NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY
COUNCIL
29 March 2010

Present: Mrs M O Grant (in the Chair), the Vice-Chancellor, Ms E Budge (Education Officer), Professor M F Cross, Mr J C FitzPatrick, Ms A Georgiou (President, Union Society), Ms J Henderson, Mr R Hull, Mr M I’Anson, Sir Miles Irving, Mr P M Johnson, Mr S Lightley, Professor D A C Manning, Mr S D Pallett, Professor D Parker, Mr S Pleydell, Ms K Priestley and Mr I Shott.

In attendance: Professor C P Day, Professor C Harvey, Professor E Ritchie, Professor A C Stevenson, Professor N G Wright and Professor P L Younger (Pro-Vice-Chancellors), Dr J V Hogan (Registrar), Mr R C Dale (Executive Director of Finance), Mrs V S Johnston (Executive Director of Human Resources), Mr D J Buck (observer) and Miss E M Niven (Administrative Officer).

MINUTES

67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

68. MINUTES

Received the notes of the Council Conference held on 8 February 2010.
[Circulated with the Agenda as Document B. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

Noted that under minute 53(iii) the Chairman wished to record Council’s congratulations to the Professional Support Services for their contribution to the increase in funding received from the Research Councils and asked for this message to be included in the Vice-Chancellor’s forthcoming letter to staff.

The Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 8 February 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed.

69. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Received an oral report from the Executive Director of Human Resources on current health and safety issues affecting the University, including performance measures and actions taken.

Noted that there were no major health and safety issues to report.

70. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) Progress of business

Received a business tracking form.
[Circulated with the Agenda as Document C. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]
(ii) Engagement Strategy (Minute 52(ii), 8.2.2010)

Reported that the Chair of Council, Deputy Chairs and Honorary Treasurer had approved the changes to the Engagement Strategy on behalf of Council.

71. CHAIRMAN’S BUSINESS

(i) Pensions

The sub-group set up by USS Joint Negotiating Committee had now met on a number of occasions and was on course to report in April.

(ii) Visitors from Hainan Province

The Chairman of Council had officiated at an MoU signing ceremony in Hainan Province in early 2008 and a reciprocal visit had recently taken place at the University.

(iii) Leadership Foundation Seminars

Mr Simon Pallett had attended a seminar on 25 February 2010 on ‘Governing in a Downturn’.

72. VICE-CHANCELLOR’S BUSINESS

Received the Vice-Chancellor’s report.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document D. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

(i) Deaths

Received a report on deaths recently announced by the University.

Resolved that Council record its deep regret and sympathy for the relatives concerned.

(ii) Budget

It was unclear how many of the initiatives referred to in the budget announcement would remain in place following the election. The Government had announced 10,000 additional student numbers for 2010 entry which would be fully funded and a further 10,000 which would be co-funded. There was no guarantee that these additional places would continue to be available in 2011. Executive Board was considering whether the University should submit a bid for additional student numbers.

(iii) QAA Audit (Minute 54(ii), 8.2.2010)

Noted that a copy of the final version of the QAA audit report had recently been circulated to Council members. The report was to be treated as confidential until it was published on the QAA website on 30 April. Further information could be obtained from Professor Ritchie, if required.

(iv) Great North Museum : Hancock

The Great North Museum : Hancock had been long listed for the prestigious 2010 Art Fund Prize. Eleven museums and galleries had been chosen to compete for the £100,000 award. The winner would be chosen by a panel of judges chaired by
broadcaster Kirsty Young. Part of the judging process involved getting as many public votes for the museum as possible. All Council members were encouraged to vote and it was agreed that a link to the competition would be included in the Union Society President’s forthcoming email to students.

(v) **Meeting with the Conservative Party**

The Vice-Chancellor had met in February with David Willetts MP and Oliver Letwin MP to discuss the Conservative Party’s strategy for the region and the University’s potential role. The MPs had expressed an interest in visiting the University and the Vice-Chancellor had subsequently sent an invitation to the two Conservative MPs and their Labour counterparts.

(vi) **Letter to Staff**

The Vice-Chancellor would be writing to all staff in the near future to provide them with an update on the University’s financial position.

