



The University of Manchester

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th July 2013

Present: Rod Coombs (Deputy Chair), Claire Kilner (Secretary), Simon Morrison, Ian Rankin, Grace Skelton, Paul Sutherland, Michael Taylor, Janine Watson (Chairman).

In attendance: Chris Cox, James Cumbers, Emma Packham, Markus Karlsson-Jones, Helen Foote

1. Apologies

Jayne Charnock, Shazia Chaudry, Patrick Hackett, Joel Oxberry, Andrew Spinoza.

2. A presentation from Professor Yaron Matras, Professor of Linguistics on the Multilingual Manchester Project

RECEIVED: Presentation on the Multilingual Manchester Project. Further information can be found on the Multilingual Manchester website: <http://mlm.humanities.manchester.ac.uk>

ACTION: Circulate details of the stakeholder event to the Alumni Association Advisory Board Members and Alumni Team. (CK)

3. A report by the Chairman

RECEIVED: Chairman's report.

NOTED: The Cockcroft Rutherford lecture held in June 2013 was a success. Over 500 people attended the lecture by Professor James Thompson on 'In Place of War'. The audience included 40 WP students on the Manchester Access Programme as well as alumni of the University.

The Chairman introduced the new Students Union General Secretary, Grace Skelton.

The Singapore Alumni Association has been set up and is already extremely active.

Autumn Alumni events include the London Dinner on 5th December at HMS Belfast, three Insights Lectures in London and one in Manchester; two with a medical theme of disease prevention and screening, one with a theme around global poverty and one with an arts and humanities theme.

The launch of the Politics and Modern History network in June was very successful. This took place in London at Portcullis House and was hosted by MP Jonathan Reynolds and the Chancellor.

The magazine will be circulated in August to all alumni for whom we have contact details including this year's July graduates.

E-newsletters are circulated to 130,000 alumni each month.

Some AAAB attended the opening of the Alan Gilbert Learning Commons in their capacity as members of the General Assembly.

Claire Kilner introduced the new Assistant Alumni Officer, Helen Foote.

The Alumni Association numbers have grown by 9,446 following the July graduations. All new graduates automatically become Alumni Association members.

All Outstanding Alumni Awards agreed by the Board this year were awarded during the summer graduations.

The Martin Harris Building is 10 years old this year and there will be an alumni element to the celebrations which will include a lunchtime concert, lecture, drinks reception and VIP dinner. This will be held on 17th October.

There were over 450 student applications for the Global Graduates Programme. Twenty students will meet alumni in Singapore, New York, Dubai and Hong Kong to get an insight into international business. 16 of the 20 students will be from a Widening Participation background, whose travel is made possible by a donor to the programme.

4. The minutes of the meeting held on held on 24th April 2013

RECEIVED: Minutes of the meeting held on 24th April.

ACTION: The minutes were approved by members of the Board.

5. Any matters arising from the minutes

ACTION: There were no matters arising.

6. A report by the Director of Development

RECEIVED: Report by the Director of Development.

NOTED: It was reported that the number of alumni making a gift has increased by 20% this year. Gift income has increased this year and participation is good, showing decent levels of engagement.

There is to be a developing partnership between the Peking University Health Science Centre in Beijing and The University of Manchester with the proposal of an integrated centre. Philanthropy can help to accelerate this idea.

The bond for the capital development plan has been agreed at £300 million. We must communicate the message to alumni that small donations are very important.

7. An update from the Task & Finish Action Group for the new Alumni Association Constitution

RECEIVED: Update from the Task & Finish Action Group

ACTION: The Task and Finish group's first meeting has occurred, with one more due in August. Comments on constitutional changes have been received from alumni who contributed to discussions at the AGM. The new constitution which will come out of the Task and Finish group will be brought to the AAAB for agreement, before going to the Alumni Association members at a General Meeting. (CK, PH, JW, IR, MT and PR (Peter Readle))

8. The resignation of an alumni representative from the General Assembly (Mark Blakemore) and the appointment of Vikas Shah to replace him. Vikas came closest runner-up in the recent General Assembly elections

RECEIVED: The Chairman updated the Board on the appointment of Vikas Shah.

9. The invitation to the London Alumni Co-ordinator to become a London based Board member, filling Sharon Youngson's vacancy

PROPOSED: It was proposed that Katherine Chamberlain would be invited onto the Board. She is currently the London Alumni Co-ordinator. Katherine has helped to organise alumni events in London and is a Recruitment Consultant therefore has knowledge around student employability.

ACTION: It was agreed that Katherine would be invited to join the Board. (CK)

Secretary's note – Katherine has accepted the invitation and becomes a member of the Board with immediate effect. Her first meeting will be on the 23 October 2013.

10. The formation of special interest groups and associations in line with the new constitution

RECEIVED: An email which had raised the question about the formation of a separate UMIST group was circulated to the Board for discussion.

NOTED: It was noted that it is important to pay tribute to the heritage of UMIST, whilst recognising the importance of the agreed branding of 'The University of Manchester' going forward. The University has shown its commitment to heritage by its appointment of a full time Heritage Officer in Julian Skyrme's team. It was also recognised that some work was to be done on changing the perceptions of UMIST graduates, welcoming them into an inclusive Association which is for all former students of The University and all its predecessor institutions.

ACTION: It was agreed that staff in DDAR could support the heritage of UMIST, and that former students of UMIST must be encouraged to understand they are part of the Alumni Association, but that no formal group carrying the UMIST name could be supported. (CK and HF)

11. Future AAAB presentations

PROPOSED: A presentation on employability was suggested along with a presentation on the student experience. It was proposed that the two topics are combined as one presentation. Another proposal was a presentation on graphene and some of the issues that now surround its development.

ACTION: Speakers are to be confirmed. (CK and HF)

12. Any other business

The Board would like the Alumni Team to congratulate Professors Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov on their behalf for winning another prestigious award. (CK and HF)

Names were suggested for potential speakers for future events.

13. Dates of future meetings

Wednesday 23rd October 013 at 16:15.

NOTED: The venue should include video conferencing facilities to accommodate Katherine, should she be in London for the meeting (HF).