Council

14/32 A meeting of the Council was held in Room 201, Carrington Building on Monday 14 July 2014 at 2.15pm.

Present: The President
The Vice-Presidents (Mr R Dwyer, Ms S M Woodman)
The Vice-Chancellor
The Deputy Vice-Chancellor
The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor S J Mithen)
The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor G Brooks)

Mr T Bartlam
Dr B Cosh
Ms S Davies
Mrs B Edwards
Professor R H Ellis
Dr P Erskine
Mr R E R Evans
Dame Moira Gibb
Mr S Hawker

Mr M Kelleher
Professor I Mueller-Harvey
Mr H W A Palmer
Dr P R Preston
Mr S C C Pryce
Mr S Sherman
Mr I P Smith
Professor G H Tucker

The University Secretary

In attendance:
The Chief Operating Officer
The Head of University Administration
The Director of Finance

By invitation: Ms T Corless
Ms N Harper
Dr D Gillham, Director of Research and Enterprise (for Minutes 14/32 to 14/42 only)
Mrs J Rowe, Employment Solicitor (for Minutes 14/32 to 14/43 only)

Apologies were received from Professor Board, Professor Marston, Sir John Sunderland, Mrs Webber and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Williams).

The President welcomed Ms Natalie Harper, President-elect of the Students’ Union and Ms Tilly Corless, Welfare Officer-elect of the Students’ Union, who were both attending by invitation.
The President reported the deaths of:

**Emeritus Professor David Beever** who had been appointed Professor of Animal Production in 1992 and had retired in 2004.

**Sir William Benyon** who had served as a member of the Council from 1966 to 2000 and had remained a member of the Court until the time of his death.

**Dr Michael Brock** who had served as a member of the Council from 1978 and had been its Vice-President from 1982 to 1986.

**Emeritus Professor Peter Dunn** who had been appointed Professor of Engineering Science in 1965 and had retired in 1992.

**Emeritus Professor Andrew Gilbert** who had been appointed Lecturer in Chemistry in 1965 and had retired as Professor of Photochemistry in 2002.

**Miss Gloria Goldman** who had joined the staff of the University in 1967, had been appointed Director of the Careers Advisory Service in 1984 and had retired in 1990.

**Mr Alan Harrison** who had joined the staff of the University in 1953 and had retired as Reader in Agricultural Economics and Management in 1991.

**Emeritus Professor Sir James Holt**, historian of the first fifty years of this University, who had been Professor of History from 1966 to 1978 and had served as Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Social Sciences from 1972 until 1976.

**Emeritus Professor Rob Potter** who had been appointed Professor of Geography in 2003 and had retired in 2013.

**Professor Alan Rugman** who had re-joined the University as Professor of International Business and Strategy within the Henley Business School in 2008 and who had been Head of International Business and Strategy at the time of his death.

**Dr John Sutton** who had joined the staff of the University in 1992 and had retired as Principal Research Fellow in Agriculture in 2002.

**Emeritus Professor Alan Wild** who had joined the staff of the University in 1944, had served as Dean of the Faculty of Science from 1981 until 1984 and had retired as Professor of Soil Science in 1989.

14/33 The minutes (14/18-14/31) of the meeting held on 24 March 2014 were confirmed and signed.

14/34 Birthday Honours 2014 (Item 2(a))

It was reported that the following appointments had been made in the
Birthday Honours List:

Knight Bachelor – Dr Michael Dixon, Director of the Natural History Museum and a member of the University Court, for services to museums.

CBE – Professor Alastair Adair, Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Ulster and a graduate (PhD Land Management, 1992) of this University.

CBE – Dr Christie Peacock, a graduate (BSc Agriculture, 1980; PhD, 1984) and an honorary graduate (HonDSc, 2011) of this University, for services to agricultural development in Africa.

OBE – John Simpson, formerly Chief Editor of the Oxford English Dictionary and a graduate of this University (MA Medieval Studies, 1976), for services to literature.

