



University Executive Board

Minutes of the meeting of 30 June 2021

Attending

Professor Shearer West (Vice-Chancellor), Professor John Atherton (FPVC Medicine and Health Sciences), Dr Paul Greatrix (Registrar), Professor Jeremy Gregory (FPVC Arts), Jaspal Kaur (Director of Human Resources), Professor Sam Kingman (FPVC Engineering), Professor Andrew Long (DVC), Professor Robert Mokaya (PVC GE), Margaret Monckton (CFO), Sarah Speight (PVC ESE), Professor Zoe Wilson (FPVC Science), David Hill (CDO), Professor Todd Landman (FPVC Social Sciences), Professor Nick Miles (Provost UNNC), Professor Sarah Sharples (PVC EDI and People)

Attending

Rowena Hall (Secretary), Professor Sarah Metcalfe, Helen Pennack (Chief Marketing and Communications Officer), Rachel Atkin (Director of Student Recruitment), Clare Marchant, Chief Executive, UCAS, Dr Katie Bell, Chief Marketing Officer, UCAS

Apologies

Professor Dame Jessica Corner (PVC RKE)

21.86 Welcome, Apologies, Quoracy and Declarations of Interest

- .1 The Secretary confirmed that the meeting was quorate.
- .2 There were no declarations of interest.

21.87 Presentation from the Chief Executive of UCAS and Q&A Session

- .1 UEB received a presentation from the Chief Executive of UCAS. It was NOTED that the last time the Chief Executive had visited the University had been in January 2020.
- .2 The presentation covered the following topics:
 - .1 An overview of the 2020 admissions cycle. It was NOTED that the number of deferrals was significantly below the initial indications made by applicants.
 - .2 Notable national statistics from the 2021 admissions cycle. There had been an 8% year-on-year increase in applications with particular increases in applications from mature students and for health-related programmes. There had been a 40% decrease in applications from the EU. The number of applications from students from disadvantaged backgrounds continued to increase, but the gap was not closing fast enough, particularly given the context of demographic changes.
 - .3 Notable UoN-specific statistics. The year-on-year increase in applications was at 3.84% which showed growth, but competitor growth was higher. Applications for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine were strong with arts programmes doing less well. Applications from international students had increased but not as much as for the University's competition, with some competitors receiving two applications for every one received at Nottingham. Details of performance against widening participation criteria were provided.



- .4 The pipeline for change at UCAS including an overview of the position in connection with post-qualification admissions, the likely rate of increase in UCAS applications by 2025 and the need for greater flexibility in systems and processes to manage lifelong learning credentials and apprenticeships.
- .5 The development of the Myriad international student recruitment app was explained.
- .3 An overview of plans for the summer admission period were provided and the potential impacts of A-level grade inflation were considered.
- .4 The complexity of applying for apprenticeships was NOTED. It was considered that the process was hard to navigate which was likely to result in well-supported students being most successful.