

**Academic Committee
Extraordinary Meeting**

Tuesday 3 November 2020 at 11:00am

Minutes**Present Members:**

President and Provost (Chair); Ms Wendy Appleby; Dr Paul Ayris; Mr Ayman Benmati; Professor David Bogle; Professor Stella Bruzzi; Professor Jon Butterworth; Dr Celia Caulcott; Ms Yasmeen Daoud; Mr Ashley Doolan; Professor Piet Eeckhout; Professor Mark Emberton; Dr Julie Evans; Professor Dame Hazel Genn; Dr Hugh Goodacre; Professor Graham Hart; Dr Christine Hoffmann; Professor Arne Hofmann; Professor Christoph Lindner; Ms Blathnaid Mahony; Dr Helen Matthews; Mr Jim Onyemenam; Professor Norbert Pachler; Professor Ivan Parkin; Professor Hynek Pikhart; Professor Geraint Rees; Dr Aeli Roberts; Professor Sue Rogers; Professor Sasha Roseneil; Mr Mike Rowson; Dr Justin Siefker; Professor David Shanks; Dr Hazel Smith; Dr Eleanor Tillett; Professor Olga Thomas; Professor Alan Thompson; Professor Nigel Titchener-Hooker

Attendees:

Dr Clare Goudy, Provost's Office
Ms Anne Marie O'Mullane, Academic Services

Apologies:

Professor David Lomas; Dr Meera Nath Sarin; Dr Ruth Siddall

Officer:

Ms Rachel Port

Part I: Matter for Discussion**1. The Temporary Operating Model for Academic Year 2020-21 (Paper 1-01)**

- 1.1. At the start of the meeting, the Chair thanked members for attending the meeting at short notice. It had been arranged in light of the urgent need to clarify and approve the proposed Temporary Operating Model (TOM) at UCL for Terms 2 and 3 this session so that our staff, students and partners could plan accordingly. The Chair noted that this was the first meeting of Academic Committee (AC) this session and welcomed all members and in particular the

new members.

1.2. Professor Geraint Rees, Pro-Vice-Provost (AI) and Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences, introduced the paper setting out proposals for arrangements for UCL staff and students in Terms 2 and 3 in the academic year 2020-21. The key points made were:

- a. It was acknowledged that the first TOM for Term 1 in 2020-21 session approved by AC at its Special Meeting held in May 2020 had cTJ -2Tw 19.41 0 TOT

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- a. The Provost commended the TOM which was a very thorough and complete piece of work.
- b. The Doctoral School were keen to be involved in work in relation to ECRs.
- c. It was noted that the impact of the past year on ECRs would be that some might not apply for promotion. It was intended that this be picked up in recommendation 15 as various groups would look at the job market for ECRs and feed into academic planning for next session.
- d. In relation to the first two points under the “Teaching and Learning” plans shown on page 2 of the TOM that set out the group and educational activities that might be offered where it was possible and safe to do so, it was noted that they had formed a single point under the previous TOM. While lab based activities were essential for some programmes for example, this point had been separated out to show that there was no uniform delivery of enrichment activities across UCL.
- e. It was considered that the TOM was a very good document and would be appreciated by both staff and students.
- f. In relation to time-limited exams, colleagues in mathematical and physical sciences disciplines were still expecting that those could take place in 2020-21 as they formed an important part of their programmes. Other faculties were also keen on having time-limited exams and it was reported that EdCom would look at an operating model for such exams at its December meeting.
- g. It was suggested that the fact that staff were not required to undertake face to face teaching if they were not comfortable doing so, should be clearly stated in the document. This could also help with consultation with the TUs.
- h. It was noted that the approach remained the same in that staff were not being compelled to come to campus. However, some parts of the institution such as the Biological Services Unit did not have that choice. It was intended that the TOM be phrased in such a way in that it was flexible but recognised that staff groups differed with different responsibilities.
- i. The Provost reaffirmed that staff would not be compelled to come to campus and especially in light of the current national lockdown. However, he had received letters from staff who wished for face to face teaching to continue, and for more to be offered, as students were enjoying it. This was considered to be a mistake currently as UCL had a moral responsibility for students on campus, especially now that they are (1)2w -12.62 (H)6 (o

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