

Minutes

Title:	Board of Directors EXTRA meeting
Date:	19 April 2021
Time:	16.00
Place:	Zoom

Present:	Prof Janusz Jankowski	Chair of the Board – joined meeting 16.15
	Isabel Nisbet	Vice-Chair of the Board – chair of meeting until 16.15
	Alex Bols	Vice-Chair of the Board
	Raffaella Bush	Board Member
	Gael Dundas	Board Member
	Charles Hindson	Board Member
	Charles Hunt	Board Member/Vice-Chancellor
	David Leppard	Board Member
	Rob McCoy	Board Member
	Jayne Morley	Board Member
	Jeremy Olsen	Board Member
	Carol Reid	Special Advisor
	Richard Salter	Board Member
	Jackie Westaway	Board Member, Vice-Chair elect
In Attendance:	Allan Scott	Clerk to the Board & Company Secretary (Secretary)
	Jo-anne Carlyle	Board Member-designate
	Sharon Potter	Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education)
	Joanna Smith	Finance Director
	Steve Vogel	Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research)

That certain subjects under item 2 contain details of a highly confidential nature and will therefore not be available for public release.

1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Noted: That due to the covid situation, this meeting took place purely by electronic video conferencing.
- 1.2 Noted: That due to IT issues, the Chair of the Board joined later and Isabel Nisbet, Vice-Chair, chaired the meeting for the first 15 minutes.
- 1.3 Noted: That apologies were received from Sean Bonnington, Special Advisor; Richard Eastmond, Board Member-designate; Laura Forrest, Board Member; Prof Raymond Lee, Board Member & Monika Nangia, Board Member-designate.

2. Questions and Answers

- 2.1 Noted: That, due to this section containing certain details of a commercially confidential nature, two sections will not be available for public release.**
- 2.2 Noted: That Board members were requested to send in their questions in writing to the Clerk before the meeting. Some answers were received and sent to Board members beforehand, these are indicated in *italics* below.

Item Restricted due to Commercial Confidentiality

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Staff & Students – Sharon Potter

- How's morale in the student and staff bodies and what are the initiatives being done to address issues raised by the latest student feedback?

See attachments 1-4.

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- 2.10 Noted: That there are issues with staff morale, although sadly inevitable after the biggest staffing project done in UCO's history. The strategy will concentrate on winning trust back among existing staff and harnessing the positivity of those who have benefited from the process. The negativity of the process has probably been compounded by the current isolation of the enforced working from home, when possible, UCO are going to organise a leaving party.

Research – Steve Vogel

- What research is UCO currently doing and how might this develop in future.
- 2.11 Noted: That the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) shared a PowerPoint presentation.
- 2.12 Noted: That current research includes Crying Unsettled and disTressed Infants: Effectiveness Study (CUTIES) randomised controlled trial; Evidence-based practice Attitude and utilization SurVEy (EBASE); Development of the Osteo-TAQ (osteo therapeutic approaches) questionnaire, single case experimental design testing the effect of a online training programme for back pain and UrGEnT – Underrepresented Groups Experiences in Osteopathic training focus groups and survey.
- 2.13 Noted: That UCO are submitting to the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021.
- 2.14 Noted: That future plans include consolidating work into clearer streams of focussed activity developing associated funding applications and enhancing our process for delivering and measuring impact. We aim to conclude negotiations with our partner the University of Bedfordshire for a new doctoral programme leading to application for Research Degree Awarding Powers (RDAP) by 2032.

Clinic

- It would be interesting to know more about our experience with the clinic – who the patients are, what goes well/more challenging, the experience of moving the clinic to BHS after the fire and any concerns (opportunities about opening a clinic in the new location, if the move goes ahead).
- 2.15 Noted: That due to time, this item was not discussed.

How Board can help

- How else are the Board able to help the Executive? Do the latter have all information needed to make timely decisions and how can the Board get up to speed if not?
- 2.16 Noted: That Board members have many different areas of expertise and it is very useful when they contribute their knowledge. It is also helpful for Board members to bear in mind how small the UCO staffing body is and that even small seeming requests can create extra work.

3. Any Other Business

- 3.1 Noted: That the Board wished to put thanks to the Executive for their work towards this meeting and in general on record.
- 3.2 Noted: That the meeting ended at 17.34.