



UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW

University Council

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 14th December 2020

Participants:

University Council:

Prof. Janusz Bujnicki (Chair)
Prof. Pearl Dykstra
Prof. Poul Holm
Prof. Krzysztof Redlich
Katarzyna Zajdel-Kurowska
Marynika Woroszyńska-Sapieha
Kamil Bonas

University of Warsaw:

Paulina Bełdyga
Bartosz Jurczak
Magdalena Kowalczyk

Prof. Janusz. M. Bujnicki welcomed everybody and opened the meeting; he presented the agenda, informed that it would be the last meeting, and congratulated Kamil Bonas on being elected for the second term of University Council.

(1) Adoption of the agenda

- The agenda was adopted unanimously.

(2) Approval of the minutes of the University Council meetings held on 1-2, 15 October 2020, and 27 November 2020

- The minutes were approved by unanimity.

(3) Technical and organisational matters

- Prof. Janusz M. Bujnicki referred to the issue of the University's expectations and the corresponding support the University can give to the Council.

(4) Preparation for the meeting with the Senate of UW

- The Chairman referred to the issue of the annual statement/report, to the need to approve it at the current meeting, as well as to the relevance of the meeting with the Senate of the University of Warsaw to be held in a moment, in the context of the annual report.

(5) Meeting with the Senate of UW

- At the beginning of the meeting Professor Bujnicki thanked the members and regular guests of the Senate for their response to the invitation. He emphasized that the purpose of the meeting

is to inform the Senate about what the Council has been working on, to share the prospects of the Council and the Senate regarding the most important challenges arising before the University of Warsaw, and to discuss with the Senate the cooperation for the future. He also added that the University Council would like to know the Senate members' perspective on the Council's activities in order to prepare best the final version of the Council's annual report.

- The members of the Council briefly introduced themselves. Professor Bujnicki thanked the Senate for choosing a balanced representation in the first Council of experts representing all major areas of science, finance and business. He referred to the functioning of the Council in connection with the COVID-19, especially how the Council dealt with the challenge of remote meetings. He discussed the legal obligations that the Council had to meet, as well as the issues of strategic advice that the Council considered the most important for the University of Warsaw, which were discussed by the Council at meetings with the Rector's Team, the Chancellery Team, deans and directors of various units at the University, and representatives of the Senate. The strategic issues concerned the University's ambitious plans for all elements of the University's mission, i.e., scientific activity, education, and the University's impact on its environment, as well as the infrastructure necessary to implement those plans. Professor Bujnicki emphasized that the Council's advisory contribution is proportional to the administrative support associated with providing and analyzing information provided by the University. He invited the Senate members to share their perspective on the Council's work to date and the potential for cooperation in the near future.
- In discussion with the members of the Senate of the University of Warsaw, the strategic issues were addressed, including in particular the challenges for the University in communicating the mission and vision between the different levels of management within the University structure and the leaders who can support the planned changes, coordinating efforts to achieve the goals planned in the main strategic projects, increasing the influence of the University of Warsaw on the international arena and overcoming the tensions related to the changes introduced by the reform of the higher education system, especially in the system of evaluation of scientific achievements and in the education of doctoral students. The members of the Board referred to the issues raised from the perspective of experience related to the operation of foreign and international institutions.
- At the end of the meeting, Professor Bujnicki thanked the participants and proposed to continue the discussion with regard to specific topics identified as particularly important for the University of Warsaw, where the Council's assistance could be most effective.

(6) Internal meeting of the Council (summary of the meeting and preparation for the meeting with the Rector's Team)

- Professor Bujnicki summarized the Council's discussions with the Senate and identified the main points for discussion with the Rector's Team.

(7) Meeting with the Rector Alojzy Z. Nowak

- Professor Bujnicki welcomed Rector Alojzy Z. Nowak and asked about urgent matters in which the Council could help or advise.

The Rector thanked for his help in managing the University to date and for the application of some members for membership in the next term of the Council. Then the Rector referred to issues related to the management of the University, including above all the current response in the context of strategic issues, the financial situation of the University, which he assessed as

good, education at all levels, the issue of full-time professors in managerial positions, scholarships for research, the situation of individual units of the University (including, among others, CeNT and ReMedy) and the issue of property management, including raising funds for infrastructure repairs possible in connection with the pandemic. Rector Nowak also answered the Council's question about the Council's resolution suggesting a more precise regulation of managing potential conflicts of interest in cases of relations between University authorities and external business entities.

(8) Meeting with the Rector and the Vice-Rectors

- Professor Bujnicki welcomed the members of the Rector's Team. The discussion focused mainly on the issue of strategic planning at the University of Warsaw and the potential assistance of the Council in matters where an external perspective may be most useful. The members of the Rector's Team and the University Council agreed to focus on selected detailed issues and, in this respect, to form working groups with the participation of individual Vice-Rectors and University Council members in the future.
- At the end of the meeting, Rector Nowak thanked all members of the Council for their cooperation.

(9) Resolution on the approval of the annual report of the First University Council of the University of Warsaw for 2020

- After the discussion on the final content of the annual report of the University Council and changes to the summary reflecting the Council's discussion with the members of the Senate, the resolution was adopted unanimously.
- At the end of the meeting, the University Council members thanked each other and all persons supporting the University Council for their cooperation.

(10) AOB

- No applications were submitted.