(vii) **Changing Age: Societal Challenge Theme Update**

The University’s ‘Changing Age’ campaign had been launched on 23 March and was available on the University’s website. The University was inviting the public to sign up to a Changing Age Charter, which had received endorsement from a number of high profile individuals.

A number of issues had been noted by Council and Court members regarding the wording of the Charter and it was agreed that the Chairman of Council would meet with Professor Tom Kirkwood to discuss the points raised.

(viii) **Times Higher Education Leadership & Management Awards 2010**

Council congratulated the University on being shortlisted for the Times Higher Education and Leadership & Management Awards in the following categories:

- Outstanding Leadership and Management Team
- Outstanding Research Management Team

73. **STRATEGY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN OPERATIONAL AREAS 2010-13**

Considered the University’s Strategy for Environmental Sustainability in Operational Areas 2010-13, which had been endorsed by Executive Board and Senate.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document E. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

Received an extract from the draft Senate Minutes of 2 March 2010 on Senate’s discussion of this item.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document F. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

After noting that:

1. The University’s Strategy for Environmental Sustainability in Operational Areas had been discussed by a number of bodies. A number of the points raised by Senate had since been incorporated into the document.
2. The comments from the student representatives were still awaited. It was noted that the sabbatical officers would forward comments from the Union Society in the near future.

3. The carbon reduction targets which the University was required to meet were considered to be ambitious and would prove challenging, particularly since the University’s activities in Singapore and Malaysia had not been included in the 2005/06 baseline.

4. It was considered essential for the University’s Capital Plan to support the Environmental Sustainability Strategy. It was suggested that the University might wish to consider the activities of the larger hospital trusts to determine how they sought to reduce their carbon emissions.

5. The University intended to implement the EcoCampus Environmental Management System which had been specifically designed for the Higher Education sector.

6. Whilst it was acknowledged that there was a distinction between the University’s research into environmental sustainability and the environmental sustainability of its operations, there were areas where the two aspects could overlap. The University was recommended to consider implementing the outcomes of its research on campus.

7. The Union Society was not currently included in the strategy but the University would be providing it with support to ensure environmental considerations were addressed during its forthcoming refurbishment.

8. Council was requested to recognise the scale of the challenge presented by the carbon reduction targets as it was important for the University’s activities to reduce its carbon emissions to be supported at the highest level. It was expected that future capital funding from HEFCE would be linked to an institution’s carbon performance. It was also important for the credibility of the Sustainability Societal Challenge Theme for the University to be seen to be pursuing ambitious carbon reduction targets.

9. The area of environmental sustainability provided a good opportunity for collaboration with the City Council and the NHS.

10. The Chairman of Council would discuss the issue of sustainability with the other members of the Committee of University Chairs (CUC) to encourage sector engagement.

Resolved that once the comments had been received from the Union Society, the Strategy for Environmental Sustainability in Operational Areas 2010-13 be approved by the Chairman of Council, the Deputy-Chairs and the Honorary Treasurer on behalf of Council.

74. HUMAN RESOURCES STRATEGY

Considered the University’s Human Resources Strategy, which had been endorsed by Executive Board.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document G. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

After noting that:

1. The Human Resources Strategy built on the six HR objectives stated in the Vision 2021 document. It was important for the strategy to allow an appropriate degree of flexibility in the current financial climate.
2. The strategy had been circulated to a number of groups and the lay member of Council on Staff Committee had also contributed to its development.

3. A number of specific actions had been identified as part of the strategy. These included:
   - Improving the communication of the HR package;
   - Improving performance management;
   - Combining workforce planning with better organisational design.

4. A number of lay members of Council had submitted comments on the strategy since its initial circulation. These comments included strengthening references to staff engagement and recognising the positive effects this could have on morale and performance. The achievement of objective 2.3 – develop a high-performance culture in which delivery to agreed standards is the norm – would require strong leadership, yet this was not referred to in the associated paragraphs. It was agreed that this should be added, together with a reference to the University’s investment in coaching for line managers. It was noted that more work could be done at Head of Unit level to assist with the setting of SMART targets.

