University of Strathclyde

SENATE

Minutes: Wednesday 09 November 2011

Present: Principal (in the chair)
Dr K Barton, Dr S Brough, Professor D Christie, Dr A Coddington, Dr C Coles,
Mr T Collins, Professor B Conway, Professor J Corney, Dr P Davies, Dr D Dixon,
Dr D Goldie, Dr M Grant, Dr D Grierson, Professor A Incecik,
Professor A Kendrick, Professor W Kerr, Professor D Littlejohn, Professor R Lunn,
Dr D McBeth, Professor A McGrew, Dr A McLaren, Professor X Mao,
Professor S Marshall, Professor R Martin, Professor C Mason, Professor K Miller,
Dr N NicDaeid, Professor M Pacione, Professor S Porta, Professor M Poustie,
Dr C Prior, Dr S Rasmussen, Dr C Schaschke, Dr S Tagg, Dr S Teriz,
Dr D Willison, Professor P Winn, Dr L Woolfson, Dr J Young

Attending: Mr H Hall, Mr C Singh, Ms R Maxwell Stuart, Professor P Sayer, Professor D Hillier,
Professor C Grant, Dr J Edwards, Mrs J Meredith

Apologies: Professor V Belton, Dr J Ferguson, Professor J Fraser, Professor S Hart,
Professor I Hunter, Professor P McGregor, Dr P McKenna, Dr D Nash, Dr V O'Halloran,
Dr P Riches, Dr O Sutcliffe, Dr R Tate, Dr A Urquhart, Mr B Green

11481 Minutes of the meeting of 14th September 2011

Senate approved the Minutes of the meeting of 14th September 2011.

11482 Matters arising

.1 INTO – Foundation Programmes [SM11475], [ET 385], 1 BP02
Associate Deputy Principal Grant informed Senate that the proposed partnership
with INTO would not go ahead as it had not been possible to agree a termination
clause in the proposed contract. The University considered the proposal by INTO to
be unsatisfactory. While this was disappointing, it was acknowledged that the work
done through internal collaborations would not be wasted and thanks were
expressed to all the staff involved. The University would now consider the lessons
learned from this.

The Principal noted that the decision not to go ahead with the partnership illustrated
the due diligence undertaken by the University. He expressed his thanks to
Professor Grant and the other staff involved in the project and noted that the
University would move forward by concentrating on getting the best out of existing
partnerships and maximising the reputation and quality of the student experience.

.2 TIC - European Investment Bank (EIB) Loan [SM 1473]
The Head of the School of Law reported that he had met with the Chief Financial
Officer to gain clarity on the potential impact of the European Investment Bank (EIB)
loan, which was partly financing the TIC development, and the conditions and
restrictions that may be attached to it. He assured members that he was now
satisfied that the University had adequately evaluated the risks involved in accepting
the loan and that this would not constrain other activity.
He noted his misunderstanding, that may be shared by others, regarding the purpose of the loan which would fund a number of Estates projects and was not wholly associated with the TIC.

11483 Update on the Timetabling Project [SM11476]

Associate Deputy Principal Grant reported that a review of the timetabling project had taken place and that an interim report would be made to the Executive Team. The full report and recommendations would come to Senate in the new year.

The major issues outstanding at the start of semester 1 had been resolved within two weeks, however, some minor issues remained. The Working Group of Vice Deans (Academic) had been enormously helpful in channelling requests from Faculties and engaging with the Timetabling Team. Although an unacceptable level of adverse effects was acknowledged, there had been few incidences of cancelled classes. The focus was now on semester 2 for which a high proportion of classes had already been scheduled and it was hoped to finalise the timetable by the end of November.

It was noted that the current system was essentially a room booking system and that a culture shift was needed to alter the emphasis to a central timetable delivered to departments. The functionality of the whole estate would be re-examined to ensure that the right mix of facilities was available for the following session when co-location would take place. The resources for the project were being re-evaluated with a view to increasing those available, both at department level and centrally. The University of Liverpool had gone through a similar process and produced a detailed report on the implementation of its timetabling system. The Timetabling Team would seek to learn from this and intended to meet with the Manager of the University of Liverpool project.

