A meeting of the Council was held in Room 201, The Carrington Building, on Monday 5 July 2010 at 2.15pm.

Present: The President
The Vice-President
The Treasurer
The Vice-Chancellor
The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Professor T A Downes)
The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor R L Robson)
The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor C M Williams)
Mr T Bartlam
Ms S Brennan
Mr R Buller
Mrs H Dominick
Mr R Dwyer
Professor R H Ellis
Mr R E R Evans
Mr J D Fishburn
Professor S Hawker
Dr J C F Hayward
Dr A M Hodge
Professor P M Leopold
Professor S J Mithen
Dr I Mueller-Harvey
Mr H W A Palmer
Councillor F Pugh
Dr A P Reed
Sir John Sunderland
Professor S F Walker
Dr J D Wilkins

The University Secretary

In attendance: The Director of Academic Services
The Director of Estates and Facilities Management
The Director of Finance and Corporate Services
The Director of Student Services

Apologies were received from Professor Berry, Professor Bones, Mr Gilchrist, Professor Pemberton, Councillor Swaddle, Mr Walsh and the Director of External Affairs.

The President welcomed Councillor Fred Pugh, Representative of Reading Borough Council, to his first meeting of the Council.

The President reported the deaths of the following:
Dr C. Bell: Christopher Bell had been appointed as a post-doctoral Research Assistant within the Department of Meteorology in January 2009. He had died on 20 June 2010 as the result of a road traffic accident.

Emeritus Professor A.G.N. Flew. Antony Flew had been appointed Professor of Philosophy in May 1973 and had retired in 1982.

Dr J.G.W. Jones: John Jones had been appointed Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Agriculture in 1970. He had been accorded the personal title of Senior Lecturer in 1975 and had retired in 1995.

Mr M.G. Newmarch: Mick Newmarch, formerly Chief Executive Officer of Prudential plc, had served as a lay member of the Council and of the Strategy and Finance Committee until March 2008.

10/34 The minutes (10/15-10/29) of the meeting held on 19 March 2010 were confirmed and signed.

Arising on these and earlier Minutes:

Minute 09/48: Report of the meeting of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 12 October 2009 relating to items for discussion and decision

* The Council received a copy of a written response dated 17 March 2010 from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor to questions raised by Dr Mueller-Harvey at the meeting of the Council on 26 November 2009 in respect of the managerial and financial arrangements applying to self-financing centres.

Minute 10/26: Edited Report of the Restructuring Committee established in respect of the School of Health and Social Care

* The Council received a written response dated June 2010 from the Director of Human Resources to questions raised by Dr Mueller-Harvey at the meeting of the Council on 19 March 2010 in respect of the equality impact assessments (EIAs) relating to the School of Health and Social Care and the School of Continuing Education.

10/35 Membership of the Council

(a) It was reported that Councillor Fred Pugh had been appointed as representative of Reading Borough Council to the University Council in Class 2 to serve for the municipal year 2010-11 (vice Councillor Peter Jones);

(b) It was reported that following the Students’ Union elections the following were to be members of the Council and alternates in Class 9 for 2010-11:
Members:

Ms Jess Lazarczyk  President
Mr Tommy Gilchrist  Vice-President (Academic Affairs)

Alternates:

Ms Eve Nicol  Vice-President (Student Activities)
Ms Nes Cazimoglu  Vice-President (Democracy and Campaigns)

10/36 Report of the Strategy and Finance Committee

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 7 June 2010 relating to items for report.

In regard to item 2, Monitoring of the Corporate Plan 2008-13, Mr Buller asked whether recent changes to the University’s Enterprise targets represented a fundamental shift in the University’s approach to the commercialisation of its research. Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Williams) explained that the targets had evolved from a narrower base in line with a developing Enterprise Strategy which now placed emphasis on every aspect of the University’s relationship with a commercial partner and not just on the licensing of discoveries or the creation of spin-outs.

10/37 Report of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on the Personal Title of Professor, Reader and Senior Lecturer

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on the Personal Title of Professor, Reader and Senior Lecturer held on 30 April 2010.

10/38 Report of the Careers Advisory Board (Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2009)

* The Council received the Report of the Careers Advisory Board (Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2009).

10/39 List of Meetings for 2010-11

The Council received the final version of the List of Meetings for 2010-11.

