

Minutes of a Meeting of the Major Projects & Investment Committee
held at 10am on Wednesday, 16 December 2015
in the Boardroom, Technopark, London, SE1

Governors Present

Douglas Denham St Pinnock	Chair
Jerry Cope	Chair of Board of Directors
Hilary McCallion (via conference call)	
David Phoenix	Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive
Tony Roberts	Head of Technical Support
Abdi Osman	SU President

Apologies

Kevin McGrath	
Andrea Smith	Chair of Student Council

In attendance

Pat Bailey	Deputy Vice Chancellor
Richard Flatman	Chief Financial Officer
Ian Mehrtens	Chief Operating Officer
James Stevenson	University Secretary and Clerk to the Board of Governors
Joanne Vas	Governance Assistant

Welcome

1. Apologies had been received from Kevin McGrath and Andrea Smith. The Chair reported that this was a special meeting of the Committee to discuss proposals on developing LSBU's further education provision through a partnership with a local college and the creation of an Institute for Professional & Technical Education (IPTE) within the University.
2. The Committee noted that although both projects were related, they were not dependent on each other.

Declarations of interest

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

College partnership & Institute of Professional and Technical Education (IPTE) proposals

College partnership proposal:

4. The Committee discussed in detail the Principles Document relating to Project Maple (paper **MPI.03(15)**). The college's Board of Trustees had agreed the document at a meeting of 15 December 2015. An interim business case would be prepared for the end of January 2016 and final business case by Easter 2016.
5. The Committee noted the main benefits to the college partnership, namely:
 - Geographical location – the college is in both Lambeth and Southwark, thereby providing LSBU with access to both areas;
 - Community engagement – the college has well established local community relations which LSBU can benefit from;
 - Adult education – this is an area in which LSBU would like to increase its presence. The college would, in effect, be LSBU's 'extramural department', delivering a range of relevant courses to the local population and potentially LSBU students.
6. The Committee noted that the intention was for the college to maintain its current status as a separate legal entity and become part of the LSBU group.
7. Although the college had had initial discussions with other potential partners, LSBU was currently the only institution engaged in active discussions. In order to safeguard LSBU's interests, the Committee requested the inclusion of a 12 month exclusivity clause in the Letter of Intent.
8. After due consideration, the Committee granted approval for the due diligence on the college to progress.

IPTE proposal:

9. The Committee discussed the proposal to establish an IPTE to support students following technical or vocational qualifications and Higher Apprenticeships. The Committee noted the Government's increased focus on apprenticeships.

10. The IPTE would provide support for vocational and technical education in four ways:
 - A hub for the administrative requirements;
 - Specific study resources to support Higher Apprenticeship students;
 - Delivery of core skills;
 - Support for gateway activity at level 3 and 4.
11. The Committee noted that Southwark Council are keen to see development of vocational courses and may provide capital funding to support refurbishment of the Passmore building (on the University's campus). Currently the building is disused.
12. The Committee agreed the IPTE proposal in principle and requested an outline business case at the next meeting.
13. The planned implementation date for both proposals, if approved, would be September 2016.

Date of next meeting

14. The next meeting of the Major Projects and Investment Committee will be held in March 2016 if there are substantive items to discuss. Ad-hoc meetings may be held during the year if urgent Committee approval is required.

The Chair closed the meeting.

Confirmed as a true record:

..... (Chair)