SENATE

Minutes: Wednesday 12 September 2012

Present: Principal (in the chair)
Dr M Alexander, Professor V Belton, Dr E Bonnar, Dr C Clark, Dr C Coles, Dr
P Davies, Dr D Goldie, Dr M Grant, Dr D Greenhalgh, Dr D Harle, Professor I
Hunter, Professor D Littlejohn, Professor A McGrew, Dr A McLaren, Dr D
McMillian, Mr G McPheat, Professor X Mao, Dr J Mowat, Professor D Nash,
Professor N Nic Daeid, Professor D Nickson, Dr I Oswald, Mr C Philpott,
Professor M Poustie, Dr S Rasmussen, Dr C Schaschke, Professor P
Skabara, Professor R Stewart, Dr S Teriz, Dr J Young

Attending: Mr H Hall, Professor C Grant, Professor T Bedford, Mr B Green, Professor D
Hillier, Mr M Moir, Ms D Ucbas, Mr S Jennings, Mrs E Magennis, Mrs J
Meredith

Apologies: Dr S Brough, Professor D Christie, Mr T Collins, Dr J Ferguson, Professor J
Fraser, Professor S Hart, Professor A Kendrick, Professor W Kerr, Dr D
McBeth, Professor S MacGregor, Professor A Marshall, Dr V O'Halloran, Dr R
Tate, Professor J Thomson, Dr D Willison, Professor P Winn, Professor L
Woolfson

11531 Minutes of the meeting of 6 June 2012

Senate approved the Minutes of the meeting of 6 June 2012.

11532 Matters arising from the Minutes (and not otherwise on the Agenda)

.1 Outcome Agreement 2012/13 [SM 11522.1]
The Principal reminded members of the Funding Council’s requirement for each
institution to sign an Outcome Agreement as a condition of grant. The preparation
of the Outcome Agreement had taken place throughout July and August and final draft
was currently with the Funding Council with publication expected to be imminent.
The present agreement covered three themes; Widening Access, Knowledge
Exchange and Pattern of Provision but future agreements would cover eight themes
specified by the Funding Council.

The University was retaining its strategic focus with the commitments being made
already milestones on its intended journey. However, it was noted that the Outcome
Agreement must impact on all areas of the University and the Executive Deans,
Executive Team, Court members and student representatives had been involved in
developing and been consulted on the planned commitments. Progress would be
tracked and resources made available to ensure delivery.
Convenor’s Action

Senate noted and endorsed the actions taken by the Principal on its behalf as detailed in Paper 3.1.

Principal’s Report

The Principal updated Senate on the following:

- The University had been shortlisted in four categories of the annual Times Higher Education Awards; UK University of the Year, Entrepreneurial University of the Year, Outstanding Support for Early Career Researchers and Outstanding Contribution to the Local Community awards for the work of the Law Clinic.
- The University had achieved positive results in the National Student Survey. Overall Satisfaction had gone up by 2 points to 89 above both the UK average and the average for participating Scottish institutions. Scores had increased for each section of the survey and Assessment & Feedback had increased by 5 points to 66. The new question, regarding the Students’ Association, had also received a high score.
- Entry tariffs to the University had increased year on year from 2007/8 while the University’s widening access position had been maintained (best research intensive institution at attracting students from MD20 areas) proving that these were not mutually exclusive.
- Admissions targets had been exceeded with 2841 admissions overall against a target of 2740.
- The number of new Rest of UK students, not normally significant, had decreased this year and consideration would be given to any action required to address this.
- The University’s employment performance indicator was ahead of benchmark institutions at 92.3%. This was slightly behind the Scottish average but ahead of the UK average. The University would continue to exploit its contacts for the benefit of its students in this area.
- The University had been awarded a £300,000 grant under the joint £180 million Biomedical Catalyst made by the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the Technology Strategy Board.
- The University was a partner in the new UK-wide Centre for Creativity, Regulation, Enterprise and Technology (CREAte) consortium, which comprised seven UK universities and more than 80 industry and arts sector partners. An £8 million research centre would be supported by £5 million of funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and Economic and Research Council (ESRC).
- The School of Law’s Centre for Law, Crime and Justice had secured a two-year research grant for £260,000 from the Economic and Biological Sciences Research Council.
- The Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering had secured a £1.2M grant from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.
- Several high value research bids had been successful across the University
- Strathclyde was leading on one and a partner in another of the six shortlisted bids for Scottish Innovation Centres. Further opportunities for partnership working had been identified through the bidding process.
- The University continued discussions with the ‘International Prevention Research Institute’ (iPRI), in Lyon France, about the development of a joint MSc in ‘Global Public Health’. iPRI employed high profile staff to conduct research that was published in international journals of quality. Wide ranging activities were being discussed including submission of iPRI staff in the Strathclyde REF submission. Approval in principle had been received from Senate and Court and the full proposal would come to Senate in November.
Key Information Sets
The Vice Principal reported that the University had submitted the required data on Key Information Sets (KIS) by the deadline. The information would be available to the public, on the UNISTATS website, from 24 September 2012. The data would need to be refreshed for the following year, possibly with additional data requirements. An enormous amount of work, from staff across the University, had gone into pulling the required information together and the Vice Principal expressed his thanks to the KIS team and the Departmental and Professional Services staff who had worked on this project.