The Council noted that its meetings in 2010-11 had been scheduled as follows:

Friday 26 November 2010 at 2.15pm
Friday 28 January 2011 at 2.15pm
Resolved:

“That the following reports, now submitted, be received:

(1) Report of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 7 June 2010 relating to items for report;

(2) Report of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on the Personal Title of Professor, Reader and Senior Lecturer;

(3) Report of the Careers Advisory Board (Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2009)

(4) List of Meetings for 2010-11.”

10/40 Documents sealed and to be sealed

The Council received a list of documents sealed and to be sealed.

Resolved:

“That the Council approve the action taken by the Officers and Members in affixing the University Seal to documents sealed since the last Ordinary Meeting of the Council and authorise the Seal of the University to be affixed to the documents to be sealed as now reported.”

Items for Discussion and Decision

10/41 Report of the Vice-Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor explained that it was not yet possible to divine the effects on individual institutions of the public spending cuts recently announced in an Emergency Budget. For now, there existed the possibility that universities could lose up to one-quarter of their public funding over a five-year period, but more detailed information awaited the announcement on 20 October 2010 of the outcomes of a Comprehensive Spending Review. Nonetheless, rumours abounded as to the future shape and scale of the higher education sector, and the coming years would clearly be difficult to negotiate. The Browne Review of Student Fees was not now expected to confine itself to matters of funding alone and two further reviews, recently announced, of pay and of pensions in the public sector would have an inevitable bearing on higher education. In consequence of cuts already imposed, the University had recently seen its HEFCE grant for the year ending 31 July 2010 reduced by some £137k; and, despite the intended announcement on 20 July 2010 of the University’s HEFCE grant for the year
ending 31 July 2011, a mismatch between the University’s financial year and that of HEFCE introduced a further measure of unpredictability.

Against this uncertain background, the Vice-Chancellor spoke from personal experience of the unfortunate reputation that UK higher education appeared to be earning abroad for being a system perceived as in crisis. He had taken every opportunity to urge colleagues within the University to remain positive if a self-fulfilling prophecy were not to ensue. The University’s capital programme continued apace and a number of revenue-raising initiatives were under active consideration.

In response to a question from Mr Evans, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor explained that the savings expected to accrue from the present reshaping exercise had put the University broadly on course to recover the shortfalls that had been identified in the most recently approved set of Financial Forecasts, but no more. Between £8m and £9m was expected to have been saved by 31 July 2012 and there remained an ambition to accelerate progress by means of early retirement and voluntary severance arrangements.

Resolved:

“That the Report of the Vice-Chancellor, now submitted, be approved.”

10/42 Reports of the Strategy and Finance Committee

* The Council received reports from the meeting of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 7 June 2010 relating to items for discussion and decision:

In regard to item 4(a), Reshaping of the University, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, as Chairman of the Project Board for the Reshaping of the University, explained to the Council the means by which the present recommendations relating to the Department of Film, Theatre & Television and to the Department of Classics had come about and the overall context in which they were being made. It had proved possible within the Faculty of Arts and Humanities to achieve not only appropriate research concentration but also the bulk of the cost savings required by not replacing staff who were leaving or due to retire. In two areas where this was not the case, an initial proposal that the University withdraw from research in Film had been refined in discussion with the relevant School into a recommendation that there be a reduction of two Academic Staff (one in Television and one in Film) in the Department of Film, Theatre & Television; and a proposal that there be a reduction of two Academic Staff in the Department of Classics to enable greater focus on core research areas had already been met in part by the impending early retirement of a member of that Department.

The President of the Students’ Union enquired as to whether the University had modified in any way its practice in regard to consultation with affected staff and their representatives. In explaining that it had not, the Deputy Vice-
Chancellor drew a necessary distinction between informal dialogue and formal Consultation as required by employment law. The latter was consequent upon any resolution of the Council that there be a reduction in the numbers of Academic Staff; and the refinement of the proposals relating to the Department of Film, Theatre & Television provided, in his view, a positive and practical example of what could be achieved by the former. Dr Mueller-Harvey reminded the Council that the University and College Union (UCU) continued to disagree with the University over the timing of formal Consultation to the extent that it had initiated proceedings in the Employment Tribunal arising from the process followed on earlier occasions in respect of the School of Health and Social Care and the School of Continuing Education. Mr Dwyer, as Chairman of the standing Restructuring Committee, noted that formal Consultation with the recognised Trades Unions in respect of earlier resolutions of the Council was well underway and suggested that the negotiation of a significant relaxation in the timetable that had originally been proposed offered ample scope for meaningful discussion. In response to a question from Dr Wilkins as to whether the costs of reshaping would be met in full by the moderation funding provided by HEFCE for the purpose, the Director of Finance and Corporate Services undertook to assess the position definitively at the end of the financial year and to report to the Council accordingly. In summary, the President reiterated the collective view of the Council that the current reshaping agenda was a pressing one and that, accordingly, the University should proceed in an expeditious manner consistent with due process so as to minimise uncertainty for those most closely affected.