5. The percentage of staff who said that they had received a Performance and Development Review in the 2007 Employee Opinion Survey was 73% and this was considered to be low compared with non-HEIs. Similarly, 58% of respondents to the Employee Opinion Survey had said that their line manager dealt with poor performance effectively and this was also considered to be a poor result outside the Higher Education sector. It was noted that the PDR completion target for 2010 was 85%.

6. It was considered that the importance of effective communications at every level could be further emphasised in the document. Positive external communications could help to encourage a sense of pride in the institution. It was suggested that a communications strategy should be developed which identified all potential audiences.

7. The absence rate for operational staff (16.5 days or 7.3%) was considered to be high. The procedures for reporting absence were well observed, which partly explained the higher rate of reported absence for this particular staff group.

8. The strategy touched on the diversity of the University staff population, noting that the staff body included 85 nationalities. It was suggested that this should be promoted during the recruitment process.

9. A reference to the University’s management of redundancies and the role of Redundancy Committee should also be included in the strategy document.

10. As a follow up from the Gender Balance in Academic Careers Think Tank, which was held in October 2008, it was considered useful for Council to be provided with an update on the University’s performance against diversity benchmarks.

Resolved that the Human Resources Strategy be amended in light of the comments made during the above discussion. Once these comments have been addressed, the Strategy should be forwarded to the Chairman of Council, the Deputy-Chairs and the Honorary Treasurer for approval on behalf of Council.
75. HEALTH AND SAFETY

(i) University Safety Policy

Considered the University Safety Policy which had been endorsed by Safety Committee and Executive Board.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document H. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

After noting that:

1. Guidance from UCEA had been followed in order to present the Safety Policy in an appropriate format. Once approved, the policy would be made available on the University website and would include links to related policies.

2. Part 2 of the Safety Policy contained a section entitled ‘Field Trips and Working Abroad’. It was noted that members of staff and students often undertook site visits and visits to tenant and spin-out companies, and it was suggested that guidance in relation to these types of activities should be set out separately. It was considered that further guidance should be provided in relation to vacation placements and fieldwork.

3. A description of the line management responsibilities in relation to health and safety should be added to the document.

4. The requirement for risk assessments to be conducted for a large number of activities could lead to students lacking confidence when completing routine tasks. It was acknowledged that the University had to ensure it provided staff and students with a safe working environment but the risk assessment requirements needed to be proportionate. It was essential for students to be educated on how to deal with risks and for them to be helped through the risk assessment process.

Resolved that the University Safety Policy be amended in light of the comments made during the above discussion. Once these comments have been addressed, the Policy should be forwarded to the Chairman of Council, the Deputy-Chairs and the Honorary Treasurer for approval on behalf of Council.

(ii) Annual Health and Safety Report

Received the Annual Health and Safety Report for 2008-09 which had been endorsed by Executive Board.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document J. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

Noted that:

1. An external audit of the University’s health and safety performance at a strategic level was undertaken every 2-3 years. An action plan had been produced as a result of the audit’s findings. A copy of the full audit could be obtained from the Executive Director of Human Resources.

2. The University would not meet the sector target for a 10% reduction in the rate of accidents related to movement. A poster campaign had taken place during 2009 to increase awareness and extra training had been offered but, despite this, reported manual handling incidents had increased. The number of trips, slips and falls had decreased.
3. It was important to recognise the important contribution made by School Safety Officers, Fire Wardens and First Aiders in helping to promote safety throughout the University.

4. The external audit of the University’s health and safety performance had identified that the health and safety implications of major projects were not always considered at an early stage, which did not allow for a systematic approach to monitoring. This was to be addressed by requiring major projects to be considered by Safety Committee and Executive Board and also for them to be a standard item on Faculty and Service Safety Committees.

5. Point 8 of the action plan produced in response to the findings of the external audit stated that it would take the University Fire Officer 12-18 months to complete 19 fire risk assessments. It was noted that this was the position when the action plan had been prepared 12 months previously. Resources had since been reallocated and significant progress had been made. It was confirmed that there were no implications for the University’s insurance policies. Council would receive an update on the fire risk assessments at a future meeting.

(iii) Summary accident reports

Received summary accident reports for the third and fourth quarters of 2009.
[Circulated with the Agenda as Documents K & L. Copies filed in the Minute Book.]

