

36 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21 MARCH 2013

Approved:

36.1 The Minutes of the meeting of AC held on 21 March 2013 [AC Mins. 26-35, 21.03.13].

37 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

37A UCL Access Agreement 2014-15 [AC Min.28, 21.03.13]

Noted:

37A.1 The UCL Access Agreement for 2014-15, which was approved by AC at its last meeting, was subsequently submitted to OFFA.

37A.2 The AC Chair was exploring the issue of the misalignment of student accommodation payments with Student Loan Company payments, and would report back to AC in due course.

37B Working Group on GPA [AC Min.33, 21.03.13]

Noted:

37B.1 The final report from the Working Group, including information on the outcome of the GPA modelling exercise, would be submitted to AC at its next meeting.

38 REVIEW OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE AND ITS SUBSTRUCTURE [AC Min.27A, 21.03.13]

Noted:

38.1 At its last meeting, AC noted that discussions were taking place between the AC and other officers regarding the most appropriate structures that could be put in place to fill the two main gaps in the coverage of AC's current committee substructure which had been identified during the AC review *ie*

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Discussion:

- 38.4 AC broadly welcomed the proposals from the AC officers for the establishment of the two new groups, which would redress two deficiencies in the existing structures relating to these two important areas of policy and activity.
- 38.5 The following specific comments were also noted by AC members:
- If Council were to approve the creation of StRAC, then the terms of reference of AC, EdCom and RDC would need to be amended accordingly.
 - It was suggested that the StEF should include representation from (i) the UCL Careers Service and (ii) UCL alumni.
 - AC members were pleased to note that the heads of relevant Professional Services divisions were proposed as members of the new StEF, especially in light of recent issues concerning operations and resources affecting the student experience, especially estates-related issues.
 - Although the proposed membership for both StEF and StRAC included faculty representatives (three Deans and three Faculty Tutors, one from each School), the view was expressed that as each faculty has particular issues which it has to address, all faculties should, therefore, be represented on those groups.
 - It was noted that the Chair of the ASSPSG was the Vice-Provost (Operations) and not the Dean of Students (Academic) as stated at paragraph 10 of the report.
- 38.6 It was agreed that the AC officers would reflect on the points which had been raised and that the Chair would take action on behalf of AC to approve the final proposals for the StRAC and StEF which would be submitted to Council for, respectively, approval and information at its meeting in July.

RESOLVED:

- 38.7 That (i) AC approve the report at [AC 4-19 \(12-13\)](#); (ii) the AC officers review the proposals set out in the report in light of the points raised by AC during its discussion, with a view to the AC Chair taking action on behalf of AC to approve any revisions to those proposals; (iii) the final proposals be submitted to Council at its meeting in July 2013 for approval or information as appropriate.

ACTION: Professor Anthony Smith, Mr Jason Clarke]

opportunity to engage directly with staff and students; and (ii) postdoctoral students across UCL.

- A Placement Manager had been appointed to manage placements for students on the BAsC Programme, as well as PhD student placements. The Manager will also liaise with departments regarding formal and informal placements for their students.
- The hands-on Talent Bank project which was piloted this year and which aims to match jobs to students, and the Grad Club, now in its second year of providing support to UCL alumni, had both received positive feedback.
- There had been a significant increase in the number of users of the Careers Service and its workshops since 2011-12.
- The UCL Careers Service would be re-launched as UCL Careers in September 2013.

Discussion:

- 39.3 AC members noted the serious issue of unpaid internships and were pleased to note that the Careers Service was proactive in ensuring that (i) no unpaid internships were advertised by them, and (ii) all internships paid at least the UK minimum wage (unless they were being offered by a charity or statutory body).
- 39.4 AC members noted that the HESA data at Appendix B of the Lead Officer Report for PG and UG students was captured at different times and agreed that it would be useful to

relating to the report, then these should be sent to the AC Secretary who would refer them on to Mr Wilson for reply.

RESOLVED:

40.5 That AC approve the Lead Officer report on Student Accommodation at AC 4-21 (12-13).

[ACTION: Mr William Wilson, Mr Tim Perry (as Secretary to Council) – to note]

40.6 That AC members send any questions arising from the above report to the AC Secretary for forwarding to the Director of Student Accommodation for reply.

[ACTION: AC members, Mr Jason Clarke]

41 LEAD OFFICER REPORT – STUDENT WELFARE CO-ORDINATION

Noted:

41.1 The Lead Officer report on Student Welfare Co-ordination at AC 4-22 (12-13), introduced by the Dean of Students (Welfare).

Reported

41.2 In her oral report, the Dean of Students (Welfare) noted the following main issues:

- There had been an increase in the number of students registering with, and requesting support from, Student Psychological Services. Due to the annual increase in demand for SPS's services, UCL now had the highest number of students requesting support for mental health out of all UK HEIs, which was not only a major concern, but also becoming increasingly unmanageable. It was noted that most cases seen by SPS related to general anxiety disorders.
- There was still concern regarding the future of the Gower Place Practice, for which the lease was due to expire in 2014 (although students for the 2013-14 session were still being advised to register at the Practice upon arrival). BDC /C2scaa mPoTj Dea7he 0 0 /
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students at SPS, and (ii) the numbers of students seeking SPS support broken down by Faculty, in order to see how UCL could better support students at departmental and faculty level.

RESOLVED: