susan Ferguson, Dr Hugh Goodacre, Ms Sandra Hinton, Dr Katherine Holt, Dr Mary Howman, Dr Brian King, Dr Josef Kittler, Professor Ofer Lahav, Mr Bill Lehm, Professor Robert Lumley, Professor Gesine Manuwald, Professor Charles Marson, Professor Neil Millar, Dr Tarit Mukhopadhyay, Dr Ben Page, Mr Frank Penter, Mr Tim Perry, Professor David Price, Professor Sarah Price, Professor Slavo Radošević, Mrs Kerstin Sailer, Dr Benet Salway, Dr Stephanie Schorge, Dr Chris Scotton, Professor Lucia Sivilotti, Dr Joy Sleeman, Dr Sherrill Stroschein, Ms Olga Thomas, Dr Cecil Thompson, Dr Helena Titheridge, Mr Simon To, Professor Derek Tocher, Dr Andrea Townsend-Nicholson, Dr Ivan Wall, Ms Susan Ware, Dr Andrew Wills, Dr Astrid Wingler, Dr Gavin Winston, Dr Robert Wykes.

In attendance: Mr Jason Clarke (*Secretary*), Mr Peter Hart, Ms Valerie Hogg, Dr Rachel Hooper, Mr Nick McGhee.

Apologies for absence were received from: Professor James Bainbridge, Ms Julie Black, Dr Peter Brett, Dr Helene Burningham, Professor Ardis Butterfield, Professor Franco Cacialli, Dr Ben Campkin, Professor Chris Carey, Dr Alena Chong, Professor Collinge, Mr Ben Colvill, Professor Susan Cunningham, Professor Anthony Finkelstein, Professor Nick Freemantle, Professor Sebastian Gardner, Professor Helen Hackett, Mr Sean Hanna, Professor Richard Jackman, Professor Peng Khaw, Mr Rex Knight, Professor Jonathan Knowles, Professor Jonathan Ledermann, Professor Miriam Leonard, Dr Jennifer Linden, Professor Paul Longley, Dr Anson Mackay, Professor Philippe Marliere, Dr Sajeda Meghji, Professor Usha Menon, Professor Neil Mitchell, Dr Jennifer Morgan, Professor Monty Mythen, Dr Iris Oren, Dr Nicholas Ovenden, Dr Susan Parekh, Professor Alan Penn, Ms Sarah Pickering, Dr Matthew Piper, Professor Sergio Quezada, Professor Stephen Quirke, Professor Andrew Ramage, Professor Thilo Rehren, Professor Christiana Ruhrberg, Dr Seb Savory, Professor Lorraine Sherr, Dr Pam Sonnenberg, Dr Emmanuel Stamatakis, Professor Iain Stevenson, Dr Julian Thompson, Professor Faraneh Vargha-Khadem, Professor Laura Vaughan, Professor Essi Viding, Professor John Ward, Professor Martin Widschwendter, Professor Michael Worton.

¹ An attendance sheet was circulated for signature at the meeting. Any colleagues present who did not sign the sheet and whose names are therefore not recorded as present are invited to notify the AB Secretary's office (e-mail – h.lilley@ucl.ac.uk) so that their names can be included in the record when these Minutes are confirmed at the next meeting of AB.

Key to abbreviations

AB	Academic Board
BBSRC	Biotechnology and Biological Services Research Council
IRIS	Institutional Research Information Service
REF	Research Excellence Framework
SERAUs	UCL School of Energy and Resources, Australia

1 ACADEMIC BOARD: TERMS OF REFERENCE, CONSTITUTION AND 2011-12 MEMBERSHIP

Noted

- 1.1 APPENDIX *² AB 1/01 (11-12) – AB's terms of reference³.
- 1.2 APPENDIX * AB 1/02 (11-12) – AB's constitution and membership for the session 2011-12⁴.
- 1.3 APPENDIX AB 1/03 (11-12) – a note by the AB Secretary on AB Standing Orders, for information.

2 MINUTES

Approved

- 2.1 The Minutes of the AB meetings held on 25 May 2011 [*AB Minutes 30-42, 2010-11*] and 14 June 2011 [*AB Minute 43, 2010-11*] were confirmed by the Board and signed by the Chair.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3A Council approval of Academic Board recommendations
[AB Minutes 34 and 36, 2010-11]

Noted

- 3A.1 At its meeting on 6 July 2011 Council had approved, on the recommendation of AB:
- the disestablishment of the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences with effect from the 1 August 2011 and the establishment of the Faculties of Brain Sciences, Medical Sciences and Population Health Sciences from the same date;
 - that, in accordance with UCL Statute 10(1), the schedule of academic units of UCL, as set out in Regulation for Management 11, be amended with effect from 1 August 2011 to take account of the above proposals;
 - the Lead Officer reports on (i) Careers and Employability, (ii) Student Accommodation, and (iii) Student Welfare Co-ordination.