11535 Single Campus Project
The Executive Dean of HaSS reported that the relocation of staff and students from Jordanhill to the John Anderson campus had been successful and would shortly be completed with 10 remaining staff due to move on 17th September. The majority of staff had now moved into the Lord Hope Building and further co-location would take place in line with the phased approach already outlined. Over 600 students had begun their courses on the John Anderson campus. The move had gone to schedule and budget without major disruption. The Executive Dean expressed his appreciation of the work done by the Project Team, Heads of Schools, Estates Services and Faculty staff in facilitating the move. An open day would be held on 5th October to give all University staff an opportunity to tour the refurbished Lord Hope Building.

The Assistant Director, Estates reported that timescales for the re-occupation of the James Weir would be available shortly and that there were a number of projects ongoing to upgrade the estate. These included; the Business School project, due to start at the end of the year, an extension to and refurbishment of the John Anderson, upgrading of the entrance and social areas of Livingstone Tower and 104 new teaching rooms brought on line.

11536 Timetabling Project
Associate Deputy Principal Grant updated members on the timetabling arrangements for semester 1 which had gone well. The early start timetable for PGDE students was in operation and the standard start timetable had been published on schedule. Some unscheduled activity remained for the smaller rooms and work was progressing on this, however, all of the activity in the larger teaching rooms had been scheduled. Essential alterations would be made but preferences could not be accommodated.

Refurbishment had been ongoing over the summer, rooms were being brought online daily and space was available to deal with contingencies. It was recognised that not all facilities could be refurbished at once and that some facilities had not yet been fully upgraded. A review of the quality of the whole estate, taking account of the views of all those using it, was suggested.

The Principal thanked Associate Deputy Principal Grant and all those involved in this project.

11537 Formalising PGR credit requirements
The Vice Dean Academic in the Science Faculty introduced a paper which proposed a number of amendments to current policy to support consistency of the PGR
experience and better align the University with the expectations of funders. A working group had developed a set of proposals, based on the Researcher Development Framework and Statement, for a regulated, 60 credit programme, that all PGR students would take as part of their studies, to replace the current 15 credit minimum. This would be done by recognising existing provision within departments and the University’s Researcher Development Programme (RDP) by making these credit-bearing. This would include all types of skills training and flexibility would be at the core of the programme, allowing for departmental and individual circumstances to be considered. An analysis of existing provision was not yet complete.

Provision would be weighted across the four domains of the nationally-endorsed framework and a 10 credit elective class would be incorporated to embed flexibility. The proposals were not aimed at taught doctoral students although their core classes should be mapped to the four domains. It was acknowledged that how MPhil students would be affected had yet to be finalised.

