Summary

The City University London intends to apply to join the University of London federation as a self-governing college. The reason for this application is to demonstrate nationally and internationally that City University London’s profile has increased significantly over the years. Becoming part of the University of London federation, with its excellent research reputation, will confirm City University’s status and allow for further development and collaboration. As a result of joining the University of London, City University will cease to be a university in its own right. In accordance with this application, a name change and alteration to the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor’s title from Chancellor to Rector would be required. This report provides details of the proposed changes.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the City University London’s application to join the University of London federation;
- Note the City University London’s proposal to change its name to either “City University of London” or “City, University of London”; and
- Approve the change of the Lord Mayor’s title from Chancellor to Rector.

Main Report

Background

1. The City University London has approached the City of London Corporation for its comments following the decision by its Council to proceed with an application to join the University of London federation. The reason for this application is to demonstrate nationally and internationally that City University London’s profile has increased significantly over the years by joining the University of London federation, with its excellent research reputation. This opportunity would allow further development and collaboration with other institutions within the federation.
2. The acceptance of City University London’s application to join the University of London federation is dependent on City University ceasing to be a University and becoming a College of the University of London instead. Although the colleges within the University of London federation operate largely as self-governing universities, a University cannot exist within a University under current Government policy.

3. In constitutional terms, the City University London would retain its Charter and Statutes and remain autonomous and self-governing but a name change would be required to become a College of the University of London federation. The University of London would play no part in the City University’s governance, employment or staff, or pastoral relationship with its students.

4. Colleges of the University of London are also not permitted to retain their own Chancellor, a position that is current held by the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor for the City University London. The University has, therefore, considered an alternative title to that of “Chancellor” and have suggested that should be amended to “Rector” to reflect the ambassadorial role of the Lord Mayor. The role of the Lord Mayor and the relationship between the City of London Corporation and the Institution would remain unchanged.

Proposals

5. After careful consideration, that City University London is proposing that its name be changed so that it is known as “City University of London” or “City, University of London” and the Lord Mayor’s title as Chancellor be also changed to “Rector” as part of the Institution’s application to join the University of London federation.

6. It should be noted that the University has assured the City Corporation that these changes will not affect the way in which it functions or operates, including the Court of the University, and the City Corporations rights to nominate three representatives on to the Court will be retained.

Conclusion

7. This report provides details of the relevant implications of the City University London’s application to become a self-governing College of the University of London federation. City University cannot retain its own Chancellor whilst being a College of the University of London. However, the Lord Mayor as Rector will enable the relationship between City University and the City of London Corporation to be retained. City University’s Charter and Statutes will also be amended to allow it to become a College by changing its name to City University of London or City, University of London, as it cannot remain a University in its own right.

Appendices

- None
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