In response to concerns raised, the Principal noted that a joint approach needed to be found between Academic staff and Estates and that this was not solely within the power or remit of Estates to fix. He reassured Senate that work was underway to ensure that the same problems were not encountered in Semester 2 and that lessons would be learned from this experience to inform the single campus project and to ensure resources were managed optimally as the estate was reduced. He noted, however, that the timing of renovation work had to be carefully considered to avoid peak periods.

Members noted that the current utilisation pattern for teaching rooms was not optimal and that a new method of scheduling classes needed to be found by Academic staff and Estates working together. It was suggested that financial incentives could be used to discourage block booking and underutilisation of rooms.

Senate looked forward to receiving the full report and recommendations.

11484 Convenor’s Action

Senate noted and endorsed the actions taken by the Principal on its behalf as detailed in Paper 3.2.

11485 Principal’s Report and Correspondence

The Principal updated Senate on the following:
• The Scottish Government had announced its three year budget. The result was considered positive, reversing the loss of the previous year over the next four years but only in cash terms. There would therefore still be an overall squeeze on resources. The Unit of Teaching Resource would be restored to 2010/11 levels and there would be a restoration of funding for research pooling activities.
• The position for the Further Education sector was less positive with an almost 14% reduction in funding and significant restructuring expected to create regional clusters of colleges.
• The Scottish Government’s review of university governance was ongoing. The University had responded to the call for evidence and the response would be circulated to members. USSA had also responded. It was felt that the internal reviews of governance and decision making had put the University in a strong position. The report was expected at the end of the year.
• A review of the UCAS process, following concerns around the operation of Clearing, was expected to result in a change to post qualification applications. The number of institutions a student could apply to would be reduced to two. It was noted that, in Scotland, institutions were already considering applications from a significant number of students who had already achieved a number of highers.
• Following Court’s approval of the Strategic Appointment and Investment Scheme which would see the appointment of 40 new academic staff, the first tranche was underway with 4 appointments already made.
• The Student Congress was held in October and attended by 180 student representatives.
• The Director of Human Resources had been chairing a group managing the Single Campus Project, ensuring appropriate consultation and focusing on delivery and lessons learned. The Dean of HASS, in his role as Executive Dean, would take over Chairing this group. A subgroup of the Executive Team would monitor and drive forward this work in order to minimize the risks involved.
• Major research funding wins had been achieved across the Faculties including several from the EPSRC and ERC.
• Scotland’s Education Minister had formally opened the University’s first overseas campus in Greater Noida, India.
• The Deputy First Minister had formally opened the new building of the Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences.
• Adam Brown, a student from the Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, had won the £45,000 Converge Challenge prize, a competition run by Heriot-Watt University aimed at discovering and supporting Scotland’s next generation of entrepreneurs.
• Marine Engineering student, Peter Dow, had been named student of the year, and also won the best maritime technology award in the Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) awards.
• Professor Chengi Kuo, of the Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering took the SET lecturer of the year award.
• The Senate of the Fraunhofer Institute had given its approval in principle for its first presence in the UK to be at Strathclyde in photonics.
• The new portfolios of the Executive Deans were reported as follows:
  o Dean of HASS: The Single Campus Project
  o Dean of Business: The Internationalisation Agenda
  o Dean of Engineering: The Estates Development
  o Dean of Science: Institutional and Financial Planning
11486 Ministerial Statement: Post-16 Education Reform

The Vice Principal gave a brief presentation on the content of the Ministerial Statement on Post-16 Education. The priority areas included:

- Efficient, flexible learner journeys:
- Widening access to post-16 learning with the potential statutory duty to widen access
- Aligning learning/skills with jobs & growth and supporting the economy via Knowledge Exchange, Research & Innovation
- Maintaining Scotland as a global research leader with the greater concentration of research funding and the creation of a single knowledge-exchange office
- Fair and affordable student support:
- Effective and sustainable delivery with the regionalisation of colleges and removal of duplication from the system
- Revised funding system. Outcome based.
- Performance, governance and accountability

It was noted that the statutory duty to widen access may include targets for institutions with measures for non achievement of these similar to the current claw back on recruitment.

