



ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Thursday 21 October 2010

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Professor Michael Worton (Chair)

Provost and President
Mr Bob Allan
Mr David Ashton
Dr Paul Ayris
Professor David Bogle
Ms Sue Bryant
Professor Richard Catlow

Dr Christine Hoffmann
Professor Ian Jacobs
Professor Alan Penn
Ms Mary Rimington
Dr Ruth Siddall
Ms Joan Small
(vice Ms Olga Thomas) J3 Thomas)

1 **TERMS OF REFERENCE, CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP 2010-11**

Received

1.1 At

- 4.6 In order to make up the funding lost, UCL would need to charge a fee of around £8k per annum. The Browne Review, however, had recommended that a levy be imposed on those institutions charging fees above a limit of £6k per annum.
- 4.7 UCL, in common with other institutions, would need to consider a range of possible options in terms of student recruitment and the future composition of its student body.
- 4.8 It had been anticipated that the CSR would announce significant cuts to the science budget and cuts in QR finding of 25% had been predicted, yet, in the event, the cut was 10%. While this was less

5 **REFORM OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE AND ITS SUBSTRUCTURE**

[AC Min.74, 2009-10]

[See also Minute 10A below]

Noted

- 5.1 At its meeting on 24 June 2010, AC received a report summarising the implications of the broader review of the UCL committee system

5.4

Two faculty summaries had noted concerns about the administration of PBIS, but this did not appear to have had an overall adverse effect on student recruitment.

The Common Timetable seemed to be working well and this had not been highlighted by faculties as a problem.

Several summaries noted that External Examiners' reports had highlighted the issue of slow feedback to students, especially delays in the return of marked coursework. This problem should be addressed by the implementation of the service standards approved by AC for provision of feedback. The faculty summaries for 2010-11 would be scrutinised to see whether this had led to an improvement in the situation.

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changes being requested which would require interventions at various points. However, this issue was currently being reviewed.

- 8.3 Mr Gray noted that earlier student registration would also enable rooms to be allocated earlier.
- 8.4 On the issue of student numbers, it was noted that the overshoot this year on undergraduate numbers had been due to a greater number of offers being made in order to achieve recruitment targets and better performance by students in meeting the offer requirements, leading to a higher conversion rate.
- 8.5 AC agreed that the letter from the SLMS Education Board had provided further evidence of the need to ensure that the issue of effective student number planning is addressed as a priority given the implications for UCL's estates and infrastructure and the student higher conversion rate.

9C **Engagement Agreement**

Reported

9C.1 UCL's Engagement Agreement, under the PBIS, had been reviewed.

10 **ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE**

10A **Reform of Academic Committee and its Substructure**

Noted

10A.1 Following consultation with members of AC over the summer, on 27 September 2010, the AC Chair, acting on behalf of the Committee,

32727C 009-04 (1) PBIS, had been (Screen) was undecided PBIS, 27 Sep 2010