

Council

Wednesday 24 February 2021, 8:00am

Video-conferencing meeting via Zoom

Minutes

Present Members:

Mr Victor Chu CBE (Chair); Mr Ayman Benmati; Mr Minto Bhandari; Professor Lucie Clapp; Dr Alun Coker; Professor Annette Dolphin; Dr Martin Fry; Dr Andrew Gould; Ms Lindsay Nicholson MBE; Ms Carol Paige; Professor Helen Roberts; Professor Ralf Schoepfer; Lord Sharkey; Dr Michael Spence; Mr Philip Sturrock; Dr Justin Turner QC; Baroness Valentine; Ms Sarah Whitney.

Attendees:

For Minutes 71-78

For Minutes 71-78: Professor Dame Hazel Genn, Interim Vice-Provost (International & Advancement)

For Minutes 71-78: Mr Phil Harding, Director of Finance & Business Affairs

For Minutes 71-78: Professor David Lomas, Vice-Provost (Health)

For Minutes 71-78: Professor David Price, Vice-Provost (Research)

For Minutes 71-78: Ms Fiona Ryland, Chief Operating Officer (COO)

For Minutes 71-78: Professor Anthony Smith, Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs)

For minute 71-73:

Mr Kevin Argent, Director of Estates Development

Professor Andrew Dick, Director of Institute of Ophthalmology

Ms Rachel Fishwick, Head of Strategic Partnerships for the Faculties of Brain Sciences and Population Health Sciences

Ms Tessa Green CBE (Chair, Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Board)

Mr David Probert (Chief Executive, Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust)

Mr Chris Shore, Director of Estates Development

Professor Alan Thompson, Dean of the Faculty of Brain Sciences

Apologies:

Mr Dominic Blakemore

Officer(s):

Ms Wendy Appleby, Secretary to Council

Ms Olivia Whiteley, Governance Officer

Part I: Preliminary Business

71. Operation of the Meeting

71.1. As a consequence of the 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 enabled all members to see and hear each other simultaneously. Decisions would be ratified by Cha

72. Declaration of Interests

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

72.2. In connection with Item 2, Baroness Valentine declared she was currently Chair of the Heathrow Southern Railway. Aecom had invested in Heathrow Southern Railway. She was a former member of the HS2 Board.

Part II: Strategic Items for Discussion

73. Confidential: Project Oriel (UCL Institute of Ophthalmology/Moorfields Eye Hospital collaboration) Outline Business Case (4-01)

73.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

73.2. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

73.3. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

73.4. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

73.5. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

73.6. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

73.7. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

73.8. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

73.9. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

- e. It was the prerogative of minorities to determine and define what discrimination was for them.
- f. It was absolutely right for Academic Board to discuss academic freedom implications and advise Council accordingly.
- g. The Academic Board Working Group on an Alternative Definition would need to consult with the Jewish communities beyond the academic community.
- h. It was clear from the correspondence that Council received that there needs to be a culture change at UCL. There was discussion about the approach of disseminating numerous items of correspondence to Council.
- i. The evidence of antisemitic behaviour that had been provided to Council had been anecdotal and not reported via the complaints route indicating a need to create an environment to encourage reporting.
- j. Academic Board's consideration of the Working Group Report on the IHRA Definition had also focussed on the need to address antisemitism

thoughtful statement and would be shared with Council.
- k. There was support for marginalised groups to self-define oppression but it was important in that self-
were not infringed. This matter had to be looked at carefully.
- l. There was discussion about the endorsement of the proposed statement. A number of Council members were of the view that the definition formed part of the regulatory environment at UCL. To endorse the statement would fundamentally change the decision taken by Council in November 2019.

- 74.3. Council noted the statement educational and awareness raising tool.

Part III: Other Business for Approval or Information

75. Variation to the Access and Participation Plan (4-03)

- 75.1. Council approved the proposed variation of the Access and Participation Plan for submission to the Office for Students.

76. Action Taken by the Chair (4-04)

- 76.1. Council received a report on an occasion where the Chair of Council took action on behalf of Council between the November 2020 meeting of Council and the February 2021 meeting of Council. The actions taken were as follows:
- 76.2. In accordance with Statute 18, paragraph 16, the Chair took Chair's Action to appoint a Tribunal with the following members:

- a. Chair: Professor Vivek Mudera, Division Director, UCL Division of Surgery and Interventional Science
- b. Council Member: Dr Justin Turner
- c. Member nominated by the Ac .

77. Date of the Next Meeting

- 77.1. The next meeting of Council would take place on Thursday 29 April 2021 at 9:30am.

78. Any Other Business

- 78.1. Exempt from publication, please see confidential minute.

Wendy Appleby
February 2021