MINUTES OF MEETING
of the
STRATEGY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, 18 December 2013
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Turing Room

Present:
Dave Robertson (Chair), Jim Bednar, Liz Elliot, Nigel Goddard, Jane Hillston, Mike O’Boyle, Ron Petrick, Steve Renals, George Ross, Alan Smaill, Perdita Stevens, Sethu Vijayakumar, Marjorie Dunlop (Secretary)

Apologies: Jacques Fleuriot

Approval of Minutes
The Minutes of the meeting 27 November 2013 were approved.

Actions from the Minutes of 25 September 2013

Item 3 – Teaching plans for 2014/15

Action
DR will speak with Colin Adams re an Industry Advisory Board

Actions from the Minutes of 16 October 2013

Item 3 – Recruitment strategy

There was general discussion about areas of growth (eg robotics/vision, ILCC priority for replacement at Reader level, Edinburgh a leader in machine translation, credible posting in big data, possibility of interfacing in area of data intensive research with other Schools that take CFs, joint appointment with Education for CF, cyber security, software engineering, succession planning in HCI/neuroscience).

Action
DR to email professoriate with strategy
Actioned

Actions from the Minutes of 27 November 2013

Item 1 – Annual strategic plan

There was a general discussion about the Strategic Plan and what should be included in each sub-heading.
Strategic Goals

a) Excellence in Education
Items discussed included growth of PhD students intake, cultural issues and engagement with students, the international market, feedback to students, space constraints, teaching blocks, course reduction, teaching loads, practical things that can be done, alternative ways to look at our teaching).

Action
MR, PS and BW will form a working group to look at our teaching with initial feedback at next meeting
In progress (meeting scheduled)

Item 3 – Any other business

a) Recruitment strategy
There was further discussion about recruitment strategy for the School (interdisciplinary themes and links to research in other schools).

Action
All – send interdisciplinary themes to Dave by 5 December
Actioned

ITEM 1 – ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLAN

There were the following comments about the Strategic Plan:

Page 2 - add strategic links with EPCC
Page 6 (d) - Dux Award for underprivileged; ongoing commitment to Sutton Trust; Pre-wired activity run by Amy Guy; outreach to local Schools (Ram and Sethu)

Energy saving – computing base

Action
George Ross to email text to EE

Partnerships - include Intel and Synopsis

Page 6 – move bullet to Section D

Comment on variances; impact from CDTs

Action
EE to generate the numbers

Page 2 – three new centres

Use P&DRs to raise staff awareness of their next career steps.
ITEM 2 – HEAD OF SCHOOL’S BUSINESS

DR indicated that he had an enquiry from a representative of a foreign university interested in engaging closely with Informatics. Initial discussions centred on technology transfer, assistance with recruitment and training of their faculty, masters students studying at Informatics, opportunities for PhD students to be taught at Informatics. Teaching will be in English. It was agreed that Informatics should proceed with caution to further investigate this opportunity.

ITEM 3 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

DR congratulated all concerned on the conclusion of our CDT negotiations with EPSRC.

ITEM 4 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 22 January 2014 at 2:00 pm in the Turing Room.