

COUNCIL
Thursday 6 July 2023

DRAFT UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Present:

Melissa Tatton CBE (Chair)	Professor Colin Bailey CBE	Gil Baldwin
Ken Batty	Professor Kavita Datta	Martin Donkin
Patricia Gallan QPM	Celia Gough	Professor Yang Hao
Indy Hothi	Isabelle Jenkins	Maryanne Matthews
Professor Mangala Patel	Dr Alix Pryde	Adi Sawalha
Peter Thompson		

In attendance:

Professor Frances Bowen [m. 2022.085]	Dr Sharon Ellis	Karen Kröger
Dr Nadine Lewycky	Jonathan Morgan	Charles Sellar

Apologies:

Lord Clement-Jones CBE	Stella Hall
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Welcome, apologies and declaration of interests

2022.081 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the apologies. There were no declarations of interests. The Chair said:

UCU letter on industrial action

[a] Members of Council had been sent a letter by the co-chairs of the local UCU branch committee regarding current industrial action. Council had received assurance at the beginning of the academic year on the management of industrial relations at the University. The issues raised by UCU will be dealt with by the Joint Consultative Forum as the appropriate venue.

Freedom of Information request about asbestos in the Whitechapel Library

[b] Some members of Council had been sent an email about a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the management of asbestos containing materials in the Library at the Whitechapel campus. The issue could not be considered by Council, given the timing, and the appropriate governance process in the circumstances was to remit the issue to the September meeting of Audit and Risk Committee. The University Secretary added that an independent review of concerns raised in relation to alleged exposure to asbestos containing materials at the Whitechapel Library concluded that, based on a worst-case scenario, there was no cause for concern.

Chair's update (Oral report)

2022.082 Council **received** a list of the Chair's recent activities as part of the papers.

President and Principal's Report (QM2022/70)

2022.083 *Minute 2022.083 is confidential.*

QMSU President's report (QM2022/71)

2022.084 Council **considered** the QMSU President's report. The following points were noted in the discussion:

[a] 280 students had been selected on a needs basis to have their cap and gown paid for through the graduation fund.

[b] Council asked for additional information about the issues raised in the report on disability awareness at the Inclusive Curriculum Steering Group. The QMSU President undertook to provide a summary at the next meeting.

Action: [b] QMSU President

Deep dive presentation on faculty performance (Humanities and Social Sciences) (QM2022/72)

2022.085 *Minute 2022.085 is confidential.*

Update on Environmental Sustainability (QM2022/73)

2022.086 Council **considered** an update on environmental sustainability. The following points were noted in the discussion:

[a] Investment in energy and carbon reduction initiatives had resulted in energy and carbon savings and reduced the impact of increased energy costs. We had accessed grant funding to support our work on decarbonisation and increasing the energy efficiency of our buildings.

[b] Council asked for an explanation for the increase in the carbon footprint of campus vehicles since the 2018–19 baseline.

Action: [b] Chief Operations Officer

Finance and Investment Committee minutes (QM2022/74)

2022.087 Council **noted** the minutes of the Finance and Investment Committee meeting held on 07 June 2023.

Current financial position (QM2022/75)

2022.088 *Minute 2022.088 is confidential.*

Tuition Fee Regulations 2024–25 (QM2022/76)

2022.089 Council **considered** the Tuition Fee Regulations 2024–25. The following points were noted in the discussion:

[a] Council asked for the section on refunds to be reviewed so that the language was clear to students.

[b] Council **approved** the tuition fee regulations 2024–25 subject to the above amendment.

Action: [a] Chief Financial Officer

Senate minutes (QM2022/77)

2022.090 Council **considered** the minutes of the Senate meeting held on 08 June 2023.

Audit and Risk Committee minutes (QM2022/78)

2022.091 Council **noted** the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 22 June 2023.

Remuneration Committee report (QM2022/79)

2022.092 Council **considered** a report of the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 13 June 2023.

Minutes of the last meeting (QM2022/80)

2022.093 Council **confirmed** the minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2023.

Matters arising (QM2022/81)

2022.094 Council **noted** the matters arising from the meeting held on 18 May 2023. The following points were noted in the discussion:

[a] Elections for two staff positions on Council were in progress. As part of the process, nominees would be offered the opportunity to speak with a current Council member before the ballot and potentially revise their election statements. Members were asked to send their availability to the Council Secretariat after the meeting.

Council annual schedule of business 2023–24 (QM2022/82)

2022.095 Council **considered** the annual schedule of business for 2023–24.

Draft agenda for the next meeting (QM2022/83)

2022.096 Council **noted** the draft agenda for the meeting on 05 October 2023.

Council membership (Oral report)

[a] This was the last meeting for Martin Donkin, Adi Sawalha and Charlie Sellar. Council thanked them for their significant contributions during their tenures.

[b] This was the last meeting of the academic year. Council thanked the President and Principal and the Senior Executive Team for their hard work over the course of the year.

Dates of Meetings 2023–24

- Thursday 05 October 2023, 1600 hours, Colette Bowe Room, Queens' Building.
- Thursday 23 November 2023 at 1600 hours, Colette Bowe Room, Queens' Building.
- Thursday 28 March 2024 at 1600 hours, Colette Bowe Room, Queens' Building.
- Thursday 16 May / Friday 17 May 2024 – Annual conference including Council meeting, central London, TBC.
- Thursday 11 July 2024 at 1600 hours, Colette Bowe Room, Queens' Building.