Noted that:

1. During Quarter 3 of 2009 a major injury had been caused to a member of staff when undertaking a visit to a property undergoing refurbishment. There had been no lasting injuries and the individual involved had now returned to work. An investigation into the incident had established that procedures had not been followed. An action plan was now in place to prevent similar incidents from occurring.

2. The Quarter 4 statistics revealed that the relocation of 400 staff to the King’s Gate building had not resulted in an increase in manual handling incidents.

3. The University was advised to focus its attention on areas of the campus which were considered to be accident ‘hot-spots’. Mr Ian Shott offered to put the University in contact with other organisations which could demonstrate excellence in accident prevention.

(iv) Revised membership and terms of reference for Safety Committee

Reported that Executive Board had approved revised membership and terms of reference for Safety Committee.
[Circulated with the Agenda as Document M. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

It was agreed that the lay member of Safety Committee appointed by Council should not necessarily have to be a member of Council but it was important for a link to be established between the Committee and Council. The use of external expertise for all sub-committees of Council was an issue which was being considered by the Working Group on Governance.
Resolved that:

(i) The membership of Safety Committee be amended to state that the lay member need not be a member of Council.

(ii) Council record its thanks to the members of staff in the Safety Office for their work.

76. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES – KPIs: FINANCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Considered a paper from Mr Richard Dale, Executive Director of Finance, on the KPI ‘Financial and Environmental Sustainability’.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document N. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

Noted that:

1. The KPI on Financial and Environmental Sustainability now included a target for staff satisfaction. It was hoped that the 90% rate of overall staff satisfaction achieved in the 2007 Employee Opinion Survey would be maintained when the next survey was undertaken later in the year.

2. The University was considered to be in a strong financial position and targets for surplus were expected to be exceeded in most areas.

3. The infrastructure investment target was set at 6% of income. It was suggested that a percentage of the insurance replacement value might provide a more appropriate figure.

4. Despite improvements in recent years, it was anticipated that the research contribution as a percentage of income would decline in the near future due to the difficult economic environment.

5. The University’s staff costs as a percentage of income was amongst the lowest in the peer group.

6. The recent harsh winter had resulted in increased gas consumption which had affected the University’s progress towards its carbon reduction targets.

77. REPORT FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Received a report from Finance Committee dated March 2010.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document O. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

(i) Quarterly financial report to 31 January 2010

Noted that:

1. Surplus forecasts had been revised upwards from £13.4m to £15.6m, £7.4m above budget.

2. Statement 3 of Annex 1 showed that the University had budgeted for a FRS17 pensions liability of £17.3m as at 31 July 2010 but was showing a forecast of £35.8m at this date. It was suggested that the deficit would have been expected to have been reduced due to the improvements in the stock market over the past
6 months, and reasons for this increased deficit were requested. It was noted that the pensions deficit stated on the balance sheet related to the University’s local scheme, the Retirement Benefits Plan (RBP), only. It was explained that the forecast was based on the actual deficit at 31st July 2009. The forecast deficit was expected to be much lower than shown but the time and expenditure required to update this figure was not considered to be proportionate to the limited value it would provide. FRS17 valuations only provide an indication of the health of the pension scheme and it was considered prudent to wait for the results of the July 2010 full actuarial valuation, the results of which would be available in Spring 2011, before reaching a definitive conclusion on the sustainability of the scheme.

(ii) Downing Nominations Agreement

Noted that the University was asked to consider the possibility of renaming the types of rooms offered (currently standard and premium) to help prevent elitism amongst students.

(iii) Estate Strategy 2007-12 : capital projects update

Noted that:

1. A review of capital projects over £2m had identified that the majority had been completed within budget and to programme and management were to be congratulated on this.

2. Annex 3 referred to the Union Society refurbishment as the Newcastle Student Centre. It was clarified that the Union Society had never considered using the title Newcastle Student Centre and it was requested that it should not be used. The Union Society was currently considering renaming itself as the Students’ Union.

78. UNIVERSITY STATUTES

Considered proposed changes to the Statutes.  
[Circulated with the Agenda as Document P. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

Received:

(i) An explanatory paper.