The possible concentration of research funding on increasingly higher quality would have implications for funding. The University would need to consider the impact of this change.

The proposed creation of a single Knowledge Exchange office was not supported within the sector. The Knowledge Exchange grant was expected to be retained and incentives, such as the formation of mini TICs, were planned but the details were not yet clear.

The consultation was open until 23 December 2011 and the University was presently drafting a response. Members were requested to forward any comment for this response to the Committee Manager. The University welcomed this opportunity to highlight the existing engagement of Strathclyde in the agenda and planned to use the recommendations to set the future position of the University. This would be discussed at a strategic session of Senate in January 2012.

11487 Rest of UK Fees

The Vice Principal reported that Court had approved fees for rest of UK (RUK) students of £9000 per annum capped at £27000 for undergraduate programmes. Following discussion at the last meeting of Senate, the matter had also been discussed by Court Business Group, Senate representatives on Court and with USSA before approval by Court.

The University had designed a package of bursaries to help RUK students to manage the cost of coming to university, focused towards those from the poorest backgrounds. The Bursary would be based on the residual household income levels used by the Student Loans Company and would supplement the statutory forms of financial support that would be available to RUK students from their own national and local authorities. Based on the overall package of support that would be offered, up to £7500 would be available to eligible students to help pay for living costs. Eligible students would be allocated an award in each year of study within the following bandings:
Residual Household Income | Annual Bursary Award
---|---
£21,000 or less | £4,250
£21,001 - £25,000 | £2,500
£25,001 - £30,000 | £1,500
£30,001 - £35,000 | £500

It was noted that this was a more generous package than that offered by many institutions, both in the amount offered but also in the household income used in the bandings, which offered the highest amount to those with an income of up to £21,000.

It was noted that fees for integrated masters programmes would be £9,000 per annum for four and not five years.

11488 Integrated Master in International Business with Modern Languages
The Vice Dean (Academic) of the Business School reported that the Faculty wished to introduce an integrated Masters in International Business with Modern Languages to replace the existing five year Honours degree.

The Faculty had two courses which incorporated one year spent studying overseas; the BA (Hons) International Business with Modern Languages and the BA (Hons) International Business. For the BA (Hons) International Business, students spent their third year abroad studying in English and gained 120 credits, returning to the UK to complete their final, Honours year. The BA (Hons) International Business with Modern Languages required students to spend their fourth year studying overseas in the language of their host country for which they gained no credit towards their degree and returned to the UK to complete their Honours year as their fifth year of study. The proposed new programme would allocate credit for the year spent overseas, ensuring that students achieved appropriate learning outcomes, enabling them to complete 600 credits over the five years and achieve a Masters qualification with their final year of study being at Masters level.

Senate approved the Masters in International Business with Modern Languages for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations and recommended to Court the award title and abbreviation "Master in International Business with Modern Languages (MIBML)" be approved for inclusion in Ordinance 3.1 from 2012/13.

11489 Vertically Integrated Projects
The Vice Principal reported that, following the discussion and the strategic meeting of Senate in January 2011, Professor Ed Coyle from Georgia Tech had visited Strathclyde and a number of pilot projects had been developed. These would be launched in semester 2. Students would be able to participate in one of these projects as a standalone 10 or 20 credit module as part of, or in addition to, their curriculum or as part of a larger module such as the Management Development Programme in the Business School.

The Module Descriptors for the modules concerned had been to the Faculty Boards but had missed the deadline for Senate. Senate agreed that the Principal should be given the authority to take Convener’s action to approve these and to waive the appropriate regulations to allow for the required 10 credit modules.
11490 Items for Recommendation to Court

.1 Change of Name of Department of Civil Engineering
Senate resolved to recommend to Court that the Department of Civil Engineering be renamed the 'Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering' from 1 August 2012, as set out in Appendix 1 of BP05.