² An appendix reference preceded by an asterisk indicates that, for the sake of economy, the document was not issued with the Agenda but is filed with these Minutes.

³ See also <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ras/acs/governance/committees/ab>

⁴ See also <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ras/acs/governance/committees/ab>

4 AWARDS TO UCL STAFF

Received

- 4.1 APPENDIX AB 1/04 (11-12) – a note on the award of major prizes *etc* to members of the academic community of UCL since the last meeting of AB.

5 UCL RESEARCH STRATEGY

Received

- 5.1 APPENDIX AB 1/05 (11-12)⁵ – the UCL Research Strategy.
- 5.2 An oral report and presentation by Professor David Price, Vice-Provost (Research).

Reported

- 5.3 Noting that UCL's definition of itself as London's Global University entailed an obligation to address issues of fundamental importance to the world, Professor Price drew attention to the three major objectives of the Strategy: excellence, cross-disciplinarity, and impact, and the relationship of each to the pursuance of UCL's Grand Challenges. UCL was actively making the case for the 'value added' nature of multi-disciplinary centres of research excellence.

Discussion

- 5.4 In response to questions about measures being taken to improve UCL's performance in research funding, Professor Price noted: the establishment of internal review mechanisms within each department for consideration of funding applications; the tutorials available to early-career academic staff in writing grant applications; and the practice interviews available to staff due to attend interview with funding bodies.
- 5.5 UCL's success rate in applications to the BBSRC had improved significantly in recent months, but it was difficult to attribute this improvement to any single factor.
- 5.6 In response to a suggestion that the IRIS system could be adjusted to reflect the full academic portfolio, including teaching responsibilities, Professor Price noted that, while the system had been set up specifically to meet the requirements of the REF, it would not be unfeasible that such adjustments could be made given sufficient resources.

⁵ The document is also available at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/research/vision-strategy>

6 FACULTIES AND ACADEMIC UNITS OF UCL

Noted

6.1 UCL Statute 10(1) provided that:

There shall be such academic units of the College as the Council on the advice of the Academic Board may from time to time determine, with such powers as determined by the Council on the advice of the Academic Board. ... The academic units of the College shall have such designation as the Council on the advice of the Academic Board may from time to time determine.

6A UCL Australia - proposed establishment as an academic unit of UCL and consequent disestablishment of UCL SERAus as an academic unit of UCL

Received

6A.1 APPENDIX AB 1/06 (11-12) – a note by the Vice-Provost (International).

RECOMMENDED (to Council)

6A.2 That, in accordance with UCL Statute 10(1), UCL Australia be established as an academic unit of UCL with effect from 1 January 2012 and that, as a consequence, UCL SERAus be disestablished as an academic unit of UCL with effect from the same date.

6B Division of Population Health – proposed change of name to the Institute of Epidemiology and Healthcare

Received

6B.1 APPENDIX AB 1/07 (11-12) – a note on the above.

RECOMMENDED (to Council)

6B.2 That, in accordance with UCL Statute 10(1), the Division of Population Health be renamed the Institute of Epidemiology and Healthcare with effect from 1 January 2012.

7 ELECTION OF NON-PROFESSORIAL ACADEMIC STAFF, TEACHING FELLOW STAFF AND NON-ACADEMIC STAFF TO SERVE ON ACADEMIC BOARD IN SESSIONS 2012-13 AND 2013-14

Received

7.1 APPENDIX AB 1/08 (11-12) – a note by the AB officers setting out proposed arrangements for the conduct of the election of non-professorial staff, Teaching Fellow staff, and non-academic staff to serve on AB for sessions 2012-13 and 2013-14, which is scheduled to take place in the Spring Term 2012.

RESOLVED

7.2 That the note at APPENDIX AB 1/08 (11-12) be approved.

8 APPOINTMENTS

Received

8.1 APPENDIX AB 1/09 (11-12) – a list of recent appointments (i) of Vice-Provosts, (ii) of Deans of Faculty, (iii) of Heads of Academic Departments, and (iv) to established Chairs and Readerships tenable at UCL.

9 SENIOR ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS

Received

9.1 APPENDIX AB 1/10 (11-12) – a list of promotions to professorships, effective from 1 October 2011. All those named on the list were, by virtue of their promotion to professor, now *ex officio* members of AB.

10 ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR ON BEHALF OF ACADEMIC BOARD

Noted

10.1 The Chair had taken action on behalf of AB to approve the appointment of Professor Robert Speller to the established Joel Chair of Physics Applied to Medicine.

10A Academic Board Working Groups on Established Chairs and Readerships tenable at UCL

Noted

10A.1 The Chair had taken action on behalf of AB to approve the membership of the AB Working Groups on established Chairs and Readerships tenable at UCL listed at APPENDIX * AB 1/11 (11-12).

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted

11.1 The next meeting of AB was scheduled for **Wednesday 29 February 2012** at 4.00pm in the Darwin Lecture Theatre.

JASON CLARKE
Director of Academic Support
xii/2011

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