



## Joint Meeting of the Councils

**UNRESTRICTED** Minutes of the meeting held at 2.00 p.m. on Thursday 11 July 2024 in the Arts Hall, Lampeter Campus

### Present:

Emlyn Dole (Chair)  
Professor Elwen Evans KC (Vice-Chancellor) (by Teams)  
Justin Albert (by Teams)  
Natalie Beard  
John Edge  
Professor Kyle Erickson  
Maria Dinu  
Rowland Jones  
Timothy Llewelyn

Arwel Ellis Owen  
Professor Conny Matera Rogers  
Geraint Roberts  
Nigel Roberts  
Dr Liz Siberry  
Iwan Thomas  
Dr Kerry Tudor  
Dr Stuart Robb  
Deris Williams

### In attendance:

Gavin Bessant, Director of Financial Services  
Sarah Clark, Clerk to the Councils  
Peter Mannion, Chief Operating Officer  
Jane O'Rourke, Executive Director of Human Resources

Professor Mirjam Plantinga, PVC (Student Experience)  
Debra Williams PVC (Commercial and Business Relations)  
Lynwen Davies (Translator)  
Margaret Williams (Secretary)

Agenda item	Main discussion points	Action/decision
24.15 Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Geraint Evans, Emlyn Schiavone, John Edge, Dr Peter Spring, Dr Andrew Cornish, Uzo Iwobi.	

**JCO277 (a)**

Agenda item	Main discussion points	Action/decision
24.16 Declarations of interest	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the Declarations of Interest as noted in the Clerk's report (JCO255).</p> <p>The Clerk noted that Maria Dinu remained a current student of the University and was taking a year out of her studies to undertake the role of Group Student President. Her formal declaration would be included on next year's register.</p>	
24.17 Chair's report	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the Chair's report (JCO256).</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Maria Dinu, the newly elected Group Student President, to her first meeting. He acknowledged the dedication and contribution of Taya Gibbons, the outgoing President, to her role on the Council.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Arwel Ellis Owen, who was retiring from the two Councils and as Vice-Chair of the UW Council, for his leadership, wisdom and dedication to the universities. Members had benefited from his sharp mind and attention to detail. He also thanked Professor Conny Matera Rogers and Dr Kerry Tudor, who were coming to the end of their term as academic staff members on the UWTSD Council. Two newly elected staff members, Dr Tracy Cruickshank and Dr Deborah Hughes, would join the Council on 1 August 2024.</p> <p>The Chair referred to the formal establishment of CTER on 1 August 2024. CETR would use 'Medr' as its brand name. The Vice-Chancellor, Chair of NGC and the Clerk reported on the launch events they had attended on the University's Council's behalf.</p> <p>The Chair reported that significant changes were in progress at the National Centre for Learning Welsh including a proposed new name.</p> <p>The Chair reported that UWTSD had received confirmation in May 2024 that His Majesty the King was pleased to retain the patronage of UWTSD. The Clerk had responded on behalf of the University.</p>	
24.18 Vice-Chancellor's report	<p>The Councils RECEIVED an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor.</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor referred to the following:</p> <p><u>Estyn Report</u></p> <p>UWTSD had received an excellent report commending the progress made by the University. Estyn had signed off the monitoring report during its final visit and had commended the University's partnership with schools.</p>	

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	<p><u>NSS Results</u> The Vice-Chancellor reported on UWTSD's NSS results. Officers were in the process of analysing the raw data. Satisfaction had increased by 3% across all areas with an overall increased satisfaction rate of 83%. This included 89.5% for teaching. A detailed analysis would be presented to the Academic Committee in due course.</p> <p><u>HEFCW funding</u> The University' would be receiving a percentage funding cut that was higher than elsewhere in the sector, which appeared to be attributable to the University's historical part-time allocation. She would discussing the approach with relevant bodies in the future.</p>	
24.19 Audit and Risk Committee matters	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the report of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 23 May 2024 (JCO257).</p> <p>The Chair of the ARC reported that the committee endorsed the updated Corporate Risk Register and associated papers and the updated Group Risk Management and Assurance Policy.</p> <p>The ARC had also welcomed the SLT review of internal audit arrangements.</p>	
24.20 Risk management matters	<p>The Councils CONSIDERED the updated Corporate Risk Register, a visualisation showing risk level changes over the current academic year, an updated Assurance map and updated Group Risk Assurance and Management Policy (JCO258).</p> <p>The COO reported on additional risks added to the Corporate Risk Register. He also reported on the recent UKVI audit of UWTSD. Informal feedback had indicated that the University was considered compliant and demonstrating good practice.</p> <p>The Councils APPROVED the updated Group Risk Management and Assurance Policy.</p>	
24.21 Nominations and Governance Committee matters	<p>The Councils CONSIDERED the report of the Nominations and Governance Committee meeting held on 7 June 2024 (JCO259).</p> <p>The Councils approved the following recommendations of the NGC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposals in respect of recruitment of new independent members.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal that the next Governance Effectiveness Review should take place in Spring 2025, with planning undertaken by the NGC at its October 2024 meeting.</li> </ul>	
24.22 Meetings protocol	The Councils APPROVED the continuing adoption of the protocol on the use of translation and online/hybrid meetings, as recommended by the NGC (JCO260).	
24.23 Committee terms of reference	The Councils APPROVED the reintegration of estates matters into the remit of the Resources and Performance Committee and other amendments to committee terms of reference for 2024/25 (JCO261).	
24.24 CUC Code	The Councils RECEIVED the biennial review of their adherence to CUC's <i>Higher Education Code of Governance</i> , which had been considered in detail by the NGC (JCO262).	
24.25 Strategic Equality Plan 2024-28	The Councils RECEIVED the Strategic Equality Plan 2024-28 (JCO264), which had been approved by Chair's action owing to the statutory publication deadline.	
24.26 Annual Equality Report	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the Annual Equality Report 2022-23 (JCO264b), which had been approved by Chair's action owing to the statutory publication deadline.</p> <p>The EDHR noted that the report had been updated in respect of staff data and would be further updated when student HESA data became available.</p>	
24.27 Gender Pay Gap report	The Councils RECEIVED the Gender Pay Gap report as at 31 March 2023 (JCO264c).	
24.28 Prevent Annual Return and Review meeting	<p>The Councils CONSIDERED HEFCW's report on its periodic Prevent review meeting with UWTSD in Autumn 2023 and its analysis of UW and UWTSD's annual Prevent returns (JCO264).</p> <p>The report confirmed the information provided had demonstrated sufficient evidence of due regard to the Prevent duty by both Universities and summarised agreed actions.</p>	

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	The Councils AGREED that the recommendation that the University considered the benefits of appointing a lead governor for Prevent should be referred to the NGC for consideration in the context of an overall policy for the lead governors.	
24.29 Minutes	The Councils APPROVED the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2024 (JCO265).	
24.30 Standing Committee appointments	The Councils RECEIVED the summary of standing Committee appointments and re-appointments for 2024/25, which had been approved by Chair's action (JCO266).	
24.31 Declarations of Interest	No additional declarations of interests were identified during the meeting.	
24.32 Next meeting	26 September 2024.	

Meeting closed 3.00 pm