

IMPERIAL

University Management Board Summary of Items for Discussion/Decision 14 May 2024

Universities and National Security¹

- The Board received the Universities and National Security paper led by the Vice-Provost (Research and Enterprise), and the Chief of Staff to the President and Director of Public Affairs, Amanda Wolthuizen, which shared recent developments and proposed a Task and Finish Group to review our policies, procedures and portfolio.
- The Board emphasised that sustaining individual research collaborations was essential and therefore training in awareness of the issues and compliance obligations when forming these partnerships moving forward was required.
- The Board discussed the reputational risk and potential media attention and suggested that complexities around the definition of the review need to be agreed to share that it is an opportunity to provide assurance on our approach and find areas of improvement.
- The Board endorsed the paper for presentation to Council in July and it was confirmed that the Task and Finish Working Group would be established.

Advancement Update

- The Vice-Provost (Education and Student Experience), Peter Haynes, provided an update on the Advancement Division since he became Interim Vice President (Advancement).
- The Interim Vice President (Advancement) noted that two recent reviews had made several recommendations relating to the structure and culture of Advancement, and in the interim period, there was an interim Management Team and regular fundraising meetings to increase collaboration across the fundraising teams.
- The Chief of Staff to the President and Director of Public Affairs, Amanda Wolthuizen, highlighted that following the Strategy launch, planning for the fundraising campaign had commenced under the advice of the Campaign Consultant, Mary Beth Pearlberg.
- It was confirmed that the campaign would be led by all UMB members and implemented by Advancement, and that the campaign plan would be brought to the July UMB meeting in advance of presentation to Council in September.

UMB Committees Review

- The Board received the UMB Committees Review paper led by the Chief of Staff to the President and Director of Public Affairs, Amanda Wolthuizen, and the Registrar and University Secretary, Richard Martin, which considered feedback relating to membership, agendas, delegated authority and structure, and made a series of recommendations.
- The Board welcomed the recommendations to delegate membership, improve paper length and distribution timeframes and align the Committee meeting schedules and agendas for effective flow of items and recommendations to UMB.
- The Board discussed the recommended alterations to the Committee structure and the President suggested that strategic decisions would be reserved to UMB with standing items on the agenda for President's, Provost's and Chief Operating Officer's strategic papers.
- The Board approved the recommendations in the UMB Committees Review, and it was confirmed that implementation would be discussed with Committee Chairs, with a paper brought back to UMB to confirm the new approach.

Honours and Awards Committee Review

- The Board received the Honours and Awards Committee Review paper led by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Deborah Ashby, Chief of Staff to the President and Director of Public Affairs, Amanda Wolthuizen, and the Registrar and University Secretary, Richard Martin, which evaluated the Committee's Terms of Reference, membership, nomination process and external award criteria to recommend improvements.
- The Board discussed the set of recommendations to streamline the Committee, along with the review of other institutions processes, and agreed the changes would make the Committee's role in the nomination process more effective.
- It was also highlighted that the implementation of a new external award would allow more flexible and immediate engagement with individuals, which would be crucial to the Strategy fundraising campaign.
- The Board approved the recommendations of the Honours and Awards Committee Review.

Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice

- The Board received the Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice paper led by the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Nigel Brandon, which recommended that Imperial becomes an early signatory of the Concordat.
- It was confirmed that the Sustainability Strategy Committee and University Research and Enterprise Board had reviewed the Concordat and confirmed that Imperial would be ready to deliver on the commitments through our strategy, policies, decarbonisation plans and reporting.
- It was noted that the direction of the sector indicates that Research Funders would require institutions to become a signatory to obtain funding, along with sustainable lab accreditations.
- The Board agreed to sign the Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice.

Papers approved below the line:

- UMB Committee Reports
 - Risk and Compliance Committee
 - Operations and Infrastructure Committee
- Health and Safety Report
- Quarterly Financial Review - Q3

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the University Management Board will be held on Tuesday 11 June 2024.

¹ Lynne Cox, Director of the Research Office, in attendance.

¹ Benjamin Hughes, Deputy Director of the Research Office, in attendance.