



David Taylor (Chair)

Fiona Armstrong*
Graham Baldwin
Jon Baldwin
Lis Smith

Ruth Lowry
Anne McCarthy
Lorraine Norris
in attendance :

George Charles (Chief Finance Officer)
Ruth Connor (Deputy Chief Executive)
Ian Allison (Executive Director of Digital Transformation) (in part)
Andrew Ireland (Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students and Teaching)) (in part)
StJohn Crean (Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research & Enterprise)) (in part)
Ian Fisher (University Secretary and General Counsel and Clerk)
Ken Lee (Chief People Officer)
Fiona Winters (Deputy Clerk to the Board)
Carolyn Johnson (Executive Officer to the Vice-Chancellor)

*attendance via video-conference

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr H

There were no new declarations of interests.

There were no Chair's announcements.

The Reserved and Unreserved Minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

It was agreed that there were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda of the meeting.

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In response to a question from Mr J Baldwin, Professor Ireland felt that the UCLan community was “with us” but commented that the culture on the ground is not changing as quickly as we would like and that it remained a “work in progress”.

That the University’s Equality, Diversity and Inclusion report 2021-22 now presented, be agreed.

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Professor Crean and Dr Ridwanah Gurjee left the meeting.

Professor Ireland presented the Student Mental Health and Wellbeing report 2021-22. A copy of the report and presentation slides are set out in the Minute book.

Professor Ireland explained that the report and slides had been prepared in order to provide a comprehensive update on developments in this area over the 2021-22 Academic Year. However, the presentation also includes developments underway in the current academic year.

In presenting the slides, Professor Ireland reported that there were increasing concerns across the sector about student mental health and wellbeing issues. Hardship was also an increasing problem. In making his presentation, Professor Ireland drew particular attention to the following:-

- x The excellent performance of UCLan in relevant league tables and student satisfaction with mental health support.
- x The adoption of the Mental Health Charter by the University in September 2022.
- x The developing internal and external structures and collaborative working to deliver an effective "Whole University" approach and close links with key external agencies and stakeholders.
- x The increase in student referrals and engagement with relevant support services.
- x The positive audit by the University's Internal Auditors which highlighted the substantial work in progress in meeting the OfS Regulatory Framework and providing "substantial assurance" to the University.

In response to questions from Board Members, Professor Ireland reported that previous waiting lists for support had reduced significantly. With regard to suicide (or potential suicide), deaths and "near-misses", Professor Ireland explained that the University has a "lessons learned" process which includes a review of coroners' findings. He also confirmed that the University had various best practice documents and that the OfS was moving to require more mandatory training.

That Professor Ireland be thanked for his very helpful report and presentation.

Professor Ireland left the meeting.

Mr Taylor reported that the Committee had received a report on OfS Regulatory Compliance which d

- (i) Mrs Lloyd be re-appointed as a member of the Board for a final term of office expiring on 23rd March 2026; and
- (ii) Dr Sue Ion be appointed as Chair of the University Board for an initial period of 12 months with effect from 1st September 2023.

Note – Mrs Lloyd and Dr Ion did not participate in the discussion or vote in respect of the issues relating to themselves.

Mr Odjegba briefly updated the Board on several Students Union issues.

Firstly, he explained that the annual election of Students Union Officers had now been held and that the newly elected officers would take up their roles on 1st July.

Mr Odjegba also reported that the Students Union's Annual Golden Roses Awards process for both Preston and Burnley was underway and that the winners would be announced in due course.

Finally, Mr Odjegba echoed the Vice-Chancellor's comments about the very positive impact of the recent sporting success of UCLan teams.

That Mr Odjegba be thanked for his update.

That the next meeting of the University Board is to be held on 25th April 2023 at the Belsfield Hotel, Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 3EL. Full details to be provided in due course.