

Joint Meeting of the Councils

UNRESTRICTED Minutes of the virtual meeting held at 2.00p.m. on Thursday 26 January 2023 at Vincent House, Quay Place, Birmingham

Present:

Venerable Randolph Thomas (Chair)
Justin Albert
Siwan Davies
Taya Gibbons
Professor Medwin Hughes
Uzo Iwobi (via teams)
Rowland Jones
Arwel Ellis Owen
Victoria Provis
Vanessa Liverpool (via teams)

Timothy Llewelyn
Dr Conny Matera Rogers
Dr Stuart Robb
Geraint Roberts
Nigel Roberts
Dr Liz Siberry
Emlyn Schiavone (via teams)
Dr Peter Spring
Maria Stedman (via teams)
Deris Williams (via teams)

In attendance:

Sarah Clark, Clerk to Council
Dr Andrew Cornish, Principal, Coleg Sir Gar (via teams)
Professor Elena Rodriguez-Falcon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Professor Dylan Jones, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Iestyn Davies, Pro Vice-Chancellor (for item 22.55)

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)

The meeting was preceded by presentations from the following on current priorities for the academic Institutes:

- Pro Vice-Chancellor Barry Liles, Wales Institute of Science and Art
- Pro Vice-Chancellor Iestyn Davies, Institute of Education and Humanities
- Professor Wendy Dearing, Institute of Management and Health
- Dr Conny Matera-Rogers, Institute of Inner-City Learning

Minute Number	Main discussion points	Action/decision
23.01 Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Dr Kerry Tudor.	
23.02 Declarations of interest	The Councils RECEIVED the Declarations of Interest as noted in the Clerk's report (JCO182).	
23.03 Chair's Report	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the Chair's report (JCO183).</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Timothy Llewelyn to his first meeting as a member of both Councils.</p> <p>The Chair reported that Matthew Peake had resigned as a non-academic staff member of the UWTSD Council in December 2022 and that preparations were underway for an election with the outcome expected by the March 2023 meeting.</p> <p>The Chair reported on his recent visit to a drop-in centre at Blaen y Maes, Swansea and commended the work of the Reaching Wider team of the Marketing Department for its support to the Centre.</p>	
23.04 Vice-Chancellor's report	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the Vice-Chancellor's report (JCO184).</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor referred to the following:</p> <p><u>Commission for Tertiary Education and Research</u> The Chair of the Commission and the Chair of the Research and Innovation Committee had commenced their duties. Work had commenced on the recruitment and appointment of the CEO.</p> <p><u>Institutional modelling</u> The Vice-Chancellor reported that the DVC (Academic) had commenced a review of the University's portfolio and curriculum. She would be focusing on enhancing the offer for 18-year-olds but this would not be to the</p>	

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	<p>detriment of the “missing middle” portfolio. It was expected that position papers would be ready by the end of March.</p> <p><u>National Library for Wales</u> Senior officers of the University had met with those of the National Library of Wales in early January and had developed further the strategic alliance. Discussions had included the potential for establishing digital campuses.</p> <p><u>Confederal structure</u> The formal launch of the Confederal structure was scheduled to be held on 14 February 2023 at the Senedd. Discussions had also taken place with a health trust which was keen to become a confederal partner of the University.</p>	
23.05 Students’ Union report	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the Students’ Union update (JCO185), which had been introduced as a standing agenda item and referred to student experience matters and Students’ Union’s strategic activities.</p> <p>Presenting the report, the Group President noted the need to have access to resources that inspired all those studying at the University regardless of background. She referred to a successful skills week and noted that this would be extended to include the Cardiff campus in future to ensure parity across all campuses.</p> <p>The Carmarthen Campus President reported that her priority campaign had been focussed on student mental health, including the establishment of check-ins and activities focussed on mental health and wellbeing culminating in a Mental health awareness week in May. She also outlined the work undertaken to support students with their cost of living which included a campaign on student accommodation costs. She referred to the recent online article commending the University’s support for students during the cost-of-living crisis.</p> <p>The Councils noted that Deris Williams would commence her role as link governor with the SU shortly.</p>	
23.06 Confederal structure update	<p>The Councils RECEIVED an update on the confederal structure (JCO186).</p> <p>The PVC reported on details for the formal launch of the University of Wales Technical Institutes at the Senedd. He confirmed that work on the curriculum offer was proceeding and that FE partners were engaging effectively with each other and the University in exploring options for future provision.</p> <p>The Councils RECEIVED the minutes of the first meeting of the Confederal Governance Committee held on 26 September 2022 (JCO186a).</p>	

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23.07 Confederal structure - Deed of Association	<p>The Councils CONSIDERED the revised Deed of Association for the Confederal structure (JCO186b).</p> <p>The University Secretary reported that the proposed revisions reflected the decision that UWTSD would be the awarding body in the first instance and hence a party to the Deed. They also incorporated the revised terminology of University of Wales Technical Institutes.</p> <p>The Councils APPROVED the text of the revised Deed of Association, noting that consultation with the FE partners was in progress.</p>	
23.08 Minutes	The Councils APPROVED the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2022 (JCO187).	
23.09 NGC report	The Councils RECEIVED the report of the Nominations and Governance Committee meeting held on 13 January 2023 (JC1088).	
23.10 UWPS Ltd	The Councils APPROVED the recommendation of NGC that the two Universities tender for the appointment of a remunerated Professional Trustee to the Board of UWPS Ltd, with a recommendation for appointment made to NGC and the two Councils at the appropriate time (JCO188a).	
23.11 Declarations of interest	No additional conflicts of interest were noted during the meeting.	
23.12 Date of next meeting	The next scheduled meeting would be held on 30 March 2023.	