

## UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

## EMPLOYABILITY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 December 2021

*Present:* John Barrow (Co-Chair), Tracey Innes (Co-Chair), Justin Borg Barthtet, Lenka Mbadugha, David Green, Heather May Morgan, Stuart Durkin, Helen Pierce, Norman Hutchison, Ondrej Kucerak, Flora Alapy, Alisdair McKibben

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- 1. Approval of the minute of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021** (EEC/101221/001)  
Minutes read and approved by committee.
- 2. Matters Arising including review of Action Log** (EEC/101221/002)  
No Matters arising. Action Log up to date as of 10/12/2021.
- 3. Education Strategic Risk Register** (EEC/101221/003)  
Regarding area 7 – Comment that encouraging UG students to undertake PG study at the University of Aberdeen doesn't seem like an appropriate response to better our Graduate Outcomes. Moving students into PG study within the UoA simply to address Graduate Outcomes could be interpreted cynically. Suggestion that simply removing UoA might be a simple fix.  
Regarding area 7 – Add to mitigations ii: “Put in place a Group that takes learning from fully online by design work placement courses to develop approaches, policy and actions that increase the opportunities for work placements (or alternatives) as part of an overall approach to support employability”  
Regarding area 9 – Comment that Work Placement Task and Finish Group should perhaps sit somewhere within this area.  
General comment: concern that there are no end days associated with each risk. As a result, we risk not achieving anything or not seen to be achieving anything. Suggested feedback to add a timeline link.  
Suggestion added that it could be that progress be linked to work happening in Task and Finish Groups.  
**(Actions: John Barrow to raise comments to Ruth)**
- 4. Subject level Graduate Outcomes paper for discussion** (EEC/101221/004)  
Discussion of recently published Graduate Outcomes report for information.  
It was noted that the more breakdown of data at school level allows for different disciplines the opportunity to consider options for changes individually.  
Comment that positive results 15 months after graduation is not always a fair reflection across the disciplines. For example, Art History the likelihood of students within disciplines that take up lower-level jobs before getting into jobs that aren't “graduate level” is higher as it takes longer to get into that sector.  
Observation that overall response rate has gone up, but Aberdeen has gone down. Poses the question, what is the response to these comments. What expectation management do we give to students to respond to these surveys?  
Discussion around a high number of students staying within Aberdeen could suggest a deeper dive into the data to understand the geographical economic environment.  
General theme from discussion it was felt that there needs to be further/deeper analysis of the data to understand the figures without jumping to conclusions. It's hard to know how to change outcomes if we don't know the why... A detailed look at the specific destinations of the specific subject levels to better understand if there is a reason for any lower-than-expected figures.

**5. Career Registration Presentation (Verbal)**

Tracey updated the committee on Career Registration for information. Presentation now available to the committee and can be found within TEAMS channel.

**6. Career and Employability Data Insights**

Tracey updated the committee on data insights available required on bi-school engagement. Presentation now available to the committee and can be found within TEAMS channel.

**7. Enhanced Transcript Review Update and Approval**

(EEC/101221/005)

The committee discussed the proposed changes of the ABDNConnect and ABDNCommunity and approved that they be merged into one pathway that is recognised on the Enhanced Transcript and going forward will be called the ABDNConnect Experience Programme.

**8. Update on Work Placement Task and Finish Group**

Tracey updated the committee that the first Work Placement Task and Finish Group meeting had been scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup> and updates from that group would be fed into EEC.

**9. Aberdeen 2040 Graduate Attributes and Skills**

John updated the committee that the first Aberdeen 2040 Graduate Attributes and Skills group were to meet for the first time W/B 13<sup>th</sup> December and updates from that group would be fed into EEC.

**10. Date of Next Meeting:**

Request from the committee that future meetings not be scheduled for Fridays.

**(Actions: Alisdair to liaise with Naomi and request change)**