

## **AGENDUM 1: Unconfirmed minutes**

The University of Manchester

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Wednesday, 18 January 2017

Present: The Chancellor, Mr Lemn Sissay (in the Chair), The Pro-Chancellor, Mrs Gillian Easson, The President and Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Chair of the Board of Governors, Ms Abigail Shapiro, Dr Adam Ozanne, Mr Alan Clarke, Mr Alan Ferns, Mr Andrew Medd, Mr Andrew Watson, Mrs Ann J Barnes, Dr Arthur Nicholas, Mr Brian Clancy, Mrs Christie Finegan, Mrs Christine Lee-Jones, Mr Christopher J Boyes, Ms Claire Yarwood, Dr Cornelia Wilson, Councillor Mrs Cynthia Dereli, Mrs Danielle George, Mr Danny Goldman, Mr David Cavell, Mr David Ryan, Councillor Dylan Butt, Ms Fiona Campbell, Mr Gareth Lewis, Dr Gianpaolo Vignali, Mr Ilyas Nagdee, Ms Isabelle Perrett, Mr J Peter Wainwright, Dr Janet Webster, Mrs Janet D Pickering, Ms Janine Watson, Professor John Healey, Mr John Schultz, Mr John C McGuire, Professor John R Helliwell, Dr Josie A Beeley, Mr Kabir Ahmed, Dr Kamie Kitmitto, Councillor Kieran Heakin, Miss Laura Hill, Mr Leslie Jones, Dr Liane Smith, Ms Lily Barton, Ms Liz Dempsey, Dr Lucy Smyth, Mr Mark Dunwell, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Matthew Foulkes, Mr Michael Crick, Mr Michael Jayson, Mr Michael Taylor, Canon Michael A Evans, Mr Michael N G Evans, Ms Mumtaz Bashir, Miss Naa Acquah, Mr Nigel Schofield, Dr Paul Mitchell, Professor Paul Mativenga, Dr Paul C Banford, Professor Peter Eccles, Mr Peter J Folkman, Mr Peter J Dickinson, Mr Philip Smith, Mr Robert E Hough, Mr Robin Phillips, Dr Roger Harrison, Mr Roger P Milburn, Dr Ronald E Catlow, Mr Roy B Walters, Ms Roz Webster, Mr Shaun Geaney, Professor Silvia Massini, Ms Sorchia Floyd, Mr Steve Connor, Mrs Susan Lipton, Professor Susan Edwards, Dr Thurai Rahulan, Mr Tim Turvey, Mr Vidar Hjordeng, Dr William Hamilton Craig and Ms Wilma Osuh (84)

In attendance: The Registrar, Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, the Director of Finance and the Deputy Secretary. Dr Jane Ratchford and third year Management and Leisure student, Lucia Banjo attended for Agendum 7.

#### **1 National Honours**

**Reported:** On behalf of the General Assembly, the Chancellor offered his warmest congratulations to those staff members that had received national honours. Two leading individuals from The University of Manchester had been recognised for their achievements, by being named in Her Majesty the Queen's New Year honours list.

Assistant Director of Human Resources Steve Grant had been awarded an MBE for services to unemployed people in Greater Manchester. In 2011, he devised and established The Works, the University's ground-breaking initiative which has supported over 3,000 mostly unemployed local people. It provides training and support to enable them to access temporary and permanent jobs with the University and other employers including the Royal Mail, Greater Manchester Police, Bruntwood and Amazon.

Carol Smart, who was awarded a CBE, is a feminist sociologist and is currently Professor Emerita of Sociology at the University of Manchester. She has a long and distinguished career in sociology and socio-legal studies, and was Co-Director of the Morgan Centre for Research into Everyday Life until she retired in 2014.

## 2. Condolences

**Reported:** That the University had learned of the deaths of a number of members of the University community. Mr John Kershaw passed away before Christmas and was an active member of the General Assembly and Chairman of the Manchester Civic Society. Dr Roger Hall, who died in November, was an alumnus of University, and an elected member of the General Assembly in Category 13. Also, the University learned that Mr Steve Mycio, a member of the Assembly in Category 5, also passed away before Christmas. Steve, was awarded an OBE in 2016 in the Queen's Birthday Honours for voluntary and charitable services to 'health and wellbeing', and was formerly the chairman of Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Before the end of the last calendar year, the University also received news of the death of Professor Robert Haszeldine, OBE and Fellow of the Royal Society. Professor Haszeldine was Principal of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, between 1976 and 1982.

On behalf of the Assembly, the Chancellor offered his condolences to their friends, family and former colleagues.

## 3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016 and accompanying action report.

## 4. Membership of the General Assembly

**Reported:** The Registrar, Secretary and Chief Operating Officer reported that since the January meeting of the General Assembly the following have been appointed or co-opted to membership:

*+ indicates a member re-appointed*

### In category 3

Ms Isabelle Perrett  
Professor Danielle George  
Professor Silvia Massini  
Mr Nick Hillman  
Mr Robin Phillips  
+ Dr Robina Shah  
+ Dr John Stageman  
+ Dr Angela Strank  
+ Mr Gerry Yeung  
+ Mr Paul Lee

### In category 4

Ms Saffa Mir  
Ms Sorchia Floyd  
Mr Ilyas Nagdee

### In category 5

Ms Alison Clark

Mr Nigel Schofield  
Mr Richard Topliss

In category 6  
Ms Joy Sewart

In category 7  
Dr Liane Smith

In category 8  
Councillor Chris Wills  
Councillor Kieran Heakin

In category 9

+ Miss Mumtaz Bashir  
+ Mrs Catherine Barber-Brown  
+ Mr Michael NG Evens  
+ Mr Peter Folkman  
+ Mr Vidar Hjordeng  
+ Mohammed Wakkas Khan  
+ His Honour Judge Tim Mort  
Ms Abigail Shapiro  
Ms Claire Yarwood

