



ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Thursday 2 November 2017

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Provost and President (Chair)

Ms Sarah Al-Aride; Dr Tracey Allen; Ms Wendy Appleby; Dr Simon Banks; Professor David Bogle; Dr Melanie Ehren; Professor Dilly Fung; Dr Arne Hofmann; Dr Christine Hoffmann; Ms Aiysha Qureshi; Professor Jane Rendell; Dr Ali Roberts; Dr Ruth Siddall; Professor Anthony Smith; Dr Hazel Smith; Professor Nigel Titchener-Hooker; Professor Andrea Townsend-Nicholson; Dr Andrew Wills

In attendance: Ms Anne Marie O'Mullane (Minutes) Mr Derfel Owen (Secretary); Ms Karen Barnard

Apologies for absence: Dr Paul Ayris; Dame Nicola Brewer, Dr Celia Caulcott; Ms Anna Douglas; Professor Piet Eeckhout; Dr Julie Evans; Professor Becky Francis; Professor Mary Fulbrook; Dr Clare Goudy, Professor Graham Hart; Professor David Lomas; Dr Helen Matthews; Mr Duncan Palmer Professor Ivan Parkin; Professor Alan Penn; Dr Hynek Pikhart; Professor David Price; Professor David Shanks; Ms Olga Thomas; Professor Alan Thompson; Professor Gabriella Vigliocco.

Key to abbreviations:

AC	Academic Committee
ASER	Annual Student Experience Review
CATE	Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence
DLHE	Destination of Leavers from Higher Education
EdCom	Education Committee

Preliminary business

1. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

[PAPER 1-01, 2017-18]

1.1 Received – AC's terms of reference, constitution and membership for the session 2016-17 for Council's approval at its November meeting.

1.2 The Provost welcomed the following new members to AC:

Ms Sarah Al-Aride
Professor Piet Eeckhout
Ms Aiysha Qureshi

2. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE SUB-COMMITTEES TERMS OF REFERENCE

[PAPER 1-02, 2017-18]

5C Brexit

- 5C.1 A group was currently discussing the impact of Brexit on the regulation of research activity. The Provost gave examples of the impact of Brexit on fellowship recruitment and a consortium application. The Government had not commented on fees for the 2019 EU student entry. It was important to support relevant staff and students: the Brexit support webpage would be updated to reflect that it was a live resource. Responding to the impact of Brexit on Erasmus and exchange arrangements was a priority.

5D Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence (CATE) Award

- 5D.1 The Integrated Engineering Programme was awarded the Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence. This was awarded and funded by the Higher Education Academy. The prize was awarded for excellence in educational leadership, innovation in teaching, teamwork and collaboration, dissemination and impact.

6. AC ANNUAL REPORT TO ACADEMIC BOARD AND COUNCIL

[PAPER 1-03, 2017-18]

- 6.1 Received – an oral update to the paper from Mr Derfel Owen, Director of Academic Services and Secretary to Academic Committee.

RESOLVED

- 6.2 That the AC Annual Report to Academic Board and Council be approved.

7. PRINCIPAL THEME TWO REPORT: VICE-PROVOST (EDUCATION & STUDENT AFFAIRS) ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL

[PAPER 1-04, 2017-18]

- 7.1 Received – an oral introduction to the paper from Professor Anthony Smith, Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs).
- 7.2 The TEF had been the dominant theme in 2016-17. UCL was awarded a TEF Silver. The next stage of the TEF would be subject level review; UCL was already ascertaining how to prepare for this phase.
- 7.3 Council had expressed concern with the inconsistency across departments in survey performance as well as with the year-to-year variations in performance. Council had considered the report and had urged the Vice Provost (Education

- 7.5 AC discussed the report. It was suggested that thought needed to be given on how best to support fractional teaching fellows; this included their career development.
- 7.6 The connected curriculum was being approached by disciplines in different ways; the ASER was now an opportunity for ARENA to understand where each department was positioned in relation to the connected curriculum.
- 7.7 A query was raised on whether the KPI was appropriate for the Objective 6 “Develop a teaching estate that is fit for purpose”. The Vice-Provost explained that there was no specific NSS question that related to the teaching estate. The KPI was treated as a proxy.
- 7.8 The estate needed to be flexible so that it could respond to innovative developments in teaching practice in the future. There was also a discussion on the funding processes for digital learning infrastructure investment and the need to use longer time frame for planning and funding.

8. ANNUAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE REVIEW – UPDATE
[PAPER 1-05, 2017-18]

- 8.1 **8.1** Received – an oral introduction to the paper from Professor Anthony Smith, Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs).

RESOLVED

- 8.2 That changes recently introduced to the AS5ngA-c0E.6n(ng)93 A-c0E.6n(ng)93 A-c0E.0-6()-4t3

- 10.3 Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) results showed an all-time low in unemployment rates for undergraduates, PGT and PGR students. 91% of graduates entered highly skilled work / study (compared to 93% in the previous year). This had led to a decline in our Russell Group positioning for undergraduates and PGRs. PGTs moved from 15th position to 11th position.

14. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS ETC OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

- 14.1 Received - AC Officers received the following sets of minutes since the last meeting of AC:

Education Committee – 13 June 2017

Research Degrees Committee – 20 March 2017, 5 June 2017

Student Experience Committee – 25 May 2017

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 15.1 None.

16. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

- 16.1 The dates of upcoming AC meetings are as follows:

Tuesday 20th February 2018, the Haldane Room, Wilkins Main Building

Thursday 14th June 2018, the Haldane Room, Wilkins Main Building

Thursday 1st November 2018, the Haldane Room, Wilkins Main Building.

DERFEL OWEN

Director of Academic Services and Secretary to Academic Committee

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