14/35 Membership of the Council: Class 5 (Item 2(b))

It was reported that, in a recent election for one member of the Academic Staff to serve on the Council, Dr Orla Kennedy had been elected to serve for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

14/36 Membership of the Council: Class 6 (Item 2(c))

It was reported that in a recent election for one member of the staff of the University not being a member of the Academic Staff to serve on the Council, Mrs Maureen Martin had been elected to serve for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

14/37 Membership of the Council: Class 8 (Item 2(d))

It was reported that consequent upon the Students’ Union elections the following were to be members of the Council and alternates in Class 8 for 2014-15:

Members:

Ms Natalie Harper    President
Ms Tilly Corless    Welfare Officer

Alternates:

Ms Chloe Bartlett    Community and Development Officer
Mr Charlie Holman    Student Representation Officer.

14/38 Report of the Strategy and Finance Committee (Item 2(e))
* The Council received the Report of the meeting of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 16 June 2014 relating to items for report.
List of Meetings for 2014-15 (Item 2(f))

* The Council received the final version of the List of Meetings for 2014-15 enclosed for the information of members.

As noted therein, meetings of the Council next Session were to take place as follows:

- Friday 21 November 2014 at 2.15pm
- Friday 23 January 2015 at 10.30am
- Monday 23 March 2015 at 2.15pm preceded by a meeting of the Court in the morning
- Monday 13 July 2015 at 2.15pm

Resolved:

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

(1) Report of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 16 June 2014 relating to items for report;
(2) List of Meetings for 2014-15.

Documents sealed and to be sealed (Item 2(g))

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.”

Report of the Vice-Chancellor (Item 3)

The Vice-Chancellor reported:

(a) an improvement in the numbers of those accepting the University’s offers of admission notwithstanding some reduction in undergraduate applications; there were some pressure points where demand and availability of places were not well matched. It was believed that the acceptance success could be attributed to a number of factors, not least a focussed publicity campaign, an increased digital presence and the efforts of all those who had contributed to the recent Open Days. Further Open Days were scheduled for September and October;

(b) the encouraging position in regard to research income which could be expected to benefit further from the identification of additional research domains within the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Science which were designed to strengthen the distinctiveness of what Reading had to offer to the funders of research. For now, the University appeared to be on target to meet, or even to exceed, the ambitious target for research income that it had set itself for the year ending 31 July 2014. Further, it had received informal notification of the success of its bid to the HEFCE Catalyst Fund for the establishment of an Institute for Environmental
Analytics which stood to derive even greater benefit from an aspiration to be part of a consortium hosting a Centre for Agricultural Informatics;

(c) the success of Professor Matthew Almond in being named as a National Teaching Fellow and the establishment within the University of the FLAIR framework which had been accredited by the Higher Education Academy and represented a significant step for the training and further professional development of those involved with teaching and learning. Technology-enabled learning continued to be embedded apace within the curriculum and the University was taking stock of the outstanding success enjoyed by its Massive Open On-line Courses (MOOCs);

(d) the publication of the University’s Estates Strategy which was made available to members, acceptance of which by HEFCE had ensured that the University now satisfied the requirements of the Capital Investment Framework (CIF2);

(e) a number of significant changes that were imminently to take place, including the appointment of Dr Cosh as Dean of the Faculty of Science in succession to Professor Marston who was to take up the post of Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Northumbria; the arrival from the Universities of Exeter and Nottingham respectively of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Van de Noort) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Mr Raimo); the appointment of a new Head of Fundraising; and the reform of the structure of the academic year which would facilitate inter alia an improved Welcome Week and the introduction of an Enrichment Week to introduce students to activities beyond the curriculum;

(f) the launch of a China Scholarship Programme, being just one of a number of tangible manifestations of the University’s increased focus on activity in that part of the world. At the invitation of the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor then made a presentation to the Council (copy inserted in Minute Book) on progress towards the physical establishment of the University of Reading Malaysia. In his capacity as Provost-elect, Professor Downes described developments to date, explained the means by which various hindrances were being overcome and set out a detailed timeline for the future. Recent setbacks to the construction programme had, for the most part, been addressed and it was intended that the Strategy and Finance Committee should continue closely to monitor both capital and operational risk by means of a report to each of its meetings for the foreseeable future.

Mr Hawker noted a discrepancy between figures quoted by Professor Downes and those contained within the Budget for 2014-15; and the Director of Finance confirmed that there existed the potential for a corresponding £1m of adverse pressure to bear upon the latter. Moreover, while the revised (and lower) financial projections for the University of Reading Malaysia were tabled and noted, the Council would wish to see steps taken in the medium-term to restore the originally forecast performance. Mr Dwyer commented that variations to the original business plan were to be expected, and the Council was reassured that any costs arising from the consequences of delay to the delivery of the building should be borne by the developer.

