



## Council

Thursday 9 December 2021, 9:30am

Video-conferencing meeting via Zoom

## Minutes

### Present Members:

Mr Victor Chu CBE (Chair); Mr Ayman Benmati; Professor Stephanie Bird; Professor Jonathan Butterworth; Dr Alun Coker; Dr Martin Fry; Dr Andrew Gould; Mr Turlogh O'Brien CBE; Professor Helen Roberts; Professor Ralf Schoepfer; Lord Sharkey; Dr Michael Spence; Mr Philip Sturrock MBE; Mr Osman Teklies; Dr Justin Turner QC; Baroness Valentine.

### Apologies:

Mr Dominic Blakemore  
Ms Lindsay Nicholson MBE  
Ms Sarah Whitney

### Attendees:

For Minutes 53-62: Dr Clare Goudy, Chief of Staff, President & Provost's Office  
For Minutes 53-62: Ms Natasha Lewis, General Counsel  
For Minutes 53-62: Ms Fiona Ryland, Vice-President (Operations)  
For Minutes 53-62: Professor Anthony Smith, Vice-Provost (Faculties)  
For Minute 56: Professor Andrew Dick, Director of the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology  
For Minute 56: Ms Rachel Fishwick, Head of Strategic Partnerships for the Faculties of Brain Sciences and Population Health Sciences  
For Minute 56: Ms Charu Gorasia, Chief Financial Officer  
For Minute 56: Mr Martin Greenhalf, UCL Project Director for Oriel  
For Minute 56: Mr Adam Harman, UCL Property  
For Minute 56: Mr Zak Patel, Head of Finance, Capital & Infrastructure Projects  
For Minute 56: Mr Chris Shore, Director, Capital Projects  
For Minute 56: Professor Alan Thompson, Dean, Faculty of Brain Sciences  
For Minute 57: Professor Geraint Rees, Pro-Provost (Academic Planning)

### Observers:

Ms Tania Holt  
Ms Christine Ohuruogu MBE  
For Minute 57: Ms Mariette Davis, Co-opted member of Audit Committee  
For Minute 57: Professor Patrick Haggard, Co-opted member of Finance Committee

**Officer(s):**

Ms Anne Marie O'Mullane, Interim Secretary to Council

Ms Olivia Whiteley, Governance Officer

**Part I: Preliminary Business**

**53. Operation of the Meeting**

53.1. Owing to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible to convene a meeting in person of Council. Therefore, members of Council were participating in a video conference, using tools that enable all members to see and hear each other simultaneously. Decisions would be ratified by Chair's Action after the meeting.

**54. Introduction and Votes of Thanks**

54.1. The Chair of Council welcomed Ms Christine Ohuruogu and Ms Tania Holt as observers to the Council meeting. They would be joining as Council members on 1 January 2022.

54.2. The Chair of Council welcomed Professor Patrick Haggard and Ms Mariette Davis as observers to Item 3, Confidential: Strategic Plan 2022-27.

54.3. The Chair of Council thanked Dr Andrew Gould and Mr Philip Sturrock MBE for their wonderful contribution to Council over their many years of distinguished service as members of Council and Council committees. Their contribution would be celebrated in person at an appropriate point in the future. Dr Andrew Gould and Mr Philip Sturrock MBE advised that it had been a great privilege and honour to be Council members and wished UCL the best of luck for the future.

**55. Declaration of Interests**

55.1. The Chair of Council invited Council members to declare any new interests they may have or any interests they had in the items being considered at the meeting.

55.2. There were no new interests declared.

**Part II: Strategic Items for Discussion**

**56. Confidential: Oriel Full Business Case (3-01)**

56.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

56.2. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

56.3. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**57. Confidential: Strategic Plan 2022-27 (3-02)**

57.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

57.2. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

57.3. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

57.4. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

57.5. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

**58. Nominations to Vice-President and Vice-Provost Selection Panels (3-03)**

58.1. The Chair of Council introduced the paper which proposed a process for appointing Council members to Vice-Provost and Vice-President recruitment panels. This item had been deferred from the last meeting following receipt of late correspondence about the paper.

58.2. The following points were raised in discussion:

- a. The Council member who had written to the Chair of Council about the proposal outlined the changes they wished to have made. Two Council members should be proposed for the appointment of Vice-Presidents and Vice-Provosts, with one of them being an external member of Council and the other a Council member elected by Academic Board. The current phrasing of the proposals had the implication that there was a difference between external Council members and Council members elected by Academic Board. There was a preference for Council members to be treated equally and for there to be a symmetry in nominating both external Council members and Council members elected by Academic Board rather than selecting between an external and internal member of Council. Academic Board had a role to play in the nominating process due to Statute 11(5).
- b. The Chair of Council advised that there were two separate mechanisms for appointment set out in Statute 11(5). The Provost could make a recommendation to Council to appoint a Vice-Provost and Academic Board had their own separate ability to make a recommendation to Council. The Provost had made sure that there was Council participation in the panels as these were Council appointments.
- c. The President and Provost expressed a preference for smaller panels where possible, and also stressed the importance of panels with

appropriate skills and experience. Due to the academic nature of the Vice-Provost role, he deemed it important to have two Council members proposed by the Provost to the panel, to allow for relevant external experience and a member of Council elected by Academic Board to be included. It could be possible to reduce the proposal to one Council member for each recruitment process if that would be preferred.

- d. There was no process in place for Academic Board to make a recommendation for the appointment of a Vice-Provost and it was not clear when or how this would happen. It would be good for the relationship between Academic Board and Council if Academic Board could be involved in the appointment of panels, for example, through endorsement of the nomination to the panel.
- e. The Chair advised that the current proposal enlarged academic input in the selection panel and could be refined in the future if required.

58.3. Council approved the process for appointing Council members to Vice-Provost and Vice-President recruitment panels.

### **Part III: Other Business for Approval or Information**

#### **59. UCL Honours Degree Outcomes Statement 2019/20 (3-04)**

59.1. Council approved the UCL Honours Degree Outcome Statement for 2019/20.

#### **60. Confidential: Action Taken by the Chair Report (3-05)**

60.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

#### **61. Any Other Business**

61.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

61.2. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

61.3. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minutes.

#### **62. Date of the next meeting**

62.1. The date of the next meeting of Council would be 18 February 2022, 09:00am.

Anne Marie O'Mullane  
December 2021