It was noted that external research students would have to complete the 60 credits but that flexibility in delivery would enable this. Exemptions would be granted from elements of the programme if a doctoral candidate had already successfully completed an appropriate alternative or could provide evidence of prior learning in relevant areas. The need to build in quality assurance and monitoring procedures from the start was highlighted.

The proposals were welcomed though concerns were raised regarding an increase in assessment, the place of discipline specific training, possible unintended consequences for those completing a PhD on a tight timescale and the amount of work that would be involved over the coming year to get everything in place. It was noted that, with forthcoming bids for Doctoral Training Centres and the Doctoral Training grant up for review, implementation could not be delayed. The academic year 2012/13 would be used as a shadow year for the programme to test practice in advance of a formal introduction in 2013/14. The programme would only apply to new doctoral students from 2013/14.

Senate approved the proposals in the report (Paper 3.4) in principle noting that a report would be brought to Senate in March 2013.

11538 Curriculum Renewal in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

The Vice Dean Academic HaSS updated Senate on the undergraduate programme review undertaken by the Faculty following the June 2010 Merger Implementation Group report. It aimed to create a flexible overarching framework, reinforce strong subject disciplines and facilitate integration and interdisciplinary working. The proposals had been endorsed by the Curriculum Steering Group, Faculty Academic Committee, Faculty Management Team and Board of Study. Senate would receive regular updates on progress.

The Framework built on the existing strengths of the BA Arts and Social Sciences, embedded interdisciplinary study and working, preserved student choice, responded to the Donaldson Review of Teacher Education which envisaged a broader base for students earlier in their course, provided greater cross Faculty consistency in the student experience and integrated Teacher Education as well as Education as a discipline in its own right. It was noted that the themes detailed in the paper had emerged from a workshop on interdisciplinary working and feedback from across the Faculty and that there was the potential and framework for new subjects to be developed.
The interdisciplinary proposals were welcomed and it was hoped that, in the future, these would embrace the Vertically Integrated Projects and cross faculty working. It was also noted that the broad base of level 7 study facilitated advanced entry and resonated with current changes in the sector.

Senate approved the proposals in Appendix 1 of BP07 and the broad framework for the newly revised undergraduate curriculum, noting that courses would be revised and approved during 2012/13 with a view to introduction in the academic session 2013/14.

11539 Items for Recommendation to Court

.1 SFC report: internal review activity
Senate resolved to recommend to Court the Annual Statement on Institution-led Review of Quality: Academic Year 2011-12 for approval.

11540 Recommendations for Approval nem con

.1 Membership of Senate and Senate Representatives on Committees
The Principal highlighted the remaining vacancies on Senate and for Senate representatives on some of the committees and asked members to consider serving and encourage their colleagues to seek nomination to Senate.

Senate approved the proposal to extend the membership of the Panel for Ordinance 4 Joint Committees along with the membership of Senate and the Senate Representatives on Committees as detailed in paper 5.1.

.2 Review of Strathclyde Business School: November 2011
Senate approved the report of the Review of the Strathclyde Business School (SBS) conducted in November 2011. 273 & Annex 2 BP11

.3 First Year Exemption Level,
Senate approved the proposal that the exemption level in all first year classes, in the Business School, be raised from 55% to 60%. B1 BP06

.4 Appointment of Vice Deans or Associate Deans

.1 Vice-Dean (Knowledge Exchange) Science
Senate approved the re-appointment of Dr A Mulholland as Vice-Dean (Knowledge Exchange) in the Faculty of Science for the period from 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2014. C1.2 BP04

.5 Collaborative Arrangements

.1 Collaborative Agreements with the Prince’s Foundation for Building Community
Senate noted that a new agreement between the Department of Architecture and the Prince’s Foundation for Building Community (PFBC) had been developed to develop teaching material and new programmes with a focus on sustainability. The agreement was valid for a period of two years, until 30 June 2014, in the first instance. It had been approved by Convenor’s Action on behalf of Senate, with approval for signature by the Head of Department of Architecture on behalf of the Principal. A2.1 Appendix 1 BP05
.2 MoU: NED University of Engineering and Technology, Pakistan
Senate noted that a MoU for the exploration of collaboration with the Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, including articulation to UG and PGT degrees, a split PhD programme, and research collaboration, had been signed with NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi. The MoU would be valid for five years., A2.2 Appendix 2 BP05

