

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF SENATE

Minutes of a meeting held on
Tuesday 13 March 2018

Present:

P Boyle (Chair)

A Abdulla	A Kurz (vice R Heckel)
L Bailey	G Lewis
M Barstow	G Martin
N Chakraborti	D Mattingly
J Challiss	P Monks
J Coleman	P O'Brien
S Davies	J Pan (vice J Chambers)
R Dickinson	J Prados
F Du Bois	M Purnell
A Fry	S Schroll (vice A Clark)
I Forsythe	Z Radnor
I Gillespie	C Taylor
A Goodall	A Wardlaw
R Holland	G Wynn

In attendance: D Hall, M Riddleston, G Green (Secretary), A Petersen (Assistant Secretary), P Brook and S Seaton (UCU) and C Brain (Unite)

Apologies for absence were received from A Clark, J Chambers, S Dudley, A Ellis, L Gibson, M Halliwell, R Heckel, C Hewitt, J Hughes, A Moran, G Nicholls, R Norman, T Robinson, J Scott, A Thomas and K Williams

UNRESERVED (ONLY) BUSINESS

18/M04 **STANDING BUSINESS**

(a) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

(b) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Senate noted that the minutes of the meeting of 7 March would be presented to the Ordinary meeting of Senate on 27 June 2018 for approval.

18/M05 **USS INDUSTRIAL ACTION**

The President and Vice-Chancellor welcomed members to the extraordinary meeting of Senate to consider a motion with regard to the USS Industrial Action.

Senate noted that, since the initial circulation of the motion, the ACAS facilitated talks between UUK and UCU had led to a new set of proposals regarding the future of the

USS pension scheme. The representatives from UCU reported that members of the local UCU branch had been invited to comment and had also met to discuss the proposals. The feedback received indicated that the majority of those consulted did not support the proposals and would therefore support further industrial action.

Senate considered the following motion proposed by A Abdulla and seconded by G Martin. The motion had been drafted in consultation between the Students' Union, UCU and the University:

Senate supports the following statement:

The University of Leicester Senate has voted to support a motion that encourages UUK and UCU to continue their ACAS supported discussions with the aim of achieving a sustainable pension outcome that will be acceptable to both employees and employers. We support the requests from various bodies for a further, independent valuation of the pension scheme, to help allay the concerns that the pension deficit is not as large as implied by some valuations. We would also request assurance that the methodology takes account of USS as a multi-employer scheme. We request that the pensions regulator imposed timetable for a final resolution on the pension decision is delayed to allow these negotiations to be completed.

Senate passed the motion unanimously. Two further votes supporting the motion were cast in absentia. There were no abstentions. Senate noted that the view expressed in the motion would be communicated to Council and to Universities UK on behalf of Senate.

Senate received an update from the Director of Finance regarding the output of the recent negotiations between UUK and UCU.

Senate noted that some local branches of UCU had expressed opposition to the proposals, and that the Union's Higher Education Committee would be meeting shortly to consider whether the proposals should be endorsed.

The President and Vice Chancellor thanked members for attending the exceptional meeting at short notice.