

Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol Board of Directors

Wednesday, 23 September 2015

11.30 – 12.10

Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod

Present:

Directors:

Andrew Green (Chair)
Beth Button, Director representing students
Professor Iwan Davies, Higher Education Sector Director
Jacqui Hare, Higher Education Sector Director
Geraint James, Independent Director
Gwilym Dyfri Jones, Higher Education Sector Director
Dr Gwyn Lewis, Independent Director
Dr Rhodri Llwyd Morgan, Higher Education Sector Director

Observers:

Kimberley Meringolo, Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW)

Officers:

Dr Ioan Matthews, Chief Executive
Dr Dylan Phillips, Senior Academic Manager
Dr Gwennan Schiavone, Senior Academic Manager
Dr Dafydd Trystan, Registrar
Nia Brown, Development Officer: Secretariat

Apologies:

Siôn Davies, Welsh Language Officer, NUS Wales
Professor Jerry Hunter
Dr Hefin Jones
Olivia Jones, Universities Wales
Catherine Rees, Secretary, Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol
Professor Hywel Thomas
Ieuan Wyn
Linda Wyn

Item	Main points of discussion	Actions	Timescale
1. Welcome and introduction	1.1 Members were welcomed to the extraordinary meeting of the Board. 1.2 Apologies were received for inclusion in the minutes.		
2. Declarations of interest	2.1 Members were reminded of the procedure by which members are asked to note on the attendance sheet any declarations of interest additional to those already noted on the Registry of Interests.		
3. Correspondence	3.1.1 A letter from David Blaney, Chief Executive of HEFCW, to the Coleg, was noted. 3.1.2 Following a discussion on the letter's contents, a discussion was held on the implications for the Coleg, in terms of undertaking its activities, if the future budget was significantly lower than is currently the case. 3.1.3 A response to HEFCW was approved, in the form of the models requested including a commentary on the impact of the type of cuts that would be required by the type of budgets outlined in the letter.		
4. Revised budget for 2015/16 (BC/15/04/04)	4.1.1 The Registrar gave a presentation on the Coleg's revised Budget for 2015/16, in light of the information received from HEFCW about the budget for 2015/16 and 2016/17. 4.1.2 The revised budget for 2015/16 was noted, including savings that reduce the Coleg's budget to £7.7 million in 2015/16.		

	<p>4.1.3 Following a discussion, the revised budget for 2015/16 was approved, noting that officers would potentially identify further savings during the year. It was reported that a draft budget for 2016/17 would be presented to the Board meeting on 25 November 2015.</p> <p>4.2.1 The savings in the paper were noted, and approval was given, specifically, to the recommendation of freezing posts becoming vacant within the staffing scheme (unless there are particular reasons not to do so), as well as freezing unapproved strategic projects.</p> <p>4.2.2 It was also agreed that the Coleg would not invite any new bids for project funding except for one round of Small Grants awards.</p> <p>4.2.3 The savings identified within national and central activities were noted, and approval was given to the principle that internal posts becoming vacant would not be filled without the approval of the Staffing Committee, until the Coleg's budgetary position became clearer.</p> <p>4.3.1 Arrangements for consulting with the institutions about the Academic Staffing Scheme on posts where the Coleg's funding would expire in 2016 or 2017 were noted and approved.</p>		
<p>5. HEFCW discussion paper</p>	<p>5.1.1 A discussion paper from HEFCW was received and noted.</p> <p>5.1.2 Following a discussion, it was agreed to wait until the Universities Wales meeting in order to establish what the universities' response would be to the proposals in question.</p>		
<p>6. AOB</p>	<p>6.1 It was confirmed that the Coleg's annual meeting, and the Annual Congregation, would be held at the Temple of Peace in Cardiff on 2 March 2016.</p>		

	<p>6.2 It was reported that a different annual report would be published this year that would change the focus in light of the current climate.</p> <p>6.3 It was recommended that a potential seminar should be held for the Directors the night before the ordinary meeting on 25 November.</p>	Development Officer to circulate the date	Immediately
7. Dates and locations of the next meetings	<p>7.1 The next meetings of the Board of Directors for the 2015/16 academic year would be held as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 November 2015, University of Wales: Trinity Saint David • 3 March 2016, Cardiff University • 22 June 2016, Aberystwyth University <p>7.2 Lynwen Davies, simultaneous translator, was thanked for her work, as were the staff of the Metropole Hotel for their support in arranging and hosting the meeting.</p>		