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

14/42 Reports of the Strategy and Finance Committee (Item 4)

The Council received reports of the meeting of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 16 June 2014 relating to items for discussion and decision.

In regard to item 4(a), the Science and Innovation Park, the Chief Operating Office explained that further work had been carried out regarding the demand for the space offered by the Park, the costs of the first three buildings on site, and branding considerations. Subject only to a Resolution of the Council to proceed, the Strategy and Finance Committee had established a wholly owned subsidiary company to oversee the venture.

As Chairman of the Investments Committee, Mr Evans assured the Council that his Committee had subjected the matter to careful review and that, although some risks inevitably remained, he was satisfied that these were risks worth taking. In response to an observation from Mr Palmer regarding the proposed commercial name for the venture, the Chief Operating Officer referred to market perceptions and drew attention to the sub-branding that was to be adopted – Thames Valley Science Park: a University of Reading campus.

In regard to item 4(b), the Financial Report: April 2014, the Director of Finance confirmed that the forecast operating surplus for the Academic Group for the year ending 31 July 2014 remained at £0.2m and that the forecast outturn for the overall University Group of approximately £24m included the proceeds from a number of land and property disposals and accommodated some £7m of the costs of the Efficiency and Effectiveness Programme. In response to a question from Mr Hawker, the Vice-Chancellor confirmed that the financial performance of the Henley Business School remained under close scrutiny and that some fundamental remodelling of activity had been set in train. As Chairman of the Henley Strategy Board, Dr Erskine offered the view that present indications were encouraging.

In regard to item 4(c), the University Budget 2014-15, the Director of Finance explained that the Forecasts incorporated the activities of the University of Reading Malaysia as known at the time of compilation together with the costs of the Science and Innovation Park and the establishment of a School of Architecture. Heavy reliance had been placed on realising the savings that it was intended should accrue from the Efficiency and Effectiveness Programme and the President noted that this was one of several transitional features. In the context of a strong, and strengthening, balance sheet it was noted that the proceeds from the sales of land at Shinfield did not appear within the Budget as prepared for the purposes of submission to HEFCE since these were assets of the National Institute for Research in Dairying (NIRD) Trust of which the University was sole Trustee and beneficiary.

In regard to item 4(d), the Financial Forecasts 2013-14 to 2017-18, the Director of Finance explained that the Forecasts made provision for an increased level of employers’ contribution to the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS). It was noted that the University Group was forecast to post deficits in the financial years ending 31 July 2015 and 13 July 2016 but to return surpluses thereafter and the President again referred to a number of transitional factors that were in play. In response to a question from Mr Hawker, the Vice-Chancellor explained that
the intended establishment of a Reading-China College awaited a decision from the Chinese Ministry of Education towards the end of 2014. If successful, this initiative promised to underpin the scale of recruitment of undergraduate students from China into the University, a longer-term benefit that would follow the incurring of near-term costs.

In regard to item 4(e) and (f), the University Strategy, the Vice-Chancellor emphasised the importance of seeing the Efficiency and Effectiveness Programme within the broader context of the University’s long-term strategic ambitions and aspirations. Good progress had been made with a number of the elements of the Programme and decisions would be required in the Autumn Term on emerging proposals as to how the University might better organise itself administratively. Mr Pryce stressed the fundamental importance of measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) across the full spread of the Strategy.

In regard to item 4(g), the Annual Report on Health and Safety Performance 2013-14, Mr Dwyer, as the member of the Council with particular oversight of health and safety matters, commented that significant progress had been made during the years that he had held this brief but that there remained room for improvement in the level of engagement being exhibited by different parts of the University towards the implementation of recommendations arising from the health and safety audit programme.

Resolved:

“That:

(a) in regard to the Science and Innovation Park

(i) the work that had been done to establish the commercial viability of the Science and Innovation Park be noted;
(ii) the planned commercial name for the venture as being ‘Thames Valley Science Park’ with a sub-brand of ‘a University of Reading campus’ be noted;
(iii) the overall Project be approved and the Project Team proceed with the next stage of development of the Project by initiating detailed design of the Gateway Building and associated infrastructure with a view to obtaining detailed planning consent in due course; and
(iv) the establishment of a Thames Valley Science Park Company which would report regularly to the Investments Committee in the first instance and comprise:

The Chief Operating Officer (Chair)
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mithen)
The Director of Estates and Facilities
The Director of Finance and Corporate Services

be approved.”

