11502 Minutes of the meeting of 25 January 2012

Senate approved the Minutes of the meeting of 25 January 2012.

11503 Convenor’s Action

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

11504 Principal’s Report and Correspondence

The Principal updated Senate on the following:

- The Universities Scotland Executive Committee had met the previous day and was preparing for the next spending review and anticipating the key issues this would focus on.
- The Scottish Government, along with the Funding Council and Scottish Enterprise, planned to replicate the TIC model in a series of Scottish Innovation Centres. The University was keen to play a part in Centres focusing on Business subject areas and Advanced Sensors and Systems.
- It was anticipated that the Scottish Government would require universities to sign Outcome Agreements with the Funding Council from 2012/13. The Outcome Agreements would be a condition of grant and were expected to cover areas such as retention, articulation, accelerated degrees, widening access, international recruitment, patterns of provision, collaboration with industry and employability of graduates.
- The Report of the Review of Higher Education Governance was published by the Scottish government on 1 February (available at http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/02/3646). The Government had not
set a timeline for consultation on the recommendations or for the proposed legislative programme. The University had developed a draft response, available for Members to view on the Senate SharePoint site at https://moss.strath.ac.uk/corpservices/committees/senate, and was also contributing to a sector wide response being prepared by Universities Scotland.

- The Browne Report had included a requirement for English universities to publish standardised information for all undergraduate courses in the form of a Key Information Set (KIS). This was designed to meet the needs of prospective students and allow for informed decision making when choosing a university course. The Funding Council expected Scottish Universities to publish the same information on the Unistats website from August 2012. The majority of the data required already existed within the University but would need to be located and co-ordinated for publication.

- The Principal thanked all those who had provided support to the staff and students displaced from the James Weir Building following the fire which had allowed business to continue in many areas.

- Planning permission for the TIC building had been confirmed, clearing of the site had begun and building work would commence in the next few weeks.

- Plans for a £50 million UK-wide Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Catapult centre, had been announced, at the University, by the Business Secretary Vince Cable.

- Five Strathclyde academics and one honorary graduate of the University had been named as Fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE).

  - Professor John Bachtler, Director, European Policies Research Centre
  - Professor Sheila Bird OBE, Visiting Professor, Department of Mathematics & Statistics
  - Professor Sara Carter OBE, Head of the Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship
  - Professor Kenneth Ledingham, Department of Physics
  - Professor Gian-Luca Oppo, Department of Physics.
  - Professor George Salmond, Honorary Graduate and Professor of Molecular Microbiology at the University of Cambridge

11505 Single Campus Project

The Dean of HASS reported that the Single Campus Project was now in the intensive implementation phase. Some revisions had been made to the plan to de-risk it and all construction projects were running on schedule. A planning group had been formed which brought together all of the stakeholders within the University community, including students. An effective communication plan had also been drawn up with a dedicated SharePoint site and monthly email updates for all staff. A 3D animation of what the renovated buildings would look like was available to view.

The Principal noted that this would be a substantive item at the next meeting of Senate. [Action]

11506 Future Shape of Education: Our Vision

The Vice Principal introduced the Future Shape of Education paper which contained the University’s response to the post 16 agenda and had been discussed at the strategic Senate and at Faculty level.
Senate endorsed the actions detailed in the paper noting that it was designed to be enabling to support Faculties to develop their initiatives within the University framework.

11507 REF2014 Code of Practice

The Research Policy Manager gave a brief presentation on the REF2014 Equality and Diversity Code of Practice which was a requirement for REF submission. It covered compliance with the Equality Act 2010, ensuring transparent processes and decision making, disclosure of Individual Staff circumstances and communication of decisions and appeals.

It was noted that two additional paragraphs had been added at Section 5.6 – Joint Submissions and Section 7 – Grounds for appeal against decisions.

All staff involved in the selection process would be required to complete the University’s online Equality & Diversity module.

Senate approved the Code of Practice noting that it would be submitted to the Funding Council on 27th April.

11508 Streamlining Student Business Approval Processes

Associate Deputy Principal Grant reported that this paper had been developed in order to streamline approval processes, strengthen the role of Vice Deans and improve monitoring and reporting processes. The key principles had been to ensure decisions were taken at the lowest appropriate level consistent with robust quality assurance and that sensitive student data was limited to the smallest possible number of staff consistent with robust quality assurance.

It was noted that some minor revisions had been made after consideration by QMC and a revised paper was available on SharePoint.

Senate welcomed and approved the proposals.

11509 Vertically Integrated Projects

Associate Deputy Principal Belton reminded Members that the Vertically Integrated Projects (VIPs) exemplified the key areas in the Education Strategy cutting vertically across years and horizontally across courses. Four pilot projects were underway and there were ambitious plans for the future, building on the learning from these. An internal showcase event had generated significant interest and the VIPs had also been mentioned externally at the Enhancement Themes Conference where the idea was positively received. It was important now for the University to stay at the forefront of development.

