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**MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTH WEST REGIONAL COLLEGE HELD IN THE BOARDROOM, STRAND ROAD CAMPUS, ON TUESDAY 22 JANUARY 2008 AT 4.00P.M.**

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**PRESENT:** Prof F Monds (Chair)  
Miss E Cavanagh  
Mr S Murphy (Director)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr C Morrison (Assistant Director, Curriculum) for items 3.5 & 3.6  
Mr D McClelland (Acting Secretary)

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### 3.1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Dame Geraldine Keegan and Mr A Rainey.

### 3.2 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 29 OCTOBER 2007

It was proposed by Mr Murphy seconded by Miss Cavanagh and agreed that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting.

### 3.3 MATTERS ARISING

**2.5 Academic Board.** The Director anticipated that the first meeting of the Board would take place at the end of February.

**2.6 Annual Work Plan.** It was agreed that the plan would be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

### 3.4 CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

**3.4.1 Vice chair.** Miss Cavanagh was proposed by Prof Monds seconded by Mr Murphy and agreed as Vice-chair to the Committee.

**3.4.2 Responses to DEL's consultative documents.** The Chair thanked members for their helpful comments to the 3 documents issued by DEL viz. on Careers Education, Curriculum Provision relating to FE Means Business and the Review of HE in FE. The Director commented that the process used had been very helpful in formulating the College's responses. The Secretary was asked to seek a timetable from DEL on the release of future consultative documents.

**3.4.3 Mid-year review of the CDP.** It was agreed that the review would take place at the next meeting of the Committee.

**3.4.4 Quality Issues.** The Director indicated that the matter would be considered at the next meeting of the Committee. It was also agreed that members' attention would be drawn to matters of concern mentioned in future curriculum reports on the College's performance.

### 3.5 CHINA DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

The Assistant Director (Curriculum) outlined the main issues in the proposal. He considered that the first phase would concentrate on recruiting Chinese students on to NWRC courses. He indicated that the strategy envisaged should result in an initial group of students coming to the College by September 2009. The financial commitment at this stage would be £30000 over a 3 year period. Members discussed the benefits and risks associated with the proposal. It was

agreed to recommend to the Governing Body that the proposal be approved subject to having an appropriate exit strategy in the event of difficulty. It was agreed that all members of the Governing Body should be provided with a copy of the paper.

**3.6 ETI REPORT – EVALUATION OF THE PILOT PROGRAMME IN THE ESSENTIAL SKILLS OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY 2006/07**

The Director considered there were no particular concerns in the report for the College. He indicated that a wider survey specific to NWRC would be published shortly.

**3.7 MINUTES OF NW WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FORUM MEETINGS**

Members noted the minutes of the 2 meetings which had taken place. Members discussed some of the issues which arose including the working relationship between employers and providers of education and training and the challenge of motivating the local community in respect of available employment opportunities. It was agreed to circulate information on local labour needs.

**3.8 ENROLMENT UPDATE**

The Director reported on enrolments to date. He considered that when the January enrolments were taken into account the total FLUs for the year would be close to those agreed with DEL. He noted that the revival of students from R of I had not materialised this year. Members felt that the change in recruitment pattern of part-time enrolments offered a particular challenge to the College.

**3.9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 10 March 2008 at 4.00pm in Strand Road

This being all the business the Chair closed the meeting at 5.25pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_