

Council

Monday 22 April 2024 at 2:00pm
UCL School of Management, Floor 50, Boardroom, One Canada Square

Minutes

Present Members:

Professor David Attwell; Professor Stephanie Bird; Dominic Blakemore; Roger Blundell; Professor Jon Butterworth; Shaban Chaudhary; Victor Chu CBE (Chair); Phil Clark; Dr Alun Coker; Tina Harris; Tania Holt (until Minute 91); Dr Sandy Leaton Gray; Mary McHarg; Lindsay Nicholson MBE; Turlogh O'Brien CBE; Professor Helen Roberts; Lord Sharkey; Dr Michael Spence; Dr Justin Turner KC; Sarah Whitney.

In attendance:

For minutes 88 – 111: Natasha Lewis, General Counsel; Dr Clare Goudy, Chief of Staff; Aimie Chapple, Vice-President (Operations); Charu Gorasia, Chief Financial Officer

For Minutes 88 – 93: Professor Anthony Smith, Vice-Provost (Faculties)

For Minute 91: Helen Bonneville, Director of Property and Asset Management; Professor Paola Lettieri, Interim Vice-President (Strategy); Tom Porter-Williams, Assistant Director Property & Asset Management; Professor Davide Ravasi, Director of the School of Management; Professor Nigel Titchener-Hooker, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Sciences

For Minute 91 and 92: Zak Patel, Associate Director of Finance – Infrastructure Projects; Prof Geraint Rees, Vice-Provost (Research, Innovation and Global Engagement)

For Minute 92: Petros Antoniou, UCL Estates, Senior Project Manager; Mike Brown, Director Biological Services; Adrien Cooper, Director of Campus Infrastructure and Operations; Professor Stephanie Schorge, Interim Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences

For Minute 93: Professor Stella Bruzzi, Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Humanities; Donna Dalrymple, Chief People Officer; Fiona Naughton, Legal Services; Professor Nigel Titchener-Hooker, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Sciences

For Minute 94: Marie Gallagher, Executive Director Projects, Office of the Vice-President (Operations).

For Minute 95: Professor Parama Chaudhury, Pro-Vice Provost (Education – Student Academic Experience); Sarah Cows, Executive Director of Student Services and Registrar; Katy Redfern, Director of Widening Participation and Student Funding

For Minute 96: Alex Hall, Legal Services Director; Danny Patel, Legal Counsel, Legal Services; Julian Sladdin, Partner (Pinsent Mason).

For Minute 97: Jason Clarke, Assistant Director – Sustainability; Erin Squires, Head of Treasury Management

For Minute 98: Dr Jo Carrington, Executive Director of Health and Safety

Officers:

Natalie Connor, Governance Officer; Anne Marie O'Mullane, Assistant Secretary to Council; David Pacey, University Secretary; Olivia Whiteley, Governance Manager.

Part I: Preliminary Business

88. Declarations of Interest

88.1. The Chair of Council invited Council members to declare any new interests they may have or any interests they had in the items being considered at the meeting. Professor Helen Roberts declared an interest in Item 16.

89. Minutes of the last meetings (5-01 and 5-02)

89.1. Council approved the minutes of the special meeting held on 25 January 2024.

89.2. Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2024.

90. Matters Arising

90.1. No matters arising were identified.

Part II: Strategic Items for Discussion

91. Confidential: Outline Business Case for UCL's School of Management Expansion (5-03)

91.1. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

91.2. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

91.3. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

91.4. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

92. Confidential: UCL BSU Royal Free Hospital Refurbishment (5-04)

92.1. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

92.2. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

92.3. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

93. Confidential: UCL Disciplinary Processes Review (5-05)

93.1. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs.

93.2. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs.

93.3. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs.

94. Provosts Report to Council (5-06)

94.1. Dr Michael Spence, President and Provost introduced the Provost's Report to Council.

94.2. During discussion the following points were made:

- a. There was a discussion about the branding work that was currently underway and was due to report to Council in the Summer Term. Council members noted the strength of UCL's brand logo.
- b. Council noted that the occupation of the Jeremy Bentham Room (JBR) by a group of students, UCL Action for Palestine, had now concluded and that the President and Provost had agreed to meet with the former occupiers. The President and Provost advised that as a place of learning and research, UCL should not take an institutional position on issues. UCL prioritised supporting staff and student community affected by the conflict. The Vice-President (Operations) advised that 23 academics in Palestine had applied through Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA) for placement at UCL but had not been able to leave Palestine due to the conflict. A range of supports were in place to support Palestinian student welfare and a report would be produced for the next Provost's report on this. A significant donation had been received for scholarships to provide financial support to Ukrainian students. At this stage UCL had not received a similar type of donation for Palestinian students –current advice was that this would need to be similarly privately funded in line with the provisions of the Equality Act; work was ongoing to consider how feasible this would be.
- c. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

- d. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.
- e. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of UCL's affairs.

