



## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### Notes of a Special Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2015

#### 15/01 Attendance

##### 1.1 Present

Mr J Bateman	Chair
Mrs M Chamberlain	
Mrs O Fielding	
Mrs D Gant	
Professor D Green	Vice Chancellor
Mr W Hudson	
Mr D Iddon	
Mrs A Leonetti	
Dr D McDougall	
Rev'd Dr A Pettersen	
Mrs C Richardson	
Mrs S Speck	
Mrs J Swan	
Dr R Woolley	

##### 1.2 In Attendance

Dr S Clarke	Clerk to the Board Elect
Professor S Greer	Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic)
Ms H Johnstone	Acting Clerk to the Board.

##### 1.3 Apologies

Mr L Arnold  
Mr C Arntzen  
Mr D Dale  
Mrs A Hooper  
Mr Z Padda

#### 15/02 Group Discussion – Review of Progress Against the Strategic Plan 2013-2018

- 2.1 The Chair opened the special meeting of the Board advising that as well as reviewing the University's progress against the current Strategic Plan the majority of the meeting would be dedicated to debate and discussion concerning future challenges and opportunities. The Vice Chancellor provided a short overview on student recruitment for 2015/16 and the University's improvement in the NSS. Members noted that overall satisfaction had improved from 84% in 2011 to 87% in 2015. Members also received a financial summary with provisional end of year results for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015 which showed an income and expenditure surplus of £3.8m. Detailed reports would be made to the Board during the next round of Committee meetings in September.
- 2.2 During the group discussion members discussed what areas the University had excelled in over the last period and which areas needed improvement. Members then consulted in groups to produce a number of 'pitches' for ideas which the University's management could take forward to address some of the areas that the Board felt needed attention. The Board voted that its first priority for the coming session was staff and in particular to reflect and adopt a strategic approach to change and talent management. A detailed report is attached.

**15/03 Membership of the Board**

- 3.1 The Chair reported to the Board that after discussion with members it was clear that there was concern amongst the Board that a significant amount of collective experience had been lost with the retirement in July of four governors including the previous Chair. Members had expressed concern that a historical perspective of the University's development had been lost and with Mr Dale's sabbatical on the grounds of health there was no practising accountant on the Board; the Audit Committee was required to have a member who was financially qualified.
- 3.2 The Chair proposed that the Board should consider inviting Mr John Yelland to join the Board for a period of 2 years. Mr Yelland had previously been a member of the Board from 1994-2007, serving as Chair from 2000 – 2007). The Board received Mr Yelland's c.v. and noted that he was a qualified accountant with his own accountancy practice in the city. Mr Yelland had retained an interest in the University since his retirement from the Board and was a member of the University's College of Fellows. Mr Yelland had agreed in principle to join the Board depending on the Board's approval. Members were advised that Mr Yelland was 76 and therefore, being over 70, the Board had to vote on his appointment. If Mr Yelland's appointment was approved he would serve on the Audit Committee which would satisfy the HEFCE requirement for a member to have a financial qualification.
- 3.3 The Board was asked to vote on the recommendation that Mr Yelland should be co-opted on to the Board for a period of 2 years as of the date of the meeting. The Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

**15/04 Date of Next Meeting**

4.1 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015

..... (Chair)  
..... (Date)