

COUNCIL
Thursday 07 July 2022

DRAFT UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Present:

Tim Clement-Jones (Chair)	Professor Colin Bailey	Gil Baldwin
Ken Batty	Professor Alison Blunt	Professor Kavita Datta
Martin Donkin	Celia Gough	Professor Colin Grant
Stella Hall	Isabelle Jenkins	Dr Philippa Lloyd
Maryanne Matthews	Professor Mangala Patel	Dr Alix Pryde
Melissa Tatton	Peter Thompson	

In attendance:

Sheila Gupta	Karen Kröger	Dr Nadine Lewycky
Professor Stephanie Marshall	Dr Molly McPhee [m.2021.073]	Dr Aoife Monks [m.2021.073]
Jonathan Morgan	Rob Tucker	

Apologies:

Professor Yang Hao

Welcome and apologies

2021.069 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the apologies.

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2022 (QM2021/62)

2021.070 Council **confirmed** the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2022.

Matters arising (QM2021/63)

2021.071 Council **received** the matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2022. The following points were noted in the discussion:

External review of Council effectiveness

[a] The Advance HE report was nearly complete and would be considered by Governance Committee ahead of a discussion at the Council meeting in October.

Chair's update (Oral report)

2021.072 The Chair said that a list of his recent activities had been circulated. He had been impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of staff and student volunteers at the Festival of Communities and Undergraduate Open Days, which had been great successes.

Arts and Culture Strategy (Presentation)

2021.073 Council **received** a presentation on the Arts and Culture strategy from Dr Aoife Monks, Arts and Culture Academic Lead. The following points were noted in the discussion:

- [a] Although the team to support the strategy was based in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, it brought together disciplines from across the University. Six impact case studies involving arts and culture in the most recent Research Excellence Framework submission were in the sciences.
- [b] By brokering networks between a variety of organisations, the University became a desirable partner for large organisations, and local and national government bodies, as well as bringing expertise into Queen Mary.
- [c] A funding application to the Andrew Mellon Foundation was being prepared to support work opportunities for students. Partner organisations would benefit from the diverse cultural and disciplinary backgrounds of our students. Work opportunities and careers support in the arts were open to students from all disciplines.
- [d] Queen Mary Arts and Culture had a strong local and international reputation alongside the People's Palace Projects. Our international work allowed us to bring methodologies developed in the global south to arts organisations in London. The Civic University Agreement provided a foundation for building networks with diverse organisations. Queen Mary was regarded as a trust-worthy partner in London with a commitment to the local community.

President and Principal's Report (QM2021/64)

2021.074 *Minute 2021.074 is confidential.*

QMSU President's report (QM2021/65)

2021.075 Council **received** the QMSU President's report. The following points were noted in the discussion:

- [a] QMSU had performed above benchmark in this year's NSS and was the fourth ranked students' union in London.
- [b] The minutes of the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) Review Panel would be submitted to Council under the QMSU President's report starting from the next academic year.

Action: [b] Assistant Registrar (Governance)

Current financial position (QM2021/66)

2021.076 Council **noted** the current financial position.

Finance and Investment Committee minutes (QM2021/67)

2021.077 Council **noted** the Finance and Investment Committee minutes.

Tuition fee regulations 2023–24 (QM2021/68)

2021.078 Council **considered** and approved the University tuition fee regulations 2023–24.

Audit and Risk Committee minutes (QM2021/69)

2021.079 Council **received** the Audit and Risk Committee minutes. The following points were noted in the discussion:

- [a] The Committee had received a presentation from BDO, the newly-appointed external auditors, during which the Committee was informed that the introduction of new accounting rules from next year would result in a fee increase of 15-30%. This had not been included in the tender proposal. Following further discussions between the Chief Financial Officer and BDO it emerged that it was a sector-wide issue. We expected to have greater clarity on next steps by December.

Remuneration Committee report (QM2021/70)

2021.080 Council **considered** the Remuneration Committee report. The following points were noted in the discussion:

- [a] Council commended the Vice-Principal (People, Culture and Inclusion) and her colleagues in the EDI team on achieving a zero bonus pay gap.

Senate report (QM2021/71)

2021.081 Council **noted** the Senate report. The following points were noted in the discussion:

- [a] Senate had discussed externality and academic standards in relation to the work of the Industrial Action Strategic Contingency Group (IASCG).
- [b] The full Senate minutes and the Vice-Principal reports would be shared with Council starting next academic year to support Council's oversight of academic governance.
- [c] The draft admissions policy had been approved by Senate subject to further amendments. The status of the final policy would be confirmed.
- [d] Council asked how the increased academic misconduct workload was being managed. Additional resource had been put into the casework team. Discussions were being held with the Schools and QMSU about the most appropriate approaches to take in different cases.

Action: [c] Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary

Council schedule of business 2022–23 (QM2021/72)

2021.082 Council **considered** the annual schedule of business for 2022–23. The following points were noted in the discussion:

- [a] The proposed deep dive topics for Council and the Committees would be reviewed over the summer and a list created for circulation to Council. Academic assurance and the combined Estates and IT infrastructure plan would be included. Trans rights and trans issues would be considered within the context of the wider EDI policy in relation to LGBTQ+.

Action: [a] Chief Governance Officer and University Secretary

Agenda for the next meeting (QM2021/73)

2021.083 Council **noted** the draft agenda for the meeting on 06 October 2022.

Dates of Meetings 2022–23

- Thursday 06 October 2022, 1600 hours, Rooms 2.16 / 2.17, Department W.
- Thursday 18 November 2022, 1600 hours, Rooms 2.16 / 2.17, Department W.
- Thursday 23 March 2023, 1600 hours, TBC.
- Thursday 18 May 2023, 1600 hours, TBC – part of the residential conference.
- Thursday 06 July 2023, 1600 hours, TBC.