



**Minutes of the meeting of the Academic Board
held at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 22 February 2017
1B27 - Technopark, SE1 6LN**

Present

Pat Bailey (Chair)
Temi Ahmadu
Sodiq Akinbade
Stephen Barber
Craig Barker
Janet Bohrer
Charles Egbu
Gurpreet Jagpal
Janet Jones
Mike Molan
Jenny Owen
Shushma Patel
Lesley Roberts
Tony Roberts
Warren Turner
Shân Wareing

Apologies

Kirsteen Coupar
David Mba
Michael Broadway

In attendance

Sally Skillett-Moore
Joe Kelly
Graeme Maidment
Saranne Weller

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies were noted as above.

2. Declarations of interest

No member declared an interest on any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The committee approved the minutes of the meeting of 2 November 2016.

4. **Matters arising**

It was noted that papers on Managing UK and transnational partnerships (minute 13), and Academic Regulations and Procedures (minute 16), would be brought to the next meeting.

5. **Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Report**

The board discussed the update report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

6. **Student Union Issues**

The SU identified the importance of discipline-based societies, and the potential impact on student retention and student outcomes. Academic Board members were asked to support/encourage the societies in their Schools (including academic staff help in running these, which would be regarded as a Citizenship, Administration, Management and Leadership (CAML) activity under the Academic Framework); the DVC also agreed to flag this with Deans and Directors of Education and Student Experience.

7. **Educational Framework update**

The process and timeline for finalising the LSBU Educational Framework (see paper) was outlined. There was discussion about the level of detail that should be described by the framework, but it was agreed that the graduate attributes should effectively identify the expected outcomes for each course, and that the EPIIC values provide a clear set of themes for these.

8. **Academic portfolio and environment**

The board discussed the update on academic portfolio and environment, and approved the timeline for the procedures. Schools were asked to review their overall package of courses, as well as individual courses.

Timeline:

- Dec. 2016 – Feb. 2017: Annual Course Monitoring (current procedures, including data collection)
- Mar.2017 – Apr. 2017: Schools internally review modules, courses and portfolio
- May 2017: Individual meeting of small panel with each School to review and finalise modules, courses and portfolio

9. **Student attainment**

The Board discussed the Attainment Gap report, and expressed concern about the continuing shortfall in % of 'good honours degrees' (1sts and 2nds) when compared with similar institutions. The Board recommended that students should be provided with greater clarity concerning how their degree

classification is calculated (which may need some revision of the current complexities), and that the 20:80 marks distribution between years 2 and 3 should be reviewed.

10. **Research Structure and Environment presentation**

The board received a presentation on research structure and environment. The key points were:

- The research culture is being strongly promoted through the Professoriate Group, which will include both Professors and Associate Professors.
- Research Centres (major research areas, likely to be identified as such under the Research Excellence Framework (REF), usually located in a single School) and Research Groups (smaller or not yet with significant national profile) are being finalised in discussion with Deans and Directors of Research and Enterprise.
- The Annual University Research Audit (AURA) has been successful in collating much of LSBU's current research data and, together with other data from Symplectic and concerning grants, will be crucial to developing the REF2021 submission; quarterly Research Enterprise and Innovation updates being provided to Deans.

11. **Course validation and information processes**

The board noted the update on course validation and information processes.

12. **Institutional Examiner report**

The board noted the Institutional Examiner report. A report will be brought to the next meeting on how key observations have been taken forward.

13. **Promotions Panel**

The board noted the update on the Promotions Panel, and the appointment of the three Academic Board representatives through Chair's action.

14. **Academic Year Planning Group**

The board noted the report from the Annual Year Planning Group.

15. **Research Ethics**

The board noted the Research Ethics update.

16. **Academic KPIs**

The board noted the report on academic KPIs.

17. **Reports from sub-committees**

The board noted the reports from sub-committees. The board approved the Student Experience Committee's recommendation to appoint the President, LSBU Students' Union to the committee.

18. **Any other business**

There was no other business.

Date of next meeting
2.00 pm, on Wednesday, 26 April 2017

Confirmed as a true record

..... (Chair)