(b) the Financial Report for April 2014 now submitted, be received;

(c) the University Budget 2014-15, now submitted, be approved;

(d) the Financial Forecasts 2013-14 to 2017-18, now submitted, be approved;
(e) the paper on the University Strategy: Update on Activity, now submitted be received;

(f) the paper on the Efficiency and Effectiveness Programme, now submitted be received;

(g) the Annual Report on Health and Safety Performance 2013-14, now submitted, be received.”

14/43 Reform of the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances (Item 5)

* The Council received an interim report on the Project to reform the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances and agreed to the timetable for approval and implementation that was now proposed.

The President reminded the Council of the background to the Project and encouraged members to follow the example of Mr Palmer by sending any detailed comments they might have on the draft Charter and Ordinances, as now presented, to the Project Manager. Mr Palmer enquired as to the appropriateness of specifying the composition of the Council within the Charter but was advised by the Project Manager this level of detail had been prescribed by the Privy Council. This might be considered further. Mr Hawker suggested that specific treatment be applied to the University’s overseas enterprises and Mr Dwyer, in welcoming the style that had been adopted, considered that the Ordinances had the potential to be a clear and transparent statement of how the University operated and thus lent themselves to routine and regular review.

14/44 Report of the Audit Committee (Item 6)

* The Council received the report of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 12 June 2014.

As its Chairman, Mr Sherman explained that the Committee had defined its role in relation to the Efficiency and Effectiveness Programme and had taken care in so doing to maintain a clear distinction between this and the role of the Strategy and Finance Committee. The better to discharge its responsibilities, the Committee had arranged to receive reports on matters of relevance between formal meetings from the Chief Operating Officer and the Head of Internal Audit Services.

Resolved:

“That the Report of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 12 June 2014, now submitted, be approved.”
The Council received the Report of the meeting of the Appointments Committee held on 23 June 2014.

The President noted that the Committee would be turning in the course of the coming Session to the means by which his successor might be identified and encouraged members of the Council to reflect on the opportunity that would thus arise.

Resolved:

“1. That Sir John Sunderland be re-appointed to the Council in Class 2 for a further and final period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2015;”

“2. That Mr Christopher Fisher be re-appointed to the Council in Class 2, and as President, for a further and final period from 1 August 2015 to 31 July 2016;”

“3. That Associate Professor Simon Dadson be appointed to membership of the Court for the period 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2019;”

“4. That:

(i) Mr T. Bartlam be reappointed to the Strategy and Finance Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 December 2014; that Mr R.E.R. Evans be reappointed to the Strategy and Finance Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017; that Mr H.W.A. Palmer be reappointed to the Strategy and Finance Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 up to 31 July 2017; and that Mr S.P. Sherman be appointed (vice Mr T. Bartlam) to the Strategy and Finance Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2016.

(ii) Mr I.P. Smith be appointed as Chair of the Audit Committee (vice Mr S.P. Sherman) for the period from 1 January to 31 July 2015.

(iii) Mr T. Bartlam be appointed to the Audit Committee (vice Mr S.P. Sherman) for the period from 1 January 2015 up to 31 July 2017.

(iv) Dr P.R. Preston be reappointed to the Audit Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(v) Mr T. Bartlam being a member of the Strategy and Finance Committee other than the President, be reappointed to be in attendance at meetings of the Audit Committee for the period from 1 August to 31 December 2014; and that Mr S.P. Sherman be appointed (vice Mr T. Bartlam) to serve in that capacity for the period from 1 January 2015 to 31 July 2016.

(vi) Ms S.M. Woodman be reappointed to the Appointments Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(vii) Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Brooks) be appointed to the Appointments Committee (vice Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Williams)) for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2015.
(viii) Ms S.M. Woodman, being a Vice-President of the Council, be reappointed to be Chair of the Remuneration Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(ix) Mr R.E.R. Evans be reappointed to be Chair of the Investments Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(x) Mr T. Bartlam be reappointed to the Investments Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 up to 31 July 2017.