.2 New Head of School of Government and Public Policy
Senate resolved to recommend to Court that Professor James Mitchell be appointed the Head of the School of Government and Public Policy for the period 1 October 2011 to 31 July 2014.

11491 Recommendations for Approval nem con

.1 Collaborative Arrangements
.1 Termination of Collaborative Agreement with Dumfries and Galloway Council
Senate approved the termination of the Collaborative Agreement with Dumfries and Galloway Council and the closure of the Postgraduate Certificate in Additional Support for Learning when the last student had completed the course. Senate noted that students would be well supported during the closure process. B(iii) BP07

.2 Withdrawal of the MLitt in Northern Renaissance Studies
Senate approved the withdrawal, from session 2011/12, of the MLitt in Northern Renaissance Studies and the associated collaborative Agreement with the University of Glasgow. B(iv) BP07

.2 Introduction of Courses and Classes
.1 Civil and Environmental Engineering MSc Programmes via Open Access
Senate approved the Postgraduate Programmes in Civil and Environmental Engineering via Open Access for introduction from 2011/12, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. A2 and Appendix 2 BP05

.2 MSc in Global Energy Management
Senate approved the MSc in Global Energy Management for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B1 and Appendix 2 BP06

.3 MSc in Applied Economics
Senate approved the Postgraduate MSc in Applied Economics for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B2 and Appendix 3 BP06

.4 BA in International Business with Modern Languages
Senate approved the BA in International Business with Modern Languages for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B3.b and Appendix 5 BP06

.5 Games of Strategy
Senate approved the new class, Games of Strategy, be approved retrospectively for introduction in semester 2 of the 2011/12 academic session, for inclusion as an optional class in the MSc Economic and Management
Policy degree, subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee.
C1 BP06

.6 Developing Skills for Effective Management Consulting
Senate approved the new class, Developing Skills for Effective Management, for introduction from September 2012, for inclusion as an optional class in the MBA degree, subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee.
C2 BP06

.3 Amendments to Existing Courses
.1 Bachelor in Business Studies (in named specialism) BBS/SKIL, A1 BP06
Senate approved the revised regulations for the Bachelor of Business Studies with Honours (in named specialism), for introduction from July 2012, subject to approval of the detailed regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. A1 and Appendix 1 BP06

.2 MSc Finance
Senate approved the amendments to the MSc Finance in order to align it with the university’s 10/20 postgraduate credit structure, subject to approval of the detailed regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. D1 & Appendix 6 BP06

.3 MSc Investment and Finance
Senate approved the amendments to the MSc Investment and Finance in order to align it with the university’s 10/20 postgraduate credit structure, subject to approval of the detailed regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. D2 & Appendix 7 BP06

.4 MSc International Accounting and Finance
Senate approved the amendments to the MSc International Accounting and Finance in order to align it with the university’s 10/20 postgraduate credit structure, subject to approval of the detailed regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. D3 & Appendix 8 BP06

.5 MSc International Banking and Finance
Senate approved the amendments to the MSc International Banking and Finance in order to align it with the university’s 10/20 postgraduate credit structure, subject to approval of the detailed regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. D4 & Appendix 9 BP06

.6 MSc Coaching and Mentoring
Senate approved the amendments to the MSc Coaching and Mentoring in order to align it with the university’s 10/20 postgraduate credit structure, subject to approval of the detailed regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. D5 & Appendix 10 BP06

.4 New Prizes
.1 The C.D. Grant Prize (Chem Eng),
Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the C.D. Grant Prize for inclusion in the University Calendar, listed under the Faculty of Engineering, with effect from 2012/13. B1 BP05

.2 The Stalker Prize (Chem Eng)
Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the Stalker Prize for inclusion in the University Calendar, listed under the Faculty of Engineering, with effect from 2012/13. B1 BP05

