

University of Central Lancashire

UNRESERVED Minutes of the Board Meeting Held on 11 April 2024 at 5.00pm via video-conference

Present:

Sue Ion (Chair)

Graham Baldwin
Jim Carter
Luke Fitzgerald
Ridwanah Gurjee
Lesley Lloyd
Ruth Lowry

Anne McCarthy
Lorraine Norris
Fiona Rayment
Khalil Rehman
Lindsay Robinson
Lis Smith

Also in attendance:

Lisa Brooks (Governance and Compliance Manager)

George Charles (Chief Finance Officer)

Ruth Connor (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Operations))

Ian Fisher (University Secretary and General Counsel and Clerk to the Board)

Andrew Ireland (Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students & Teaching)) for items UB1203 and UB1204

UB1

UB1203. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Annual Report 2022/23

h)-.7 5.7 The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students & Teaching) presented the Annual Report on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) to the Council on 17th October 2023.

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(iii) There were lessons to learn from recent cases outside UCLan about the importance of ensuring appropriate and timely support and adjustments for disabled students, including the need for professional curiosity, early intervention, compassionate communications and institutional connectivity.

(iv)

Professor Ireland agreed with Mrs Lloyd's observation about the difficulties of identifying suicidal ideation in others, and explained that there were measures in place, including suicide awareness and prevention training for students and staff and peer support.

Regarding the reasons why there was a higher proportion of students with a mental health condition at UCLan (6.2%) than elsewhere in the sector (5%), Professor Ireland explained that this was due in part to UCLan's student demographic and widening participation agenda, and also a result of the University's holistic approach which helped students to come forward and request support.

Miss McCarthy commended the excellent work on student support, and enquired how this was integrated into the University's wider strategy, where students might spend fewer days on campus, meaning that it was harder to stay connected, spot signs and intervene. Professor Ireland responded that Student Support colleagues were involved in UCLan Next to ensure that student support was wrapped around those learners, with different support packages available.

Dr Smith added that university provided a safe space for students and staff in terms of their emotional and financial wellbeing, notwithstanding the mode of delivery. Addressing the complex needs of people was an important part of the agenda for changing lives, alongside the provision of training and education. She commended the teams for providing high quality support with limited resource and suggested that this should be recognised more formally by government.

Mrs Lowry added that in her role as Board Safeguarding Champion, she was aware of an excellent infrastructure of mandatory staff training covering a range of issues, h quaw 38 avni h s

UB1210. Students' Union Report

The President of the Students' Union presented a report giving an update on key initiatives and progress made by the Students' Union on current student issues. A

Community Dentists Limited for 2023/24, on the basis that assurances would be provided from other sources including the main audit.

- (v) It had been agreed that the Policy Update prepared by the University's Strategic Data and Policy Insight Team be uploaded to the Teams site each fortnight for Board members' information.

Reserved Minute - Text Redacted

Honorary Awards Committee - 11 April 2024

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