

## ACADEMIC BOARD

### Minutes of the meeting held on

**3 JULY 2007**

Present:

Mr J Anderson	Professor F Montgomery
Mr J Cooper	Ms J Parry
Mr A E Dewberry (Secretary)	Professor N Sammells
Mr A Dyson	Professor G Smith
Mr C Elliott	Dr A Thomas
Professor R George	Professor D Timms
Dr T Hill	Professor S Ward
Professor T Middleton	

In attendance: Mr J Brady, Mr D Hamilton, Professor A Davies (QAA)

Unable to attend: Dr P Davies, Dr B Griffin, Professor R Mears, Professor F Morgan

#### **06/34 CHAIR**

In the absence of the Vice Chancellor, Professor D Timms took the Chair.

#### **06/35 MINUTES : 29 MAY 2007**

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2007, which had been circulated, were received as a correct record.

#### **06/36 MATTERS ARISING**

##### **06/29 Resource needs from Annual Reports 2006 / 07**

The Academic Board noted the successful hosting of Blackboard in Amsterdam.

Professor D Timms reminded the Board that the University's shortfall in teaching accommodation was an institution – wide problem.

##### **06/32 OUB : Committee Minutes**

Following discussion, the Academic Board agreed that there should be no further circulation of committee minutes in paper form. The Secretary was requested to establish a Sharepoint folder to which all 'Confirmed' minutes will be submitted.

#### **06/37 2008 RESEARCH ASSESSMENT EXERCISE AND BEYOND**

Professor D Timms referred to Paper D313 describing the University's strategy for the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) and for sustaining a research culture beyond that.

Professor N Sammells expanded on his report and emphasised that BSU income from the RAE is likely to reduce from the current level of £0.5 m per annum. There would be larger sums for fewer prize winners in the latest round since subjects do not lend themselves easily to the funding methodology, e.g. science equipment.

Professor R George reminded the Board of the critical importance of moulding units prior to submission. Mr J Brady stressed the University's commitment to fund all academic staff for a minimum of 35 days per year in pursuit of research and scholarship at a cost to the institution of some £1 m per annum.

The Board noted the significant contribution to creative arts involving part-time practitioners in specialist professions.

Following discussion, the Academic Board:

- a) received Paper D313;
- b) noted the strategy for the RAE 2008 adopted by the Research, Consultancy and Scholarship Committee, and
- c) endorsed the broad strategy for sustaining research and advanced scholarship post – 2008.

#### **06/38 OFSTED PRIMARY INSPECTION 2006 / 07**

Professor D Timms referred to Paper D314 informing the Academic Board of the outcomes of the Ofsted Primary Inspection 2006 / 07.

The Academic Board noted that, by any measure, this report was an extraordinary confirmation of the quality of initial teacher training and Primary education at this University. The strength of praise, the recognition of good practice and the almost complete lack of criticism was exemplary.

Following discussion, the Academic Board:

- a) received Paper D314;
- b) noted the findings of the 2006 / 07 inspection of Primary teacher training, and
- c) congratulated Professors David Timms and Stephen Ward on an outstanding outcome.

#### **06/39 OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

##### **National Teaching Fellowship**

The Academic Board noted with delight the award of the University's fifth NTF for Ms June Bianchi.

#### **06/40 ITEMS FOR RECEIPT**

The Academic Board formally received minutes of the following meetings:

BOG	:	25 April 2007
A&D SB	:	17 May 2007
ED SB	:	16 May 2007
H&CS SB	:	24 May 2007
S&E SB	:	23 May 2007
AQSC	:	7 June 2007
HD (T) C	:	20 June 2007

The meeting closed at 10.05 hrs.

Anthony E Dewberry  
**Secretary**  
17 July 2007