The Director of the Centre for Excellence in Signal and Image Processing briefly summarised the projects, their aims and how they aligned with the University’s strategic objectives. He noted that they were popular with students but that there was more difficulty in finding key staff to lead projects. Six new projects were planned for the following session but one on the Commonwealth Games Legacy had no lead staff member to date.
Four students who were involved in each of the four pilot projects then spoke about their experiences. Overall they were finding the VIPs a positive experience with benefits including:

- Opportunity to learn from students in other subject areas
- VIPs illustrate the point to learning, can envisage final outcome
- Breaks down barriers
- Opportunity to continue a project on throughout the course
- Sense of community among teams
- Opportunity to form/maintain links with business/industry and take learning back
- Explaining subjects to students in earlier years enhanced learning
- Undergraduates were already asking about advanced study

The Principal welcomed the presentations and the enthusiasm and energy of the students. He noted the need for flexibility across the University in order to develop VIPs in the future.

11510 Items for Recommendation to Court

.1 Proposed Merger of the Bioengineering Unit and the National Centre for Prosthetics and Orthotics

The Dean of Engineering reported that a merger was proposed between the Bioengineering Unit and the National Centre for Prosthetics and Orthotics (NCPO) to create a new Department of Biomedical Engineering.

A Merger Committee had been formed from senior staff in both departments and chaired by the Vice Dean Knowledge Exchange and consultation had taken place with staff and students from both departments. The existing departments were small with academic excellence concentrated in different areas. A merger would provide an academic profile across a range of activities and the cognate mass needed to realise international opportunities, increase collaboration and make efficient use of resources. There were no implications for staffing in the merger proposal.

The ethos in creating the new department would be to preserve the established brands, identities and reputation of the NCPO and the Bioengineering Unit in teaching and research. The Scottish Government’s Health Department, which provided funding for the NCPO, was supportive of the merger.

Members reported that the process had been fair and staff were supportive of the merger welcoming the opportunity for growth in research and knowledge exchange.

Senate resolved to recommend to Court a merger between the Bioengineering Unit and the National Centre for Prosthetics and Orthotics (NCPO) to create a new Department of Biomedical Engineering.

.2 Bachelor of Business Administration

The Business School Vice Dean Academic introduced the proposal for the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), a three year Honours degree which aligned with the Scottish Government’s desire for flexibility in the post 16 learner journey and widening access. Advanced entry to second year of existing courses had proved
difficult for students with advanced Highers as these were too generic to cover all first year material. The BBA was therefore designed to combine the required material from both first and second years into one 120 credit year. Classes making up the third and fourth years were already taught within other courses.

The three year Honours degree would enable the School to compete, particularly in the RUK and international markets, and the possibility of student exchange with the Bachelor of Business Studies course, which would be run in India, was being considered.

It was noted that the entry requirement of three As at Advanced Higher was extremely high, particularly as Advanced Highers were not universally offered. It was confirmed that this would be reviewed once the course was running but that it was designed to also attract HNC/D entrants and those from RUK and international markets with other qualifications.

An approach to accelerated entry that did not simply delete first year was welcomed.

Senate approved the Business Administration (BBA) for introduction from September 2013, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations and recommended to Court the award title and abbreviation “Business Administration (BBA)” be approved for inclusion in Ordinance 3.1 from 2013/14.

11511 Recommendations for Approval nem con

.1 Appointment of Vice Deans and Associate Deans

.1 Appointment of Vice-Dean (Research)
Senate approved the appointment of Professor Rein Ulijn, Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry, as Vice-Dean (Research) in the Faculty of Science for a period of three years from 1 April 2012.

.2 Appointment of Associate Dean (PGR)
Senate approved the appointment of Dr Colin Clark as Associate Dean (PGR) in the Faculty of HASS and recommended to Court his appointment as Head of the Graduate School from 1 March 2012 to 31 July 2015.

.3 Appointment of Associate Dean (PGT)
Senate approved the appointment of Mr Carey Philpott as Associate Dean (PGT) in the Faculty of HASS from 1 March 2012 to 31 July 2015.

.4 Appointment of Associate Dean (UG)
Senate approved the appointment of Dr Mark Ellis as Associate Dean (UG) in the Faculty of HASS from 1 March 2012 to 31 July 2015.

.1 Collaborative Arrangements

.1 MOU with VIT University, Vellore, India
Senate approved the Memoranda of Understanding signed by the Department of Bioengineering with VIT University, Vellore, India A3, BP05

.2 Collaborative Agreement with Wuhan University of Technology, China
Senate approved the collaborative agreement with Wuhan University of Technology, China the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering detailed in Appendix 6 of BP05.