.3 The ConocoPhillips UK Limited Prize (Chem Eng)
Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the ConocoPhillips UK Limited Prize for inclusion in the University Calendar, listed under the Faculty of Engineering, with effect from 2012/13. B1 BP05

.5 Amendment to Existing Prize Entries:
.1 The ConocoPhillips UK Limited Summer Placement (Chem Eng)
Senate approved the amendments to the ConocoPhillips UK Limited Summer Placement, subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. B2 BP05

.2 Institution of Chemical Engineers, Scottish Branch Prize
Senate approved the amendments to the Institution of Chemical Engineers, Scottish Branch Prize, subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. B2 BP05

.6 Removal of Prizes
.1 British Sugar plc (Chem Eng)
Senate approved removal of the British Sugar plc prize from the University Calendar.

.2 British Aluminium Scholarship (Chem Eng)
Senate approved removal of the British Aluminium Scholarship from the University Calendar.

.3 Institution of Chemical Engineers (Scottish Branch)
Senate approved removal of the Institution of Chemical Engineers (Scottish Branch) prize from the University Calendar.

.4 Don C MacDougall Memorial Prize in Geography
Senate approved removal of the Don C MacDougall Memorial Prize in Geography from the University Calendar.

11492 Items for Information

Senate noted the following items of information and noted also that Items 9 and 16 were reserved under the Freedom of Information Act as being commercially sensitive.

.1 Business Committee Report, Paper 6.1
.2 Strathclyde Business School – Ranking [ET 381], 2 BP02
.3 Strathclyde Entrepreneurial Network (SEN) [ET 368], 3 BP02
.4 Business Process Improvement, SLEEK [ET 386], 4 BP02
.5 Executive Team Strategic Session, 16 September [ET 387], 5 BP02
.6 Fundraising Campaign [ET 369], 6 BP02
.7 Industrial Action [ET 389], 7 BP02
.8 Other matters, 8 BP02
.9 Voluntary Early Release Scheme (VERS) Update [CM 4542], 1 BP03
.10 Enhancement Led Institutional Review (ELIR): Follow-up Report [CM 4545], 3 BP03
.11 Institutional Statement on Internal Review Activity [CM 4546], 4 BP03
.12 University's Response to the Scottish Government Review of Higher Education Governance [CM 4548], 5 BP03
.13 Governance Review Report [CM 4547], 6 BP03
.14 Senate’s Report to Court [CM 4549.1], 7 BP03
.15 Appointment of Heads of Department [CM 4551], 8 BP03
.16 Technology Innovation Centre (TIC) [CM 4550], 9 BP03
.17 Statement of Intent - MSc in Criminal Justice and Penal Change, B(i) BP07
.18 Statement of Intent - LLM in Legal Practice, B(ii) BP07
.19 Revised Approach to ESC Meetings/ Expectations of Committee Members, 340 BP08
.20 Update from USSA on Key Activities, 341 BP08
.21 Update from Associate Deputy Principal on Key Issues/ Activities, 342 BP08
.22 Update from Faculties on Key Priorities, 343 BP08
.23 Discussion Around Draft Education Strategy Action Plan 2011/2012, 344 BP08
.24 Motivational Commendation, 345 BP08
.25 Minutes of the Research & Knowledge Exchange Committee meeting of 6th September 2011, BP09
.26 Minutes of the meeting of Ordinances and Regulations Committee held on 19th April, 3rd and 15th June and 27th September 2011, BP10
Senate approved the amendments to Regulation 5, Student Discipline, as detailed at item 4365 BP10.
.27 Minutes of the meeting of Quality Monitoring Committee held on 20 June 2011, BP011
.28 Minutes of the meeting of Senate Appeals Committee held on 17th and 21st October 2011, BP12
.29 Minutes of the meetings of Senate Discipline Committee held on 14th and 19th September 2011, BP14

11493 RESERVED BUSINESS