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Partnership council update – issue 5, 3 February 2021

Professor Todd Walker, our new Principal and Vice-Chancellor, chaired his first meeting. The members welcomed Professor Walker and expressed their thanks to Professor Neil Simco for his tenure as Chair while Acting Principal.

Discussions were held on the following items:

Growth deals

There was an update on the various growth deals the university partnership is currently engaged in and with. The members welcomed the breadth of activity across the partnership and the opportunities they present. They also endorsed a general set of guiding principles for supporting significant externally funded projects and agreed and actioned a mechanism to gather their feedback on these. They noted the need for strategic decision making at a programme level to ensure regional effectiveness and to allow transparency and oversight of the benefits and outputs.

Curriculum review

They considered an update on the curriculum review, noting that it integrated well into other change plan activity. The members recognised that a review of the curriculum remained a high priority, that a developmental framework approach to innovative curriculum enhancement was necessary, and that it should fit in with the emphasis on our unique strengths and attractors in related areas such as pedagogy, student support, and student experience. They also agreed that the curriculum review framework would be integrated into other ongoing change work, such as the resource allocation model. They also made some operational and implementation requests for the consideration of workstream owners.

Resource allocation model review

There was an update presentation on the resource allocation model review consultation. Members supported the key principles and reaffirmed their intention to make changes to the model and endorsed the next steps of the work. This would include providing additional detail, including a review of the implementation timelines for further discussion at a future meeting.

Branding and positioning

They agreed to consolidate the strategic positioning and brand ambassador workstreams into a single workstream on strategic communications and positioning, which would support the further alignment of communications and marketing groups and sponsor the development and implementation of a regional strategic communications and engagement programme. This included the members' approval of a set of ten core messages to adopt in a region-wide programme of engagement meetings with local and regional politicians and candidates for the Scottish Parliamentary elections in May 2021.

Financial recovery plan

They received an update on the financial recovery plan. They agreed to further develop and refine this work for and at a special meeting to be held in February 2021, in anticipation of the university court meeting in March 2021 where the plan would be presented.

Other business

They held substantial discussion on the international strategy workstream, which members agreed to both refocus and enhance; a draft of the regional tertiary interim outcome agreement, which members welcomed; and a student support services data management system, which members endorsed.

They also received and noted updates on the response to phase two of the Scottish Funding Council review; academic partner alignment options appraisals; the finance system project; the change management plan; and a report on externally funded programmes.

This is intended as a summary briefing and is not a formal minute of the meeting.

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Ùrachadh comhairle com-pàirteachais - iris 5, 3 Gearran 2021

Bha an t-Àrd-ollamh Todd Walker, ar Prionnsapal agus Iar-Sheansalair ùr, sa chathair aig a' chiad choinneimh. Chuir na buill fàilte air an Ollamh Walker agus thug iad taing don Ollamh Neil Simco airson obair mar Chathraiche fhad 's a bha e na Phrionnsapal an Gníomh.

Chaidh còmhraidhean a chumail mu na nithean a leanas:

Cuisean a fàs

Bha ùrachadh ann mu na diofar chùmhnanntan fais anns a bheil agus leis a bheil com-pàirteachas an oilthighe an sàs an-dràsta. Chuir na buill fàilte air an fharsaingeachd ghníomhachd air feadh a' chom-pàirteachais agus na cothroman a tha iad a' nochdadh. Bha iad cuideachd a' daingneachadh seata coitcheann de phrionnsapalan stiùiridh airson taic a thoirt do phròiseactan cudromach le maoinneachadh bhon taobh a-muigh, agus dh'aontaich agus chuir iad an gnìomh dòigh gus am fios-air-ais a chruinneachadh mun deidhinn. Thug iad fa-near an fheum air co-dhùnaidhean ro-innleachdail aig ìre prògraim gus dèanamh cinnteach à èifeachdas roinneil agus gus soilleireachd agus sùil a chumail air na buannachdan agus na toraidhean.

