Dr Martin Davies; Professor Karen Edge; Professor Chamkaur Ghag; Professor Helen Hackett; Professor Stephen Hart; Dr Evangelos Himonides; Dr Arne Hofmann; Professor Heather Jones; Dr Lily Kahn; Professor Susanne Kord; Ms Katherine Koulle; Professor Diana Laurillard; Dr Sandra Leaton Gray; Professor David Lomas; Professor Gesine Manuwald; Professor Charles Marson; Professor Robert Mills; Professor Sarah Mole; Dr Susan Moore; Professor Ruth Morgan; Ms Ema Muk-Pavic; Professor Alexandra Olaya-Castro; Professor Ivan Parkin; Dr Andy Pearce; Professor Sir Michael Pepper; Professor David Price; Dr Carol Rivas; Professor Lorraine Scherr; Professor Mala Shah; Professor Nicola Shelton; Dr Beatrice Sica; Professor Richard Simons; Thushyanthi Sivagnanam; Professor Jolene Skordis-Worrall; Professor Sarah Spurgeon; Dr Tse-Hui The; Professor Alan Thompson; Dr Amy Thornton; Professor Andrea Townsend-Nicholson; Dr Hans Van de Koot; Professor Rosemary Varley; Ms Louise Vink; Professor Sarah Walker; Dr Carla Washbourne; Professor Maria Wyke; Dr Jinghao Xue; Dr Stan Zochowski.

**In attendance:** Dr Clare Goudy, Ms Sandra Hinton, Mr Richard Jackson, Mr Derfel Owen (Secretary), Mr Peter Warwick.

#### **Part I: Preliminary Business**

- 1. Academic Board Terms of Reference 2019-20 (Paper 1-01)
  - 1.1 Noted.
- 2. Constitution and Membership 2019-20 (Paper 1-02)
  - 2.1 Noted. The Chair thanked new members for their participation in AB.
- 3. **Standing Orders** (Paper 1-03)
  - 3.1 Noted.
- 4. Academic Committee Terms of Reference and Constitution (Paper 1-04)
  - 4.1 Noted.
- 5. Governance Committee of Academic Board Terms of Reference (Paper 1-05)
  - 5.1 Noted.
- 6. Commission of Inquiry Terms of Reference (Paper 1-06)
  - 6.1 Noted.

#### 7. Academic Board Minutes

- 7.1 The Minutes of the meeting of AB on 15 May 2019 were confirmed.
- 7.2 The Minutes of the Special Meeting of 20 May 2019 were confirmed subject to the following amendment to Minute 1.7: substitution of the phrase by the phrase had been unwilling to investigate the matter.

## 8. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 8.1 The Chair reported that Professor Georgio Savini had joined the Buildings Naming Group [AB Minute 2, 6 February 2019].
- 8.2 Members queried the accurac
  - [AB Minute 19, 15 May 2019] as it was suggested that this did not reflect the full picture including the fact that individual shortcomings had been identified. The Provost considered that the overall spirit of the minute was accurate in that it reflected s that UCL had not deviated from its constitution in any sustained or intentional way.
- 8.3 Members queried the suggestion [AB Minute 19.4, 15 May 2019] that the would not be made available to the wider UCL community. The Report itself had stated that a decision on that question should be made jointly by UCL and the Petitioner. The Petitioner had subsequently confirmed that his permission to release the report had not been sought. Concerns about the confidentiality of indi3.15 Tm0 g0 Gi6 09a6rF.00BT that que

residences, which incurred additional costs. The Provost would bring a full update to the AB meeting of 12 February 2020.

**ACTION: Provost** 

- 9.5 The Provost reported on a number of cross-faculty developments including the UCL School for the Health of the Public, the Institute of Mathematics and Statistics, and the School of Politics Economics and Public Policy.
- 9.6 It was noted that the Research Excellence Framework (REF), Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF) were all due in 2020-21. Each exercise would represent a significant administrative commitment.
- 9.7 UCL was deTQq0.00000866 0 5008866 0 594.96 842.04 reW\*nBT/F1 12 Tf1 0 0 1 159.38 5

Engineering Sciences, who were Chair and Deputy Chair respectively of the Preventing Sexual Misconduct Strategy Group. Professor Francis introduced the draft policies on which the Group had been working, in the context of the background to this issue both at UCL and across the sector.