In regard to item 4(b), Financial Report: April 2010, the Director of Finance and Corporate Services commented that the disappointing forecast outturn for the year ending 31 July 2010 had shown no sign of improvement as at the end of May. The Treasurer noted that this projected deficit served only to depress the baseline from which the University must ultimately recover its financial position.

In regard to item 4(c), University Budget 2010-11, the Council noted that, for an interim period, direct financial control of the Henley Business School had been placed in the hands of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and the Director of Finance and Corporate Services who would be working with the Dean and his successor to restore normal arrangements as soon as practicable. Further, a re-shaping review of the School of Management had recently been set in train. Sir John Sunderland observed that the financial model for the Henley Business School, especially in regard to executive education, was more volatile than many to which the University had been accustomed and expressed confidence that the position would in due course be recovered. In other areas, the Director of Finance and Corporate Services explained that a requirement to save a further £1m in 2010-11 would almost certainly be insufficient; that an imminent increase in the rate of VAT would add some £1.2m to the University’s costs in a full year; and that increased pressure on the University’s cash position suggested a need to draw back from those capital projects to which an irrevocable commitment had yet to be made.
In regard to item 4(d), Interim Financial Forecasts 2010-11 to 2014-15, the Director of Finance and Corporate Services explained that the additional short-term loan facility of REDACTED S.43 to which reference was made related mainly to the second phase of the Halls Development Programme. Mr Fishburn asked that a statement setting out the levels of indebtedness into which the University had entered over time be provided to a future meeting.

In regard to item 4(f), Halls Accommodation Project; Second Interim Report, the Council noted a timetable whereby it would be possible to identify a ‘preferred partner’ from amongst the three shortlisted bidders by early autumn. Meanwhile, the University itself retained the re-financing risk attaching to the Project.

In regard to item 4(i), Annual Report on Health and Safety Performance 2009-10, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Williams) reported that recent HASMAP indicators had proved useful in highlighting a need to strengthen the University’s arrangements in certain areas, most notably through the inclusion of the Deans of the Faculties in membership of the Health and Safety Committee ex officio. In response to questions from Dr Wilkins and Mr Evans, Professor Williams noted that the uneven occurrence of RIDDOR reportable events throughout the year was replicated across the sector.

In his capacity as the member of the Council appointed to oversee, challenge and ensure the robustness of the University’s health and safety governance arrangements, Mr Dwyer suggested that, despite not achieving the HASMAP scores for which it had hoped, the University had continued to make steady progress. Varying levels of resourcing and of commitment were apparent across the University but Mr Dwyer particularly welcomed the initiative of the Vice-Chancellor in addressing concerns directly to Heads of School and Directorate and in the more active participation of the Deans of the Faculties in the management of health and safety. He commended the small and highly professional team within Health and Safety Services and welcomed the development of new policies, especially in those areas perceived as being of higher risk. In a number of areas, roles and responsibilities remained to be clarified but, overall, the University’s approach appeared stronger and it had grown better able to demonstrate its compliance with statutory requirements. It remained for the Council, as the responsible body, to render more explicit its implicit assumptions in regard to the strategic dimensions of health and safety.

Resolved:

"1. That, with reference to item 4(a) Reshaping the University,

(a) within the Department of Film, Theatre & Television there be a reduction of two Academic Staff (one in Film and one in Television) and that, in consequence, the matter be remitted to the standing Restructuring Committee established in line with Statute XXXIII Part II and the University’s Review and
Restructuring Policy, with a view to the reduction taking effect by 31 July 2012; and

(b) within the Department of Classics there be a reduction of one in the Academic Staff and that, in consequence, the matter be remitted to the standing Restructuring Committee established in line with Statute XXXIII Part II and the University’s Review and Restructuring Policy, with a view to the reduction taking effect by 31 July 2012;”

“2. That, with reference to item 4(b) the Financial Report: April 2010, now submitted, be received;”