(ii) An extract from the draft Senate Minutes of 2 March 2010 on Senate’s discussion of this item.

(iii) An extract from the notes of the meeting of Academic Board held on 10 February 2010 on Academic Board’s discussion of this item.

(iv) A paper from UCU that was circulated to Senate.  
[Circulated with the Agenda as Documents Q – T. Copies filed in the Minute Book.]

After noting that:

1. Council would be asked to consider and approve the proposed changes to the Statutes at its meeting on 12 July. However, it was being given the opportunity to discuss the proposed changes now, at this early stage in the process.
2. The proposed changes had been considered by the University’s lawyers and Mr Ashley Wilton, former Head of the Law School, had provided a number of useful comments.

3. The recommendation that the Council’s ‘powers’ be changed to ‘functions’ had been made by the University’s solicitors.

4. The proposed changes to the Model Statute (New Statute 52) were significant and the UCU had expressed opposition to them. The Model Statute had been introduced during the late 1980s when the concept of tenure had been removed. It provided protection for academic freedom but also introduced the requirement that universities should manage their affairs efficiently. Many of the provisions in the Model Statute had been superseded by changes in employment legislation and practice. It was the University’s intention to retain the reference to academic freedom in the Statutes and to strengthen it by including additional references elsewhere.

5. It was considered essential for the Statutes to be compliant with employment law but for them to be sufficiently flexible in order to adapt to future changes in legislation. The proposed changes were considered to be practical and the commitment to academic freedom and national employment legislation ensured that staff would continue to be adequately protected.

6. Most of the University’s processes and procedures relating to the employment of academic staff were reviewed at regular intervals and it was appropriate for this review process to include the Statutes. The University had ensured that staff were provided with suitable opportunities to express their views on the proposed changes.

7. The concept of academic freedom was considered to be fundamental to the University’s operations. The original definition of academic freedom, which was reproduced in new Statute 52, stated that academic staff had ‘freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom...’. It was suggested that this wording could impose a restriction on the University or be used against it by a future administration. It was proposed that true academic freedom should provide academics with the right to make controversial statements, based on academic evidence, without fear of sanction.

8. It was important for staff to be reassured that if a proposal was made to close an academic unit, a discussion at Senate would be required before any decision could be made.

Resolved that the proposed changes to the Statutes, including the changes to the Model Statute, be supported in principle subject to further consideration of a number of detailed points made during the meeting and further discussions with UCU, with a view to bringing a final version of the proposed changes to the meeting of Council in July.

79. ALL SAINTS COLLEGE : CHANGES TO GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Considered a report from Professor Ella Ritchie, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Teaching and Learning on behalf of Executive Board.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document U. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

Received an extract from the draft Senate Minutes of 2 March 2010 on Senate’s consideration of this item.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document V. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]
After noting that:

1. The University had maintained a link with All Saints College (ASC) since it was established in 2002.

2. The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) considered that the rate of improvement at the College could be increased by granting it the status of a National Challenge Trust. National Challenge Trust status required a change in the legal structure of the school and the formation of a charitable trust in which the University would be the lead partner. Additional funding would be made available to help improve standards.

3. The School of Education, Communication and Language Sciences (ECLS) was supportive of the proposal. In the short term, the change was not expected to lead to an increase in student recruitment.

4. The Union Society would be willing to work with the College on community projects.

Resolved that the proposal that the University should participate in the National Challenge Trust initiative by becoming one of the Trust Partners at All Saints College be approved.

80. REVISED CODE OF PRACTICE FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH

Considered a revised Code of Practice for Freedom of Speech which had been approved by the University/Union Society Partnership Committee and endorsed by Executive Board.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document W. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

After noting that:

1. The University was required to put procedures into place to protect freedom of speech within the law.

2. It was suggested that point 2.2 placed limits on freedom of speech by listing expressions which could not be discussed. The Code of Practice also contained a number of caveats which weakened the commitment to freedom of speech.

3. It was important for the University to have an acknowledgement of the type of expressions which were not within the law within the code but the emphasis should be on the positive commitment to freedom of speech.

