

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY

Furness College Syndicate

A meeting of the Furness College Syndicate took place on 30th April 2018 at which the following persons were present:

Senior Members:

Susan Armitage, Ransford Amponsah, Jo Dickinson, Peter Fielding, Andrew Gibson, Olga Gomez-Cash, Kevin Huggett, Rebecca Killick, Beth King, Graham Rand, Simon Taylor Wlodek Tych (Chair) and Taryn Whitford.

Junior Members:

Connie Callon, Jessica Gonzalez-Green, Shannon Mccaul, Becky Smith and Thomas Windrow.

Apologies for absence were received from:

Ruth Alcock, Abby Chamberlain, Martin Ennis, Izzy Medley, Natalie Miller, Richard Popoola, Emily Walklate, Jonathan Weekes and Jean Yates.

FUA/2018/08	<u>Minutes</u> Document: FUA/2018/02/19 The minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2018 were accepted as an accurate record.
FUA/2018/09	<u>Matters Arising</u> There were no matters arising.
FUA/2018/10	<u>College Officer Appointment – College Advisor Team</u> The appointment of Rebecca Killick to the College Advisor Team was approved.
FUA/2018/11	<u>College Officer Appointment – Principal</u> The Principal was asked to leave for the following item. On his behalf, the Vice-Principal asked Syndicate to endorse the recommendation from the Search Committee to re-appoint Dr Wlodek Tych for a third and final term of office. Approval was given and no objections raised.
FUA/2018/12	<u>Senate</u> The Chair highlighted the following points of interest: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• KPIs: Mid-Year Report for 2017-18. Key points include student recruitment and institutional growth in the student population of almost 500 student FTE (16-17: 12,580 fte to 17-18: 13,042 fte). The retention rate % of students progressing from year one to two shows significant improvement if sustained. Related to reputation of the University through league table rankings, the Guardian ranking is due in May and the Times has ranked LU 6th which is up from 9th position. International ranking is due September 2018. The Staff Survey showed 89% of staff recommend the University as a place to work; the next survey will take place in 2018-19.• Other agenda items noted for information were the Intellectual Property strategy, amendments to Statutes and Ordinances, Honorary Degrees, revised arrangements for the conferral of PhDs and Academic appointments.

SCR members noted general concern related to changes of Council membership and Senate with reference to Subtext 176, "The Council can establish and disestablish colleges, faculties and departments, without having to act on a recommendation of the Senate. It must take the Senate's views into account, but it may overrule them."

FUA/2018/13

Reports

a. JCR

The JCR reported examinations are underway. Fortnightly breakfasts are being offered to Furness students as part of the welfare campaigns.

b. Principal

Nothing further to report that has not already been addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

c. Dean

The Assistant Deans reported a significant rise in the fines this term, with noise complaints cited as a main issue. Those not abiding by College Rules and are intending to be Repls could have their applications reconsidered.

d. Senior Advisor

The Senior Advisor gave a report on the Rep recruitment and training, giving thanks to those involved. An overview of the University Case Management System was given and the technical difficulties experienced by the Advisor team following the 365 upgrade were noted. Senior Advisors are in discussions with the Student Registry regarding technical problems with the automatic attendance monitoring system. Anyone experiencing problems are advised report to the ISS Service Desk, Student Registry or through Departments and the College.

e. Accommodation Manager

The Accommodation Manager has produced a Fresher Rep Accommodation brief covering communal living, fire and safety issues, cleaning, help and advice. Aldingham and Colton residences will be redecorated over the summer.

f. College Manager

Furness put forward a new initiative at the College Managers' Meeting (26/04/18) to explore strengthening links between Colleges and academic Departments to create better support and experience for students. Open discussions had taken place with the LEC Teaching Administrator who welcomed the opportunity. College Managers have been invited to a FST UG Forum at the start of the next academic year.

FUA/2018/14

AOB

College Bars. Syndicate pondered the future of campus bars. Despite the changing climate and attitudes towards drinking, the bars still provide a social function for the College. It was felt creative thinking was needed towards the use of the environment, such as Fylde's café/food area, were noted. Roses Weekend. Syndicate wished well to all those taking part in the competition.

FUA/2018/15

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Syndicate will be held at 12.30pm on Monday 18th June 2018 in the TV Room, Furness College.