“3. That, with reference to item 4(c) the University Budget 2010-11, now submitted, be provisionally approved;”

“4. That, with reference to item 4(d) a report on the Interim Financial Forecasts 2010-11 to 2014-15, now submitted, be received;”

“5. That, with reference to item 4(e) the Financial Regulations, now submitted, be approved;”

“6. That, with reference to item 4(f) the Halls Accommodation Project; Second Interim Report, now submitted, be received;”

“7. That, with reference to item 4(g) the Analysis of Research Grants and Contracts: FQ3 2009-10, now submitted, be received;”

“8. That, with reference to item 4(h) the paper on Major Capital Projects, now submitted, be received;”


10/43 Report of the Support Services Policy Committee

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Support Services Policy Committee held on 14 June 2010.

The Committee intended henceforth to consider issues thematically and would, at its next meeting, focus on the Employability Project. The President noted that value for money in the provision of support services would be a recurrent theme in the months and years ahead. The Vice-Chancellor was pleased to report that the University had secured a provisional allocation from HEFCE of £300k per annum for each of the next five years in respect of the Museum of English Rural Life.
Resolved:

“That the Report of the meeting of the Support Services Policy Committee held on 14 June 2010, now submitted, be approved.”

10/44 Report of the Appointments Committee

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Appointments Committee held on 26 April 2010.

The Vice-Chancellor explained that he, together with those members appointed by the Council to the Board of Trustees of the College of Estate Management (Professor T.A. Downes, Professor V.A. Gibson and Professor R.L. Robson), had resigned in concert with effect from 1 March 2010. In a situation in which the Board had deemed the bulk of its business to be commercially confidential, the University-appointed Trustees had found themselves repeatedly excluded from full participation in its work and thus prevented from properly discharging their statutory responsibilities. The University and the College now appeared to be set on divergent paths, the financial consequences of which were likely to be broadly neutral from the University’s perspective.

Resolved:

“1. That, with reference to item 2, Dr P. Erskine be appointed to membership of the Council in Class 3 (vice Mr P. Walsh) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013.”

“2. That, with reference to item 3,

Mr P.J.K. Haslehurst be appointed to membership of the Court in the category Industrial and Commercial Partners;

Mr P. Walsh and Dr J.D. Wilkins be appointed to membership of the Court in the category Former Members of the Council of the University”.

“3. That, with reference to item 4(a),

(i) Mr R. Buller and Professor S. Hawker be re-appointed to the Strategy and Finance Committee for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(ii) Mr R. Buller be re-appointed to the Appointments Committee for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(iii) Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Williams) be appointed to the Appointments Committee (vice Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Berry)) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2012;
(iv) Councillor P. Swaddle be appointed to the Support Services Policy Committee (vice Dr J.D. Wilkins) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2012;

(v) Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Robson) be re-appointed to the Support Services Policy Committee for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2014;

(vi) Mr S.P. Sherman be appointed to the Audit Committee (vice Dr A.P. Reed) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(vii) Dr A.P. Reed be appointed to the Remuneration Committee (vice Mr R. Buller) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(viii) Dr J.D. Wilkins be re-appointed to the Standing Disciplinary Committee for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(ix) Dr A.P. Reed be re-appointed as an alternate member of the Standing Disciplinary Committee for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(x) Mr R. Buller be re-appointed to the Disciplinary Appeals Committee for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(xi) Mr T. Bartlam be appointed as a substitute member of the Disciplinary Appeals Committee (vice Dr J.D. Wilkins) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2012 and Professor S. Hawker be re-appointed as a substitute member of that Committee for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(xii) Professor S. Hawker be appointed to the panel from which the Chair of either a Tribunal or a Grievance Committee is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII (vice Dr J.D. Wilkins) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(xiii) Mr S.P. Sherman be appointed to the panel from which the membership of a Tribunal is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII (vice Professor S. Hawker) and re-appoint Mr R. Buller to that panel each for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(xiv) Sir John Sunderland be appointed to the panel from which membership of a Grievance Committee is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII (vice Dr J.D. Wilkins) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2011 and Mr R. Buller and Dr A.P. Reed be re-appointed to that panel each for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;
(xv) Dr P. Erskine be appointed, subject to his being appointed to the Council, to the panel from which the membership of an Appeal Body is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII (vice Dr J.D. Wilkins) and Mr R. Buller be re-appointed to that panel each for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(xvi) Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mithen) be appointed to the Joint University/UCU Committee (vice Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Robson) for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2014;

(xvii) Mr R. Buller be re-appointed to the Board of Directors of the University of Reading Science and Technology Centre Ltd for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013;

(xviii) Dr G.P. Botting be re-appointed to the Research Ethics Committee for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013.”