Ath-sgrùdadh curraicealaim

Bheachdaich iad air ùrachadh air ath-sgrùdadh a' churraicealaim, a' toirt fa-near gu robh e a' ceangal gu math ri gnìomhachd plana atharrachaidh eile. Bha na buill ag aithneachadh gun robh ath-sgrùdadh den churraicealam fhathast na àrd- phrìomhachas, gu robh feum air dòigh-obrach leasachaidh a thaobh neartachadh ùr-ghnàthach air a' churraicealam, agus gum bu chòir dha a bhith a' freagairt ris a' chuideam air na neartan agus na tàlaidhean sònraichte againn ann an raointean co-cheangailte leithid oideachadh, taic oileanach, agus eòlas oileanach. Dh'aontaich iad cuideachd gum biodh frèam ath-bhreithneachaidh a' churraicealaim air fhilleadh a-steach do dh'obair atharrachaidh leantainneach eile, leithid

am modal riarachaidh ghoireasan. Rinn iad cuideachd cuid de dh'iarrtasan obrachaidh is buileachaidh airson beachdachadh air sealbhadairean sruthan-obrach.

Ath-sgrùdadh modail riarachaidh ghoireasan

Bha taisbeanadh ùrachaidh ann air co-chomhairleachadh ath-bhreithneachadh modal riarachaidh ghoireasan. Chuir buill taic ris na prìomh phrionnsapalan agus dhaingnich iad am beachd atharrachaidhean a dhèanamh air a' mhodail agus dhaingnich iad na h-ath cheumannan san obair. Bhiodh seo a' toirt a-steach mion-fhiosrachadh a bharrachd, a' toirt a-steach sgrùdadh air na loidhnichean-ama buileachaidh airson tuilleadh deasbaid aig coinneamh san àm ri teachd.

Brannachd agus suidheachadh

Dh'aontaich iad an suidheachadh obrach ro-innleachdail agus sruthan-obrach tosgaire branda a dhaingneachadh gu aon shruth obrach air conaltradh ro-innleachdail agus suidheachadh, a bheireadh taic do cho-thaobhadh a bharrachd de bhuidhnean conaltraidh is margaidheachd, agus taic do leasachadh agus buileachadh prògram conaltraidh ro-innleachdail roinneil agus com-pàirteachadh. Bha seo a' toirt a-steach aonta nam ball airson seata de dheich prìomh theachdaireachdan airson gabhail riutha ann am prògram choinneamhan conaltraidh air feadh na sgìre le luchd-poilitigs ionadail agus roinneil agus tagraichean airson taghaidhean Pàrlamaid na h-Alba sa Chèitean 2021.

Plana ath-bheothachaidh ionmhais

Fhuair iad ùrachadh air a' phlana ath-bheothachaidh ionmhais. Dh'aontaich iad tuilleadh leasachaidh agus ùrachaidh a dhèanamh air an obair seo airson agus aig coinneamh shònraichte a thèid a chumail sa Ghearran 2021, le dùil ri coinneamh cùirt an oilthighe sa Mhàrt 2021 far am biodh am plana air a thaisbeanadh.

Gnìomhachas eile

Chùm iad deasbad mòr air sruth-obrach ro-innleachd eadar-nàiseanta, a dh'aontaich buill ath-chuimseachadh agus àrdachadh; dreach den aonta builean eadar-amail treas ìre roinneil, air an do chuir buill fàilte; agus siostam riaghlaidh dàta seirbheisean taic oileanach, ris an do chuir na buill taic.

Fhuair iad cuideachd agus thug iad fa-near ùrachaidhean mun fhreagairt do cheum a dhà de sgrùdadh Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba; measaidhean roghainnean co-thaobhadh com-pàirtiche acadaimigeach; pròiseact an t-siostam ionmhais; am plana riaghlaidh atharrachaidh; agus aithisg air prògraman a tha air am maoineachadh bhon taobh a-muigh.

Tha seo an dùil mar gheàrr-chunntas goirid agus chan e geàrr-chunntas foirmeil den choinneamh a th' ann.