.3 MoU: Mehran University of Engineering and Technology, Pakistan
Senate noted that a MoU for the exploration of collaboration with the Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, including articulation to UG and PGT degrees, a split PhD programme, and research collaboration, had been signed with Mehran University of Engineering Technology, Kamshoro. The MoU would be valid for five years., A2.2 Appendix 3 BP05

.6 Introduction of Courses and Classes

.1 Approval of Subject Combinations
Senate approved the following subject combinations in the Business School from session 2012/13 subject to approval of the regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, A1 BP06

- Management and Business Law
- Human Resource Management and Business Law
- Business Technology and Business Law

.2 Reintroduction of the LLM in Information Technology and Telecommunications Law for session 2012/13
Senate approved the reintroduction of the LLM in Information Technology and Telecommunications Law for session 2012/13, subject to approval of the regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. B2 BP07

11541 Items for Information
Senate noted the following items of information:

.1 Business Committee Report, Paper 6.1
.2 REF2014 Equality and Diversity Code of Practice, Paper 6.2
.3 Strathclyde Public Policy Institute [ET 530], 1 BP02
.4 Business Reports [ET 531], 2 BP02
.5 The Graduates Association [ET 532], 3 BP02
.6 Technology And Innovation Centre (Tic) [ET 533], 4 BP02
.7 Budgets Progress Report 2012/13 [ET 534 / 543], 5 BP02
.8 Estates Project [ET 539], 6 BP02
.9 Catering Report [ET 540 / 549], 7 BP02
.10 New Approach To Investment In Spin-Outs [ET 547], 8 BP02
.11 Strathclyde’s Lean Approach To Efficiencies In Education (Sleek) [ET 548 / 556], 9 BP02
.12 2014 Celebrations: Outline Proposals, 10 BP02
.13 Single Campus Project [ET 551], 11 BP02
.14 Overseas Student Recruitment And Internationalisation [ET 553], 12 BP02
.15 Outcome Agreement [ET 557], 13 BP02
.16 Budget/ Financial Forecast, 3 BP03
| .17 | Strategy refresh, 4 BP03 |
| .18 | Business Report and development of the new University/Scottish Funding Council Outcome Agreement, 5 BP03 |
| .19 | Estates Projects, 6 BP03 |
| .20 | Graduates' Association, 7 BP03 |
| .21 | Single Campus project, 8 BP03 |
| .22 | Commercialisation strategy, 9 BP03 |
| .23 | Loyal Address, 10 BP03 |
| .24 | Annual Health & Safety Report, 11 BP03 |
| .25 | USSA Financial Statements, 12 BP03 |
| .26 | Corporate Risk Register, 13 BP03 |
| .27 | Court Membership Group, 14 BP03 |
| .28 | Re-appointment of Dean, Science, C1.1 BP04 |
| .29 | Professional Development: Safety and Risk Management, Integrated Supply and Trading, C BP07 |
| .30 | Update on the Future Shape of Education Vision Paper, 367 BP08 |
| .31 | Future role and remit of the committee; 365 BP08 |
| .32 | Update on the Learning Enhancement Framework; 366 BP08 |
| .33 | Industry Engagement; 367 BP08 |
| .34 | Education Excellence Funds, 368 BP08 |
| .35 | Minutes of the Research & Knowledge Exchange Committee meeting of 8 May 2012, BP09 |
| .36 | Minutes of the meeting of Ordinances and Regulations Committee held on 18 June 2012 and 18 July 2012, BP10 |
| .37 | Minutes of the meeting of Quality Monitoring Committee held on 27 June 2012, BP011 |
| .38 | Minutes of the meetings of Senate Discipline Committee held on 31 May 2012 and 4 July 2012, BP14 |

11542 RESERVED BUSINESS