4. The inclusion of point 2.2 of the code was considered important as it would enable the Union Society be clear about its policy on freedom of speech. The Union Society wanted to ensure it provided a welcoming environment for all students.

Resolved that:

(i) Members of Council should forward any comments on the revised Code of Practice for Freedom of Speech to the Registrar.

(ii) The Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech would return to the next meeting of Council for final approval.
81. CAPITAL PROJECTS

(i) **Re-cladding of Herschel Building** (Minute 77, 30.3.2009)

Received an oral report from Dr John Hogan, Registrar.

Noted that:

1. The legal dispute with the contractors regarding the cladding on the Herschel Building had been resolved via a mediation process.

2. Further work would now be undertaken to re-clad the Herschel Building with granite.

(ii) **Business case for Cookson Administration extension**

Considered a report from Executive Board.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document X. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

After noting that:

1. The Cookson Administration extension was required in order to meet external requirements. The work undertaken in the Cookson Building was essential for much of the University’s medical research.

2. The proposed solution was considered to be the most cost effective. The financial appraisal document was available on request

*Resolved that the Cookson Administration extension proposals be approved by a substantial majority of those present, as set out in Document X.*

Note: Members of Council were reminded of the continued ‘commercial in confidence’ classification of this item.

(iii) **INTO building project** (Minute 52(iii), 8.2.2010)

Received an oral report from Professor Tony Stevenson, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Planning and Resources.

Noted that INTO had now received credit approval to begin construction. A number of issues remained to be resolved in relation to the constructors currently engaged but it was anticipated that building work would commence in a matter of weeks.

82. **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE GREAT NORTH MUSEUM BOARD**

Received the Annual Report from the Great North Museum Board.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document Y. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

Noted that the report provided a summary of the activities of the Great North Museum from 1 August 2008 to 31 July 2009. During the two months following its opening, visitor figures had almost reached the target for the year. The Great North Museum Board and its staff were congratulated on the strong performance it had demonstrated during its first year of operation.
83. **NEWCASTLE SCIENCE CITY** (Minute 60, 8.2.2010)

Received a progress report from Executive Board.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document Z. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

Noted that:

1. An initial meeting had taken place with representative from HMRC to discuss taxation issues. Council members would be provided with a further update once these discussions had concluded.

2. Stakeholder communications were to be improved by the launch of a monthly newsletter which would be sent out by Peter Arnold, Science City CEO.

84. **UNIVERSITY/UNION SOCIETY PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE : REVISED MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Reported that Executive Board had approved revised membership and terms of reference for the University/Union Society Partnership Committee.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document AA. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]

85. **GREAT NORTH MUSEUM BOARD**

Considered a recommendation that Mr Robert Hull be appointed as a member of the Great North Museum Board with immediate effect to 31 July 2011, in place of Mrs Olivia Grant.

*Resolved that the above recommendation be approved.*

86. **COUNCIL'S DELEGATION OF POWERS AND AUTHORITY**

Considered the following proposed amendment to Council's delegation of powers and authority document:

delete: Formation, acquisition and disposal of subsidiary companies or trusts (to Equity Committee)

substitute: Formation, acquisition and disposal of subsidiary companies or trusts (to Executive Board)

*Resolved that the above amendment to Council's delegation of powers and authority document be approved.*

87. **DATES OF MEETINGS 2010-11**

Reported that Council would meet on the following dates in 2010-11:

- 10.30 am 18 October 2010 Council meeting and conference (all day)
- 2.00 pm 13 December 2010
- 10.30 am 7 February 2011 Council meeting and conference (all day)
- 2.00 pm 28 March 2011
- 2.00 pm 6 June 2011
- 3.00 pm 11 July 2011* (followed by dinner)
Council 29 March 2010

*It may be decided nearer the time to hold an all day meeting and conference on 11 July 2011, depending on business coming through at the time. Members were, therefore, requested to hold from 10.30 am in their diaries if possible.

88. REPORTED BUSINESS

Received a report of action taken in accordance with agreed procedures, approved where necessary by the Vice-Chancellor on behalf of Senate and/or the Chairman of Council on behalf of Council, and by other University bodies and Chairmen.

[Circulated with the Agenda as Document BB. Copy filed in the Minute Book.]