

Former member of staff in the Students Union

Members fell silent in tribute to their memory.

- A. On the award of a Readership:

College of Environmental Sciences and Engineering

- B. The Chair also noted the following achievements:

It was reported that Bangor University is to become a world-leading nuclear research site after a £3 million Welsh Government investment in 15 new science posts. The highly qualified jobs will be at the University's Nuclear Futures Institute and it was noted that the investment has recharged the region's nuclear ambitions after the disappointment of Hitachi's pull-out from the Wylfa Two project.

- C. On behalf of the Council the Chair warmly congratulated the members of staff concerned.

- A. Members were reminded that they should declare any personal, financial or beneficial interest in any matter under consideration at this meeting prior to that matter being considered.

- B. No declarations were made by members in relation to items on the agenda.

- A. The Minutes of the meetings held on 25th September and 30th October 2020 were

- B. An action log was provided noting progress on all outstanding Council actions. Council noted the progress reports and completed actions.

[1] Asymptomatic Test Site

It was noted that an Asymptomatic Test Site has been set up by the University in PJ Hall, open to both staff and students from 30th November to 8th December 2020. This initiative was hugely important in ensuring the continued wellbeing of the university community and would play an important part in ensuring that students were able to travel home for the Christmas break. The Chair, on behalf of all Council members, extended her thanks to all members of staff involved in setting up the facility.

[2] Liaison with Welsh and UK Governments

The Vice-Chancellor reported that he continues to have regular, and high-level discussions with members of both the Welsh and UK Governments on matters relating to higher education policy, post compulsory education and training, the comprehensive spending review and shared prosperity funding.

[3] Review of Government Funded Research and Innovation in Wales

The Council were apprised on the review by Professor Graeme Reid which looked at the strengths, gaps and future potential to sustain and grow strong research and innovation activity in Wales. It was that the review document would be circulated to Council members.

- B. The Chair thanked the Vice-Chancellor for his update and expressed her thanks to the whole Executive team for their leadership during an unprecedentedly challenging year for the University. The grateful thanks of the whole Council was also extended to all members of staff who had worked so hard over the last 9 months to ensure that students continued to receive high quality education and a positive student experience.

B. A number of recommendations were highlighted by Mr Williams, in particular:

- x Some students were not confident they could perform to the best of their ability in assessments at the current time;

- A. Members were reminded that at its meeting in September 2020 the Council had formally approved the plan submitted for restructuring the academic domain and professional services. The period of consultation on the business cases for change had closed on the 16th November, with the University having received over 500 responses which were currently being considered by Colleges and Professional Services. A number of applications for voluntary redundancy had been received, and these had been considered on a case by case basis by a sub-group of the Executive looking at the impact both on the specific area of work, and the University as a whole. A number of applications had been agreed, but a number had also been turned down. Positive discussions were ongoing with the Campus Trades' Unions, and the Council's Covid-19 Governance Oversight Group was meeting on the 9th and 10th December to scrutinise the feedback from the consultation process.

- B. The Council were briefed on the current financial situation, and following consideration the HEFCW Forecast, and the inherent assumptions regarding the additional funding being applied for, including the Higher Education and Innovation Fund from HEFCW and the Sustaining University Research Expertise Fund.

- C. Members of staff on the Council reported that morale is low amongst some groups of staff, however staff on the whole understood the need for the University to go through the current restructuring process in order to achieve financial sustainability in the longer term. It was also acknowledged that the Human Resources department had found ways of working sensitively with staff, especially those at risk, in challenging times when most of the interaction was through Teams or Zoom.

- D. It was confirmed that the staff on the Council were briefed on the current financial situation, and following consideration the HEFCW Forecast, and the inherent assumptions regarding the additional funding being applied for, including the Higher Education and Innovation Fund from HEFCW and the Sustaining University Research Expertise Fund.

the downturn in catering, conferencing and nursery income for the period between March and July 2020. In relation to Marketing, Recruitment and Communications, the Council were reminded that additional investment was authorised for this area during 2019/20. The position in relation to the University's wholly owned subsidiary companies was also noted. The Council were also apprised that whilst normally the University's financial accounts would have been brought to the November meeting, following the current uncertainty around student recruitment and level of the University's access to grant funding due to the pandemic, in common with the other Universities in Wales the accounts would be brought to the February 2021 meeting of Council.

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trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do help to reduce the risk of personal liability.

- A. The Council considered a paper from the Director of Property and Campus Services seeking approval from the Council for the disposal of assets and to market a further asset in line with the valuation and advice from the Valuation Office Agency. The Council noted:

- A. The Chief Operating Officer provided the Council with an update on the progress made in relation to the implementation and embedding of the requirements of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and the **Prevent**duty. The Council noted that this remains high on the agenda for relevant Strategy and Task Groups, Committees, and individual Officers and noted the policies and procedures in place and actions taken to

- C. The Council **approved** the request to award Emeritus status to Professor Helen Wilcox.

- A. A report from the meetings of the Executive held between September 2020 and November 2020 (attached as Appendix I

The Council the sealing of documents listed in Agendum 18.