(xi) Lord Crisp be appointed to the Standing Disciplinary Appeals Committee (vice a vacancy) for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(xii) Mr T. Bartlam and Mr H.W.A. Palmer be reappointed to the Standing Disciplinary Appeals Committee for the period from 1 August 2014 up to 31 July 2017.

(xiii) Ms S.M. Woodman be reappointed to the Joint Standing Committee of the Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(xiv) Mr H.W.A. Palmer be reappointed to the panel from which the Chair of either a Tribunal or a Grievance Committee is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII for the period from 1 August 2014 up to 31 July 2017; and that Lord Crisp be appointed (vice a vacancy) for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(xv) Dr P.R. Preston and Ms S.M. Woodman be reappointed to the panel from which the membership of a Tribunal is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017; that Mr H.W.A. Palmer be reappointed for the period from 1 August 2014 up to 31 July 2017, and that Lord Crisp be appointed for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(xvi) Mr R.E.R. Evans, Dr P.R. Preston and Ms S.M. Woodman be reappointed to the panel from which the membership of a Grievance Committee is drawn under the terms of statute XXXIII; and that Lord Crisp be appointed (vice a vacancy) for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

(xvii) Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Van de Noort) be appointed to the Joint University/UCU Committee (vice Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mithen)) for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2018.

(xviii) Dr J.C.F. Hayward be reappointed as the ‘independent person’ to investigate and report on complaints from students under paragraph 25 of the Students’ Union Code of Practice for the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2017.

“5. “That the Report of the meeting of the Appointments Committee held on 23 June 2014 be approved.”
14/46 Report of the Student Experience Committee (Item 8) 
* The Council received the Report of the meeting of the Student Experience Committee held on 25 June 2014.

As Chairman, Mr Dwyer reported that his Committee had concerns over an apparent relative fall in the proportion of First and Upper Second Class Degrees awarded by the University and over the level of resource being made available to the Careers, Placement and Experience Centre. Both issues had been remitted to the University for consideration and the Council asked that a further report on these matters be made to its next meeting.

At the invitation of the President, the President of the Students’ Union (Mr Kelleher) reflected on a busy and successful year in office and cited a number of notable achievements. In thanking the Council and the staff of the University for their support, Mr Kelleher urged that no opportunity be lost to engage students as fully as possible with the implementation of the University Strategy.

Resolved:

“That the Report of the meeting of the Student Experience Committee held on 25 June 2014, now submitted, be approved.”

14/47 Report of the Remuneration Committee (Item 9) 
* The Council received the Report of the meeting of the Remuneration Committee held on 23 June 2014.

Resolved:

“That the Report of the meeting of the Remuneration Committee held on 23 June 2014, now submitted, be approved.”

14/48 Report of the Senate (Item 10) 
* The Council received the Report of the meeting of the Senate held on 3 July 2014.

Resolved:

“1. That, with reference to item 1, under the provisions of Ordinance XXIV the title of Professor Emeritus/Emerita be conferred on each of the following with effect from the date indicated:

Professor Viv Edwards (1 August 2014)
Professor Michael Gordon (1 October 2014)
Professor Anna Gruetzner-Robins (1 October 2014)
Professor Sir Brian Hoskins (1 May 2014)
Professor Averil Macdonald (1 August 2014)
Professor Elizabeth Williamson (1 September 2014).
“2. That, with reference to item 3, the following members of the Academic Staff who are retiring, each be accorded the title of Honorary Fellow for a period of five years from 1 October 2014 (unless otherwise stated):

Dr Nicola Bradbury  
Mr Trevor Gibson (1 August 2014)  
Mr Martin Heaps (1 April 2014)  
Dr Alistair Grandison  
Mr Keith Hutchinson  
Mrs Mary Maclean  
Mr Stephen Mika  
Ms Rose-Ann Movsovic  
Miss Pamela Rummings (1 July 2014)  
Mrs Delia Salter  
Dr Demetris Savva  
Mrs Christine Storey (1 August 2014)  
Mr Christopher Wagstaff.

