

# UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL LANCASHIRE

## UNIVERSITY BOARD

### **Code of Practice for Directorships of Companies outside the scope of the University Group but in which the University has a financial interest**

The University wishes to encourage its employees to make the fullest possible contribution to the fulfilment of its objectives as noted in the University's recent Strategic Review – 'A World Class Modern University 2007-2017'. With particular reference to the commitment to build an innovative university the University recognises that, in appropriate circumstances, this will involve staff being offered the opportunity to become Directors of companies in which the University has an interest but that are not within the formal University Group Structure.

This Code of Practice is designed to encourage participation in such companies and to ensure the requisite level of protection is in place for the staff involved and the University. The University will, from time to time, issue general guidance on matters relating to participation in spin-out and joint venture companies but cannot provide advice to individual members of staff because of the possibility of a conflict of interest. Any member of staff considering accepting a Directorship of a company is strongly encouraged to take independent legal advice.

- 1 Any appointment of a member of staff of the University as a University nominated . director of a company in which the University has an interest ('Unico') shall be at the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor who will advise the University Board of his decisions. The University will ensure that any member of staff who is nominated as a director of a company, in these circumstances, will receive appropriate training to enable them to fulfil their role as company director.
- 2 Any such appointment will be subject to receipt by the Nominated Officer of written . documentation from the Company Secretary of Unico:
  - (i) drawing the attention of the director designate to his/her legal duties and responsibilities as a company director and the need to exercise due care and diligence in the discharge of such duties.
  - (ii) confirming that the director designate will have access to all appropriate financial information and be specifically made aware of the nature of all financial commitments which Unico may decide to undertake.
  - (iii) confirming that the directors of Unico are protected from liabilities arising from their activities as a director by appropriate insurance cover, quoting the name of the insurer, the policy number and the renewal date. The director designate should ensure that this insurance cover is not allowed to lapse.