In category 10  
+ Dr Paul Banford  
+ Mrs Ann Barnes  
+ Mr Alan Clarke  
Mr Danny Goldman  
Ms Wilma Osuh  
+ Mrs Janet Pickering

In category 11  
+ Professor Paul Mativenga  
Dr Adam Ozanne  
Dr Gianpaolo Vignali

In category 12  
+ Mr Matthew Foulkes  
Mr Saqab Rasul  
Mrs Helen Kreissl  
Mrs Christie Finegan  
Dr Babak Bassirian

In category 13  
Dr Lucy Smyth  
Dr Paul Mitchell  
Dr Roger Hall  
Mr Peter Dickinson  
Mr Shaun Geaney  
Professor Susan Edwards

The current membership of the Assembly is available on line at <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/governance>

## **5. Interim Report from the Nominations Committee**

**Received:** An update on the work of the Nominations Committee from the Pro-Chancellor, Mrs Gillian Easson.

**Reported:**

- (1) That the Nominations Committee is the body responsible for maintaining lay membership of the Board and the General Assembly, and also plays a role in determining the representative composition of the Assembly.
- (2) That the Nominations Committee has several roles and tasks, one of which is to recommend lay members for appointment to the General Assembly. The statutes and ordinances state that they should serve initially for 3 years after which they are eligible for up to a further four 3-year terms, giving a maximum length of service on the General Assembly of 15 years. By way of comparison, members of the Board can normally serve for up to 9 years in 3 year terms. A key factor which the Nominations Committee must take into account when making its recommendations on membership is the formal role of the General Assembly: as stated in the Royal Charter this is to present the University and its achievements to the wider community and to receive the views thereupon from that community. The Committee therefore needs to encourage nominations from a broad range of people in terms of communities and organisations.
- (3) That a full report on the work of the Committee would be provided in June 2017

## **6. Annual financial statements, 2015-16**

**Received:** For information, the University's Annual Financial Statements were provided. A presentation on the University's financial performance and the audited accounts was also made at the meeting by the Director of Finance.

**Reported:**

- (1) The Director of Finance provided a verbal report and presentation at the meeting by way of assisting members in their understanding of the salient features of the audited accounts.
- (2) The Financial Statements had been audited by E&Y LLP in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and the auditors had found that the statements gave a true and fair view of the state of the University finances (and those of its subsidiaries) as at 31 July 2016.
- (3) That the Director of Finance provided an overview of financial performance in the previous year and the key figures from the statements. As the reporting standards had changed within the year, this included a focus on underlying performance.
- (4) That the significant risks and uncertainties included pensions, tuition fees and student recruitment, capital inflation, the impact of Brexit, investment performance and research funding.

- (5) That the external environment was financially challenging for all in HE but especially the Russell Group. There was a need to generate financial headroom to deliver student experience and research aspirations as laid out in Manchester 2020.
- (6) That in the medium term the University was likely to face growing costs, cuts in income, and greater financial uncertainty. This would require activity to realise opportunities, invest strategically in distance learning, philanthropy, and research grant recovery, and to seek efficiencies, continue to attract international students and provide further income generation through cost savings.

## **7. Annual Report on the work of the University**

**Received:** The President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, reported on the key developments over the year, making reference to the 'Review of the Year' contained within the Financial Statements.

### **Reported:**

- (1) That the President and Vice-Chancellor provided a summary of the University's current position in relation to the strategic plan and a stock-take of progress, details of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, and of the University's future priorities.
- (2) That in terms of the operating environment the President and Vice-Chancellor provided information on Brexit, the split in HE oversight between two government departments, the proposed Higher Education and Research Bill, the introduction of the Teaching Excellence Framework, the Stern Review of Research Excellence Framework, the market for international students and increased global competition.
- (3) That within this, the President and Vice-Chancellor outlined the potential impacts of: Brexit on staff and students, the immediate effect on sterling and therefore the lower costs for international students, the USS pension deficit and the Ministerial announcement of an £2bn p.a. for research and development, and the outcome of the US election.
- (4) That the President and Vice-Chancellor provided an update on the Capital Programme.
- (5) That the President and Vice-Chancellor provided information on the major awards received by the University including:
  - Biomedical Research Centre £28.5m
  - Clinical Research Facility £12.5m
  - Wellcome Trust Cell Matrix Centre £5m
  - Cancer Research UK "major centre" £42m
  - EPSRC 2D Materials for Next Generation Healthcare Technologies' £5.2m
  - AstraZeneca Clinical bioinformatics to deliver personalised healthcare for cancer patients £11.5m
  - DfID International Development £3.1m

Also reported were major achievements including the award of the European City of Science for Manchester, ESOF, which raised £3.6m and the award of a 2<sup>nd</sup> Regius Professorship for the University in Materials

**8. Question and Answer Session**

**Reported:** This item provided an opportunity for members to ask questions on any aspect of the University's work.

**9. The Manchester Advantage Project: Stellify**

**Received:** In this presentation, Dr Jane Ratchford, Director of Manchester Leadership Programme, Careers and Employability Division, within the Directorate for the Student Experience, and members of her team provided a presentation on Stellify, the University's package of extra- and co-curricular activities that guides students to develop the distinctive attributes of a University of Manchester graduate. As part of this presentation, third year Management and Leisure student Lucia Banjo gave a presentation on her experience of the project.

**10. Date of next meeting of the General Assembly**

**Reported:** That the next meeting of the General Assembly would be held on Wednesday, 21 June 2017 at 3.00 pm.

**11. Summation and close**

**Reported:** That the Chancellor expressed thanks to all the presenters and to the General Assembly members in attendance for the contribution they had made to the meeting.