“3. That, with reference to item 4(b), no steps be taken to fill vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the College of Estate Management.”

“4. That the Report of the meeting of the Appointments Committee held on 26 April 2010, now submitted, be approved.”

10/45 Report of the Audit Committee

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 3 June 2010.

Resolved:

“That the Report of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 3 June 2010, now submitted, be approved.”

10/46 Report of the Remuneration Committee

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Remuneration Committee held on 15 June 2010.

Dr Wilkins suggested that the Statement of the University’s Remuneration Policy as prepared by the Committee related as much to process as to policy and suggested that these elements be disaggregated at the next iteration.

Resolved:

“1. That, with reference to item 2, Terms of Reference of the Remuneration Committee, the requirement:
“To consider and decide upon the terms of any severance or early retirement arrangements for any senior staff of the University and to report to the Strategy and Finance Committee and Council on any such arrangement”

be amended to read:

“To consider and decide upon the terms of any severance or early retirement arrangements for any senior staff of the University and to report to the Council on any such arrangement”

“2. That, with reference to item 3, the Statement of the University’s Remuneration Policy, be adopted.”

“3. That the Report of the meeting of the Remuneration Committee held on 15 June 2010, now submitted, be approved.”

10/47 Report of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees held on 7 June 2010.

The President reminded that Council that the information contained within the Report should be regarded as strictly confidential until such time as the proposed recipients had accepted the University’s invitation.

Resolved:

“That the Report of the meeting of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees held on 7 June 2010, now submitted, be approved.”

10/48 Report of the Senate

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Senate held on 24 June 2010.

In response to a question relating to the proposed alteration to Ordinance II (Matriculation), the University Secretary assured Dr Hodge that the University had in place a policy setting out its responsibilities towards those under eighteen years of age.

Resolved:

“1. That, with reference to item 1:
Professor S.D. Green be appointed Head of the School of Construction Management and Engineering for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2014

Dr M.D.E. Fellowes be appointed Head of the School of Biological Sciences for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2014.”

“2. That, with reference to item 2, under the provisions of Ordinance XXIV the title of Professor Emeritus be conferred on the following with effect from 1 October 2010”

Professor F.A. Bisby  
Professor S.I. Edwards  
Professor P. John  
Professor M. King  
Professor P.M. Leopold  
Professor D.S. Mottram  
Professor J. Pemberton (1 August 2010)  
Professor T. Rehman.”

“3. That, with reference to item 3, the following members of the Academic Staff who are retiring early be accorded the title of Honorary Fellow from 1 October 2010 (unless otherwise stated) until their normal retirement date:

Mrs A. Beasley  
Dr R.D. Brigden  
Mrs J. Davies  
Mrs S. Gainey (30 June 2010)  
Mr L. Honour  
Dr S. O’Leary  
Mrs L. Rogers (30 June 2010)  
Mr I.M. Sainsbury  
Mr D. Shepherd  
Dr A. Taylor (31 July 2010).”

“4. That, with reference to item 4, the following be accorded the title of Visiting Professor:

Dr P. Cooper, School of Agriculture, Policy and Development, for the period to 30 September 2013

Professor L. Eden, Henley Business School, for the period to 30 April 2013

Professor S. Eliot, School of Arts, English and Communication Design, for a further period to 30 April 2013

Professor D. Ezra, Centre for Advanced Microscopy, for a further period to 31 March 2013
Professor S. Hopper, School of Biological Sciences, for a further period to 28 February 2013

Professor F.H. Kohnke, School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy, for the period to 31 March 2013

Professor D.J. Midmore, School of Biological Sciences, for the period to 31 March 2013

Professor A. Moffat, School of Human and Environmental Sciences, for a further period to 30 September 2013

Professor A. Naylor, School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy, for a further period to 30 April 2013

Dr C. Nicklin, School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy, for the period to 31 March 2013

Dr G. Siligardi, School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy, for the period to 31 March 2013

Dr D. Swords, ICMA Centre, for the period to 31 March 2013.”