- 10.2 A UUK taskforce in 2016 had made a range of recommendations. The Me Too movement had had a significant impact on public discourse and had resulted in increased reporting rates. The issue of sexual misconduct had become a high-profile matter across the sector and had attracted increased media coverage. Against this background the Provost had established the Preventing Sexual Misconduct Strategy Group in September 2017. Since that time the Group had achieved a great deal. Professor Francis also paid tribute to Kelsey Paske and Fiona Ryland for their work in this area.
- 10.3 Both the context and notions of acceptable behaviour were changing rapidly. Other sectors had moved towards a position whereby certain kinds of relationship in the workplace were regarded as inappropriate in the context of positions of trust. UCL needed to clarify to staff and students what was deemed to be unacceptable, and to be seen to take appropriate disciplinary action where necessary. The Personal Relationships Code sought to protect staff and students and to balance the need for collegiality with firm action to mitigate the risks arising in the context of relationships where there was an imbalance of power.
- 10.4 Consultation on the policies had taken place over the last four months. All staff and students e0.0240 0 1 142.04 reW\*3(e)6(n)-3( w)10(o)-3(r0tcad)] TtIF1 008866 0 59

- 10.7 rt for the Personal Relationships Policy was noted, as was the suggestion that in the case of the Sexual Misconduct Policy the membership and powers of the Interim Measures Panel should be revisited by stakeholders, and the outcomes recirculated to AB.
- 10.8 There was some discussion as to whether the document should be returned to stakeholders and should return to AB with consensus on the membership and powers of the Interim Measures Panel, and if so whether this could be done by correspondence given the importance of the work and forward movement. The latter being acknowledged, Professor Francis welcomed further email comments as the first step to this end.
- 10.9 The Provost thanked Professor Francis and her team for carrying out this important piece of work.

## 11. Principal Theme Two Report (Paper 1-08)

- 11.1 The Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs), Professor Anthony Smith, thanked staff for their contributions to the education previous year. Four out of five students had been satisfied with their time at UCL. There was more work to be done but UCL should be proud of this achievement.
- 11.2 In respect of Lecturecast, a group chaired by Dr Andrea Townsend-Nicholson was currently exploring all the options. The discussion had originated from a group of students who had approached Education Committee in 2015 to ask it to explore an opt-out policy, but opt-out was not the only option under consideration. Since that time, many more teaching spaces had been provided with Lecturecast facilities. An all-UCL email consultation was planned, followed by a Town Hall meeting. The Vice-Provost wished to emphasise that Lecturecast would never be used as a performance management tool and would never be used a means to

# Thursday 12 December 2019

(Continuation)

#### **MINUTES**

At the meeting of Wednesday 23 October 2019 Academic Board had agreed to reconvene on a future date in order to consider the remaining items of business for discussion that had been timed out. One of those items had since been subsumed into the Special Meeting scheduled for later on 12 December, by agreement with the member concerned.

#### **Present**

Professor Peter Earley; Professor Karen Edge; Dr Julie Evans; Professor Susan Evans; Professor Tamar Garb; Dr Claire Garnett; Ms Amanda Greene; Dr Andrew Harris; Professor Stephen Hart; Professor Michael Heinrich; Dr Victoria Hilborne;

- 12.3 AB members were invited to give their views on a policy of not flying to domestic and Eurostar destinations as well as to the general direction of travel as indicated in the paper.
- 12.4 The paper received warm overall support. Discussion followed, of which the main points were:
  - a. Whilst expressing full support for the initiative and applauding the vision of a carbon neutral UCL by 2030, members noted that the relationship between conference attendance and career advancement meant that the proposals risked disadvantaging younger academics against their peers elsewhere. The importance of travel in building vital connections with other academics was also noted, as was the need to travel for fieldwork purposes. A change of culture across the sector would be required. Improved awareness of the carbon cost of individual journeys, and the facilitation of opportunities to offset, would be helpful in achieving this.
  - b. It might be possible to ensure that grant applications would seek to demonstrate how offsetting was relevant to the research. Further investigation was requested into whether increased funding for less carbon-heavy but more expensive forms of travel might also be made part of a doctoral studies grant.
  - c. The Department of Physics and Astronomy was currently investigating the use of digital tools with a view to potential investment for a more innovative digital platform. Greater investment in this area would be welcomec(re.)] TJETQq0.0000

- 19.1 Noted.
- 20. Academic Board Working Groups (Paper 1-17)
  - 20.1 Noted.
- 21. AB Membership updates (Paper 1-18)
  - 21.1 Noted.
- 22. Minutes of Academic Committee (Paper 1-19)
  - 22.1 Noted.
- 23. Minutes of GCAB (Paper 1-20)
  - 23.1 Noted.
- 24. Minutes of Council (Paper 1-21)
  - 24.1 Noted.
- 25. Date of next meetings
  - 25.1 <u>Thursday 12 December 2019</u>, 15:00 16:00 in the Christopher Ingold XLG2 Auditorium [Special Meeting].
  - 25.2 <u>Wednesday 12 February 2020</u>, 14:05 16:00 in Cruciform B304 Lecture Theatre 1.

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