

UET meeting

Tue 21 March 2023, 10:00 - 12:00

Teams/Boardroom

Attendees

UET members

John Vinney (Chair), Jim Andrews, Tim McIntyre-Bhatty, Susie Reynell

In attendance

Jane Forster, Anand Pandyan, Lois Faquharson, Einar Thorsen (Present at: 2.3), Julie Kerr (Minute taking)

Apologies

Sarah Hutchings (Present at: 2.1), Keith Phalp (Present at: 2.3)

Meeting minutes

1. Minutes and Matters arising from the previous meeting held on 14 March 2023

Approval
Chair

Minutes

The Minutes from the previous meeting were approved with no further comments or redactions.

Matters arising

None noted.

2. Finance discussion

Susie Reynell

2.1. Cash flow update

Information
Susie Reynell

SR presented the current position and reported that the February management accounts forecast had now been applied which had resulted in an improvement in the end of year cash balance.

Present: Sarah Hutchings

2.2. Bids for approval

Approval
Susie Reynell

SR reviewed the bids and was content from a finance point of view. On that basis, UET approved the bids going forward:

RED ID: 13534 – “Fabrication of nanostructured Al-Be alloys by applying high-pressure torsion process”, Royal Society – Yi Huang

-RED ID: 13540 – “digital dance platform”, Royal Society (Newton International Fellowships) – PI Hongchuan Yu

-RED ID: 13558 – “ANCHOR: Trustworthy Hybrid Data- and Physics-driven Modelling: Application to Weather-induced Geohazard Assessment and Forecasting”, Horizon Europe – Hamid Bouchachia

-RED ID: 13559 – “Development and production of Ti- based composites by Selective Laser Melting for medical implant applications”, Royal Society – Yi Huang

-RED ID: 13561 – “Redefining metrics to enhance digital advertising effectiveness and consumer wellbeing”, British Academy – PI Janice Denegri-Knott

-RED ID: 13563 – “Synergistic management and quantification of plant stress related response due to nanoplastic by a novel MXenes@MOF-NPs composite using SERS”, Royal Society – Santanu Majumder

-RED ID: 13567 – “Interaction between micro-plastics and environmental pollutants: Studies on exposure, toxicology and health risk assessment”, Royal Society – Iain Green

2.3. Business planning

[Anand Pandyan, Lois Faquharson, Einar Thorsen joined the meeting - Keith Phalp sent his apologies]

SR noted that this was a follow up from the previous business planning meetings and the recent discussion at the ULT meeting in order to agree the budget shape with the faculties. There were some significant changes, especially in terms of a shift in the source of the income within the Faculties. This was an opportunity for the Faculties to give feedback on the changes.

SR reviewed the slides which had been shared with UET and the Executive Deans and the following was noted:

- PGT numbers have been higher than target in recent years
- UG numbers have been lower than target
- This year there has been lower RKE income than planned
- Pay and non-pay have been reforecast for current inflation expectations
- It had agreed at ULT that there were opportunities from efficiencies and performance management

SR reviewed the contribution development figures for the 10 years from 2017/18 to 2027/28 (slide 4) showing the shift in income towards PGT and away from RKE and the trends by department. SR added that the continuation work needed to be overlaid on these figures. These figures were still in draft but should be finalised soon.

As there was likely to be a significant change in the mix of PG/UG/RKE in the coming years as well as increased pay costs and little growth in student numbers overall, it was agreed that performance management across both Faculties and Services would be key to profitability and a focus for all. In this context performance management means the wider context of using all resources to the maximum potential (cost control and efficiency savings) rather than only management of individual performance, although that may also be a factor.

Each Dean must review performance and consider all opportunities to achieve budget through using the current structures to achieve more income including, but not limited to, increasing the number of overseas students and PGs, CPD, RKE, departmental structures and staff costs.

The Deans agreed with the shape of the budgets presented by SR and agreed that it was a fair reflection of the reality and confirmed that there was space for improvement within their departments' performance. [REDACTED]

Present: Anand Pandyan, Lois Faquharson, Einar Thorsen, Keith Phalp

3. Standing item: Board and sub-committee preparation

DW joined the meeting to review the following agendas with UET:

Discussion

Deborah Wakely

FRC meeting - agenda 28 April

- Item 4 - DW confirmed this paper would be discussed before being circulated
- Item 7 - SR noted that this would be a schedule rather than a report and there would be a verbal update
- Item 5 - SR confirmed that the financial dashboard would be included in this item
- SR noted that the draft budget update would be coming to this meeting and would be a schedule rather than a report. DW to add this before item 4 on the agenda.
- Item 19 - JA advised that this should not come under Estates and should be a separate item.

SQS meeting - agenda 27 April

- Item 3 should be one paper. JFo would speak to Russell Pottle on this.
- Item 5 - DW confirmed that there would be a presentation.
- Item 6 - this would come under JA for note only for both reports.
- Item 9 - UET agreed that this would be added to item 3 as an appendix.

4. Talbot Campus Decarbonisation Business Case

UET approved the business case as presented. This would be submitted to FRC and Board for consideration and approval.

Approval

JA

5. Race Equality Chart

UET approved the submitted report. This was for note and would be reviewed at the ULT meeting on 22 March.

6. Standing item: OfS and Government Reporting

Discussion

- Reportable Events

Chair

-The Chair noted that, following submission of the apprenticeship reports to ESFA and OfS, we had received confirmation of receipt from ESFA and were waiting on the OfS.

-JA reported that 'Cyber essentials accreditation' was now mandatory for apprenticeships.

-There were no further reportable events updates

7. Future Meetings and Items

Note

- ULT meeting 22 March
- ULT half-away day 19th April

Chair

Both agendas noted at UET

8. AOB

Chair

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]