“5. That, with reference to item 5, Dr E. Guilyardi, Senior Research Fellow, School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, be accorded the title of Professor with effect from 1 October 2010 for such time as he holds appointment in Research Grade 9.”

“6. That, with reference to item 6, the following alterations to Ordinances be approved:

(a) an alteration to Ordinance II (Matriculation) to exclude reference to a minimum age at which students are permitted to matriculate;

(b) alterations to Ordinance V (Degrees of Master and Doctor awarded by Thesis), to:

(i) remove the provision for the award of LLM in respect of a thesis submitted for a PhD; and

(ii) specify that a student registering for a higher degree by research shall initially be registered for the degree of PhD and, in due course, be subject to a formal assessment of progress, the outcome of which shall be either the confirmation of a student as ‘PhD’, the assignment of their registration to ‘MPhil’ or the referral of the student to the procedures set out in Ordinance XVII;

(c) alterations to Ordinance XLV (University Board for Teaching and Learning) to specify a revised membership of the Board;
(d) an alteration to the heading of Ordinance LV (Degrees of Master (Postgraduate)) which, by deleting the parenthetical reference to ‘Postgraduate’, would remove the implication that some Masters degrees are not postgraduate awards;

(e) alterations to Ordinance LV (Degrees of Master (Postgraduate)), Ordinance LVI (Degree of Master of Philosophy (awarded by Examination)), Ordinance LXI (Postgraduate Diplomas) and Ordinance LXII (Postgraduate Certificates), which would make formal provision for re-examinees on taught postgraduate programmes to be eligible for classifications of Distinction and Merit; and

(f) alterations to Ordinance XLVI (University Board for Research) to provide for the replacement of the University Board for Research with a University Board for Research and Innovation.”

“7. That, with reference to item 7, a revised Code of Practice on Intellectual Property, Commercial Exploitation and Financial Benefits be approved.”

“8. That, with reference to item 8, the University Information Framework 2010-14 be approved.”

“9. That, with reference to item 9, a revised Acquisition and Disposal Policy for the Object Collections of the Museum of English Rural Life be approved.”

“10. That, with reference to item 10, the transfer of a collection of metamorphic rocks to the University of Oxford in accordance with the University’s Collections Acquisition and Disposal Policy, be approved.”

“11. That the Report of the meeting of the Senate held on 24 June 2010, now submitted, be approved.”

10/49 Interim Report of the standing Restructuring Committee

* The Council received the Interim Report of the standing Restructuring Committee.

As Chairman of the Committee, Mr Dwyer reported that extensive formal Consultation had taken place since the Interim Report was drafted and that this was continuing. As one consequence of agreed adjustments to the proposed timetable, the Committee would not now be in a position to report to the Council until 25 March 2011. As a member of the Committee, Mrs Scott spoke of her disappointment at the prolonged nature of the process and of her regret at so extensive a period of uncertainty for the staff affected.

Resolved:
“That the Interim Report of the standing Restructuring Committee, now submitted, be approved.”

10/50 Report of the Students’ Union Liaison Committee

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Students’ Union Liaison Committee held on 28 May 2010.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor welcomed the further development of synergies between the University and the Students’ Union; and the Council congratulated Ms Brennan on an excellent achievement in the national Evaluation Initiative which had independently adjudged RUSU to be amongst the top-performing Students’ Unions in the country. A re-modelling of the Students’ Union Constitution had come about as one consequence of the Charities Act 2006 and the resulting document had been reviewed by the University Secretary to his satisfaction.

Resolved:

“That the Report of the meeting of the Students’ Union Liaison Committee held on 28 May 2010, now submitted, be approved.”

10/51 Vacation Powers

Resolved:

“That authority be given to the President, the Treasurer and the Vice-Chancellor to act on behalf of the Council during the Long Vacation 2010 and that a report on the exercise on that authority be submitted to the next meeting.”

10/52 Council: Retirements and completion of periods of service

The Council noted that the following were to complete their periods of office before its next meeting:

Class 1: Professor D C Berry as Pro-Vice-Chancellor
Class 2: Councillor P M Jones
Class 3: Mr P Walsh
Dr J D Wilkins
Class 4: Professor C J Bones, Dean
Professor S Mithen as Dean
Professor J Pemberton, Dean
Class 5: Professor P M Leopold
Class 9: President of the Students’ Union: Sinead Brennan

Resolved:
“That the Council places on record its appreciation to those who are completing their periods of service and extends to them its good wishes for the future.”