94.3. Council received the Provost's Report to Council.

95. Confidential: Access and Participation Plan Approval (5-07)

- 95.1. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of UCL's affairs.
- 95.2. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of UCL's affairs.
- 95.3. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of UCL's affairs.

96. Confidential: Project Sable (5-08)

- 96.1. Exempt from publication as the item is subject to legal professional privilege.
- 96.2. Exempt from publication as the item is subject to legal professional privilege.
- 96.3. Exempt from publication as the item is subject to legal professional privilege.

97. Sustainability Bond Impact Report (5-09)

- 97.1. Erin Squires, Head of Treasury Management and Sustainable Finance and Jason Clarke, Assistant Director, Sustainability introduced the Sustainability Bond Impact Report. Certification by a third-party assurance provider had been received.
- 97.2. Council noted the principles on which it had been produced and approved the Sustainability Bond Impact Report for publication.

98. Workplace Health and Safety Report (5-10)

- 98.1. Dr Joanna Carrington, Executive Director of Health, introduced the Workplace Health and Safety Report.
- 98.2. A Council member requested that commentary be supplied alongside performance on performance for the review of incidents in a five-day timeframe as this had been repeatedly reported to Council as not met. The Executive Director of Health, advised that a report on this issue was being circulated to Workplace Health and Safety Committee and agreed that

commentary would be supplied alongside the table of performance going forward.

98.3. Council received the Workplace Health and Safety Report.

99. Committee Reports

Audit Committee Report (5-11)

99.1. Council received the Confidential Audit Committee Report.

Estates Committee Report (5-12)

99.2. Council received the Confidential Estates Committee Report.

Finance Committee Report (5-13)

99.3. Council received the Confidential Finance Committee Report.

People Committee Report (5-14)

99.4. Council received the People Committee Report.

100. Appointment of Vice-Chair (5-15)

100.1. Victor Chu CBE, Chair of Council introduced the paper which set out a request to re-elect Dominic Blakemore as Vice-Chair of Council from 1 October 2024 for the remainder of his term of appointment to Council (due to end on 30 September 2027). Dominic Blakemore, Vice-Chair of Council, departed the meeting for the duration of the item.

100.2. Council re-elected Dominic Blakemore as Vice-Chair of Council from 1 October 2024 for the remainder of his term of appointment to Council, due to end on 30 September 2027. Council congratulated the Vice-Chair on his re-election.

Part III: Other Business for Approval or Information

101. Confidential: Forecast 2 (5-16)

101.1. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

102. Academic Committee Annual Report 2022-23 (5-17)

102.1. Council received the Academic Committee Annual Report for the academic session 2022-23.

103. Confidential: Council Effectiveness Review External Consultant Appointment (5-18)

103.1. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

104. SU UCL Financial Statements 2022-23 (5-19)

104.1. Council noted the audited Financial Statements of Students' Union UCL for the year ended 31 July 2023.

105. Annual Assurance – Quality and Standards (5-20)

105.1. Council received the Annual Assurance – Quality and Standards Report and noted the assurance of compliance with the OfS conditions as described.

106. Re-Appointments to Council (5-21)

106.1. Council:

- a. Approved the re-appointment of Tina Harris for a second term to Council from 1 October 2024 until 30 September 2027;
- b. Approved the re-appointment of Tania Holt for a second term to Council from 1 October 2024 until 30 September 2027;
- c. Approved the re-appointment of Turlogh O'Brien CBE for a third term to Council from 1 October 2024 until 30 September 2027.

107. UCL Annual Report for the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers (5-22)

107.1. Council received the annual report for the Concordat to Support Career Development of Researchers.

108. Upcoming Events in 2023-24 (5-23)

108.1. Council received the list of upcoming events in 2023/24, which would continue to be updated throughout the year.

109. To Receive the Following Reports

Historical UCL Sealings (5-24)

109.1. Council received the report on the use of the seal in relation to the historic sealings listed in the paper.

OfS Standing Report (5-25)

109.2. Council received the OfS Standing Report.

Action Taken by the Chair (5-26)

109.3. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the effective conduct of UCL's affairs.

UCL Seal Report (5-27)

109.4. Council received the report on the use of the seal.

Current Litigation Summary (5-28)

109.5. Council received the Current Litigation Summary.

110. To Receive the following Finance Committee Minutes (5-29 and 5-30)

110.1. Council received the confirmed confidential Finance Committee minutes (5-29) from the meeting held on 1 February 2024.

110.2. Council received the confirmed confidential Finance Committee minutes (5-30) from the meeting held on 4 March 2024.

111. Any Other Business

Confidential: Advanced Research Computing Consortium Bid

111.1. Exempt from publication as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of UCL and its partners.

David Pacey, University Secretary
April 2024