

COUNCIL
Thursday 18 May 2023
CONFIRMED MINUTES

Present:

Lord Clement-Jones (Chair)	Professor Colin Bailey	Gil Baldwin
Ken Batty	Martin Donkin	Celia Gough
Stella Hall	Professor Yang Hao	Indy Hothi
Isabelle Jenkins	Maryanne Matthews	Professor Mangala Patel
Dr Alix Pryde	Adi Sawalha	Melissa Tatton (Vice-Chair)
Peter Thompson		

In attendance:

Dr Bryony Butland [m. 2022.075]	Dr Sharon Ellis	Dr Nadine Lewycky
Jonathan Morgan	Charles Sellar	Professor Wen Wang [m. 2022.074]

Apologies:

Professor Kavita Datta	Patricia Gallan
------------------------	-----------------

Welcome, apologies and declaration of interests

2022.070 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the apologies. No declarations of interest were made.

Chair's update (Oral report)

2022.071 Council **received** an oral update from the Chair. A list of his recent activities had been published as part of the papers.

President and Principal's Report (QM2022/61)

2022.072 *Minute 2022.072 is confidential.*

QMSU President's report (QM2022/62)

2022.073 Council **considered** the QMSU President's report. The following points were noted in the discussion:

Spring elections 2023

[a] Voter turnout for the elections of next year's sabbatical officers was the highest in 10 years, but remained a small proportion of the overall student body. QMSU was continually working to increase voter engagement.

Education awards

- [b] The ceremony for the Education Awards, which celebrate the contributions of staff and students to improving the Queen Mary learning experience, had been held at the Drapers' Hall. Co-hosted by Professor Stephanie Marshall, Vice-Principal (Education) and the QMSU sabbatical officers, there were over 100 staff and students in attendance.

Cost of living

- [c] Data from a cost of living survey across students' unions at Russell Group universities showed that a large number of students were struggling with the cost of living. The high cost of living could impact negatively on student progression as an increasing number of students took up more paid work alongside their full-time studies. Changes to the student loan repayment terms were viewed as a disincentive to entering higher education.

Deep dive presentation on faculty performance (Science and Engineering) (QM2022/63)

2022.074 *Minute 2022.074 is confidential.*

Knowledge Exchange Framework (QM2022/64)

2022.075 Council **considered** an update on knowledge exchange and the University's KEF submission from the Director of Research and Innovation. The following points were noted in the discussion:

- [a] Institutional performance on knowledge exchange was measured through the Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF). The University had performed strongly when benchmarked against our peers. We were in the top 20% of universities for public and community engagement, research partnerships, and IP and commercialisation. We were ranked in the top 40% for working with business and working with the public and third sectors.
- [b] Our current approach to knowledge exchange had three high-level objectives. These were being reviewed and we were considering how this area can focus more closely on the delivery of Strategy 2030 and on embedding impact into all our research activity.

Remuneration Committee report (QM2022/65)

2022.076 *Minute 2022.076 is confidential.*

Governance Committee report (QM2022/66)

2022.077 Council **considered** a report of the Governance Committee meeting on 24 April 2023 and proposed amendments to Ordinance A4. The following points were noted in the discussion:

- [a] Council considered the proposed amendments to Ordinance A4 on the election of staff members onto Council. The amendments were designed to address the potential misconception that elected staff members perform a representative role, as was highlighted in the governance effectiveness review. The proposal to nominate and elect staff members from the widest possible pool, while observing the current balance of academic and

professional services positions, would ensure that we continue to bring onto Council appropriately skilled individuals with diverse perspectives, and maximise the opportunity presented by the election process to raise awareness of the work of Council.

[b] Council asked whether there was a risk under the proposed arrangements of all the staff positions on Council being filled from within one area of the university. The Chair said that Governance Committee would keep this under review and re-examine the process if this occurred. Council **approved** the proposed amendments to Ordinance A4. The University Secretary said that arrangements would be put in place accordingly to fill the existing vacancy for an academic staff member on Council.

[c] Council considered a report from the task and finish group on training and induction for Council and committee members. The report highlighted the significant training opportunities already in place and some quick wins and other initiatives that would be taken forward.

Action [b] Council Secretariat

Minutes of the last meeting (QM2022/67)

2022.078 Council **confirmed** the minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2023.

Matters arising (QM2022/68)

2022.079 Council **noted** the matters arising from the meeting held on 23 March 2023.

Draft agenda for the next meeting (QM2022/69)

2022.080 Council **noted** the draft agenda for the meeting on 06 July 2023.

Dates of Meetings 2022–23

- Thursday 06 July 2023, 1600 hours.