



COUNCIL

UNRESTRICTED Minutes of the meeting held at 1.00 p.m. on Thursday 27 March 2025 at the UWTSD Westferry Campus, London

UWTSD and UW Council Members:

Emlyn Dole (Chair)
Professor Elwen Evans KC (Vice-Chancellor)
John Edge
Timothy Llewelyn
Nigel Roberts
Dr Liz Siberry

In attendance:

Gavin Bessant, Director of Financial Services
Sarah Clark, University Secretary and Clerk to the Councils
Peter Mannion, Chief Operating Officer
Dr Chris Marshall, Chief of Staff
Jane O'Rourke, Executive Director of Human Resources
Professor Mirjam Plantinga, PVC (Student Experience)
Catrin Beard (Translator)
Margaret Williams (Secretary)

UW Council Members:

Dr Stuart Robb

Observer:

Hugh Jones, Consultant

UWTSD Council Members:

Natalie Beard
Dr Tracy Cruickshank
Maria Dinu
Professor Kyle Erickson
Dr Deborah Hughes
Rowland Jones (Teams)
Geraint Roberts
Katrin Shaw

Minute	Main discussion points
25.21	<p>Apologies for absence were received from Justin Albert, Dr Andrew Cornish, Geraint Evans, Emlyn Schiavone, Iwan Thomas and Deris Williams.</p> <p>Council welcomed Dr Chris Marshall, Chief of Staff and Head of the Vice-Chancellor's office, to his first meeting in attendance.</p> <p>Council noted that Natalie Beard and Maria Dinu were attending their last meeting of the two Councils as UWTSD student officers. The Chair thanked them for their contribution to the Councils and the University, and wished them well for the future.</p>
25.22 Declarations of interest	<p>The Councils RECEIVED the Declarations of Interest as noted in the Clerk's report (JCO333).</p> <p>The following additional declarations were made:</p> <p>Dr Liz Siberry - Agenda item 2.2 (Trustee of the Gregynog Trust) Dr Stuart Robb - Agenda item 2.4 (Trustee of the UWRET) Tim Llewellyn - Agenda item 5.1 (Member of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales)</p>
25.23 Chair's report	<p>Council RECEIVED an oral report from the Chair.</p> <p>The Chair thanked members for attending their appraisals / one-to-one discussions. The process had been beneficial and he would be reporting in more detail at the May meeting of the Nominations and Governance Committee.</p>
25.24 Vice-Chancellor's report	<p>Council RECEIVED an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor.</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor reported on the work in progress to identify priorities for the Strategic Plan 2025-2030, a draft of which would be presented to Council for discussion in due course. A key focus would be the consolidation of the UWTSD Group and FE collaboration, in accordance Medr's ambitions for the tertiary sector.</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor reported that work was in progress on a range of legacy matters. In respect of Gwasg Gregynog, the report of an externally funded feasibility study had been given preliminary consideration by SLT, and options would be presented to the company's directors for consideration in June 2025. An informal discussion was also planned with representatives of the Gregynog Hall trustees.</p> <p>Work was also in progress in relation to the International University of Malaya Wales, a longstanding collaborative partnership operated via a joint venture whereby UW, through its subsidiary Awen Wales, held a small percentage of</p>

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	shares. Both UW and UWTSD were currently under pressure to increase the financial investment and officers continued to explore options. An update would be provided in due course.
25.25 Financial and cash management report	<p>Council CONSIDERED the financial and cash management report (JCO335a), which covered the six months to January 2025 and was a continuation of the last update to Council.</p> <p>The DFS reported that core operations were ahead of budget owing to payroll savings achieved through vacancies and timing variances on collaborative income and associate costs. The timing variances would correct as the year progressed. The surplus for the year was slightly ahead of budget but there would not be a significant surplus at the end of the year.</p> <p>Sales for the UW Press continued to be behind budget. The Press continued to be in a deficit, but the budget loss would be reduced from the previous year.</p>
25.26 ARC Committee report: 6 February 2025	<p>Council RECEIVED the report of the ARC meeting held on 6 February 2025 (JCO337).</p> <p>The Chair of ARC drew members' attention to the implications of the new IIA Global Internal Audit Standards and reported that officers and the internal auditors would be preparing an action plan in response.</p> <p>Council RECEIVED the Corporate Risk Register (JCO350).</p> <p>Council APPROVED ARC's recommendation that the current contracts for both the internal and external audit services be extended for a further period of one year. Members noted the desirability of seeking new auditors at the end of that period.</p>
25.27 NGC Committee report: 17 March 2025	Council RECEIVED the report of the NGC meeting held on 17 March 2025 (JCO338).
25.28 Remuneration Committee report: 10 February 2025	Council RECEIVED the report of the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 10 February 2025 (JCO339).
25.29 Remuneration Committee Annual Report	Council RECEIVED the annual report 2024/25 of the Remuneration Committee (JCO340).
25.30 RPC Committee report:	Council RECEIVED the report of the Resources and Performance Committee meeting held on 12 February 2025 (JCO31).

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12 February 2025	
25.31 Academic Board report: 19 February 2025	Council RECEIVED the report of the Academic Board meeting held on 19 February 2025 (JCO342).
25.32 Minutes	Council APPROVED the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 January 2025 (JCO344a).
25.33 UW Church Land update	Council RECEIVED the update on Church Land disposal matters (JCO345).
25.34 Declarations of Interest	<p>The following declarations had been noted:</p> <p>Dr Liz Siberry - Agenda item 2.2 (Trustee of the Gregynog Trust)</p> <p>Dr Stuart Robb - Agenda item 2.4 (Trustee of the UWRET)</p> <p>Tim Llewellyn - Agenda item 5.1 (Member of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales)</p> <p>No other additional declarations were made during the meeting.</p>
25.35 Date of next meeting	The next meeting would be held on 10 July 2025.

Meeting terminated at 15.50.