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

Dr Liz Bentley (Royal Meteorological Society), School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, for the period to 31 July 2017;

Professor Dankmar Boehning (University of Southampton), School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, for the period to 31 July 2017;

Professor Marc Brown (MedPharm Ltd), School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy, for a further period to 31 July 2017;

Professor John Clapp (University of Connecticut), Henley Business School, for the period to 31 July 2017;

Professor Malcom Hollis, Henley Business School, for a further period to 31 July 2017;

Professor Dyno Keatinge (World Vegetable Center), School of Agriculture, Policy and Development, for a further period to 31 July 2017;

Professor Margaret Oliver, School of Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Science, for a further period to 31 July 2017;

Dr Stefan Schepers (Senior Advisor to the EU), Henley Business School, for the period to 31 July 2017;

Professor Dame Julia Slingo (Met Office), School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, for a further period to 31 July 2017;

General Sir Rupert Smith, School of Politics, Economics and International Relations, for a further period to 31 March 2017;

Professor Alan Thorpe (ECMWF), School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, for a further period to 31 July 2017;
Professor Enrique ZuaZua (Ikerbasque Research Professor), School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, for the period to 31 July 2017.

“4. That the Report of the meeting of the Senate held on 3 July 2014, now submitted, be approved.”

14/49 Report of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees (Item 11)

* The Council received the Report of the meeting of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees held on 23 June 2014.

The Vice-Chancellor reminded the Council that the information contained within this Report should be regarded as strictly confidential until such time as the proposed recipients had been contacted and 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 23 June 2014, now submitted, be approved.”

14/50 Matters relevant to Statute XXXIII (Item 12)

* The Council received a paper from the University Secretary on matters relevant to Statute XXXIII.

The President joined that University Secretary in thanking those members of the Council who had devoted many hours of their time to these complex matters.

Resolved:

“That a report from the University Secretary on matters relevant to Statute XXXIII, now submitted, be approved.”

14/51 Report of the Restructuring Committee for the National Centre for Language and Literacy (Item 13)

* The Council received the Report of the Restructuring Committee for the National Centre for Language and Literacy.

As Chairman of the Restructuring Committee, Mr Dwyer was pleased to report that this exercise had not resulted in any compulsory redundancies and made particular mention of the support provided by Caroline Bryan, HR Partner.

Resolved:

“That the Report of the Restructuring Committee for the National Centre for Language and Literacy, now submitted, be approved.”
14/52 Use of the Seal (Item 14)

Resolved that:

“1. The Common Seal of the University may be affixed to any document:-
   (a) by specific resolution of the Council or
   (b) which gives effect to any resolution of the Council or
   (c) which is requisite to implement any resolution of the Council
   (d) which, in case of urgency, has been approved in accordance with paragraph 2. below.”

“2. In case of urgency the use of the seal may be approved by two people, one drawn from each of the following categories:-
   (a) The President or a Vice-President; and
   (b) the Chief Operating Officer, the Vice-Chancellor or the Secretary to the Council.”

“3. The seal shall be attested by two people, one drawn from each of the following categories:-
   (a) a member of the Council; and
   (b) a further member of the Council or the Secretary to the Council.”

“4. When necessary verification by initial or signature of amendments or of supporting documents shall be undertaken by an appropriate official before the seal is affixed and attested.”

“5. A seal register shall be maintained in which shall be recorded each use of the seal, the names of the persons attesting the seal and the identity of the resolution of the Council or the urgency decision pursuant to which the seal was used.”

14/53 Vacation Powers

Resolved:

“That authority be given to the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Vice-Chancellor to act on behalf of the Council during the Long Vacation 2014 and that a report on the exercise on that authority be submitted to the next meeting.”
It was reported that the following would complete their periods of office before the next meeting of the Council:

Class 1:  Professor Tony Downes, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
          Professor Christine Williams, Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Class 3:  Professor George Marston

Class 4:  Dr Ben Cosh

Class 5:  Professor Irene Mueller-Harvey

Class 6:  Mrs Breanna Edwards

Class 8:  President of the Students’ Union: Mr Mark Kelleher
          Vice-President of the Students’ Union: Ms Sophie Davies

Secretary: Mr Keith Hodgson.

The President thanked all these members for their many contributions to the work of the Council, referring in conclusion to the University Secretary who would be retiring from the full-time service of the University after thirty-six years. The Council approved the recommendation of the Senate with acclamation.

Resolved:

“That, with reference to item 2 of the Report of the Senate, under the provisions of Ordinance XXIV the title of University Secretary Emeritus be conferred upon Mr Keith Hodgson with effect from 1 August 2014.”