.3 Collaborative Agreement with Taiyuan University of Technology, China
Senate approved the proposed collaborative agreement with Taiyuan University of Technology, China and the Department of Design, Manufacture & Engineering Management detailed in Appendix 7 of BP05

.4 Collaborative Agreement with Lanzhou University of Technology, China A3, BP05
Senate noted that the Principal had approved the collaborative agreement with Lanzhou University of Technology, China and four Departments within the Faculty of Engineering by Chair’s Action on behalf of Senate and signed the agreement detailed in Appendix 8 of BP05.

.2 Introduction of Courses and Classes

.1 MSc in Biotechnology
Senate approved the MSc in Biotechnology for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B1.1, BP04

.2 MSc in Biomedical Sciences
Senate approved the MSc in Biomedical Sciences for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B1.1, BP04

.3 MRes Degrees in SIPBS
Senate approved MRes degrees in:

- Biochemistry
- Drug Discovery
- Immunology
- In Vivo Sciences
- Microbiology
- Neuroscience
- Parasitology
- Pharmacology
- Toxicology.

for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B1.2, BP04

.4 Introduction of Vertically Integrated Projects
Senate noted that the Principal had approved a range of Vertically integrated Projects by Convener’s action for introduction from 2011/12. B1.3 BP04, Paper 3.1

.5 MEng Chemical Engineering – Distance Learning
Senate approved the MEng Chemical Engineering – Distance Learning for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. A2, BP05

.6 MEng Electrical and Mechanical Engineering with International Study
Senate approved the MEng Electrical and Mechanical Engineering with International Study, retrospectively, for introduction from September 2011, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. A2, BP05

.7 MArch International Architectural Design
Senate approved the MArch International Architectural Design for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. A2, BP05

.8 MEng Computer and Electronic Systems with International Study
Senate approved the MEng Computer and Electronic Systems with International Study, retrospectively, for introduction from September 2011, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. A2, BP05

.9 LLM and MSc in Criminal Justice and Penal Change
Senate approved the LLM and MSc in Criminal Justice and Penal Change for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B1, BP07

.10 LLM in Professional Legal Practice
Senate approved the LLM in Professional Legal Practice for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B1, BP07

.11 LLM in Advocacy
Senate approved the LLM in Advocacy for introduction from September 2012, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations. B1, BP07

.3 Amendment to Courses and Classes

.1 Amendments to Open Studies Certificate classes
Senate approved the amendments to Open Studies Certificate classes, subject to approval of the detailed regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. B2, BP07

.2 Award of Research Degrees – HASS
Senate approved two additions to the list of subjects in which research degrees could be awarded in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences as follows: (B3 BP07)

Research students who graduate after November 2011 be awarded the appropriate degree “for research in Y”, where Y is one of the following subjects:

Counselling Creative Writing Education
English European Public Policy French
Geography History Italian
Journalism Law Music
Politics Psychology Social Policy
Social Work Sociology Spanish
Speech and Language Therapy Physical Activity for Health
.3 MRes in Psychology in Research Methods
Senate approved the proposal to change the MRes in Psychology in Research Methods to MSc in Psychology in Research Methods to from the beginning of session 2012/13, subject to approval of the regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee. B4, BP07

.4 Withdrawal of Courses

.1 MRes in Biomedical Sciences
Senate approved the withdrawal of the MRes in Biomedical Sciences from the end of 2011/12, B1.2, BP04

.5 New/Amended Prizes

.1 Computer and Information Sciences: Professor William E. Tyler Memorial Prize
Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the Professor William E. Tyler Memorial Prize in Computer and Information Sciences for inclusion in the University Calendar, listed under the Faculty of Science, with immediate effect. B2.1, BP04

.2 SIPBS: The Professor Steve Hudson Memorial Prize
Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the Professor Steve Hudson Memorial Prize in the Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences for inclusion in the University Calendar, listed under the Faculty of Science, with immediate effect. B2.1, BP04

.3 The Alan Hendry Scholarship
Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the amendments to the Alan Hendry Scholarship in the Faculty of Engineering for inclusion in the University Calendar from 2012/13. B, BP05

.4 Savoy Educational Trust – Merit Scholarships
Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the Savoy Educational Trust – Merit Scholarships in Hospitality & Tourism Management for inclusion in the University Calendar, listed under the Business School, with immediate effect. B1, BP06

.5 Savoy Educational Trust – International Scholarships
Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the Savoy Educational Trust – International Scholarships in the Business School for inclusion in the University Calendar, listed under the Business School, with immediate effect. B1, BP06

.6 Removal of Prizes

.1 Lloyd’s Register of Shipping Scholarships
Senate approved removal of the Lloyd’s Register of Shipping Scholarships from the University Calendar.
Senate noted the following items of information:

.1 Reports from Senate and Court strategy sessions, Paper 6.1
.2 Business Committee Report, Paper 6.2
.3 Single Campus Planning Group [ET 427] 1, BP02
.4 Internationalisation Strategy [ET 420 & 563] 2, BP02
.5 Research Audit [ET 447] 3, BP02
.6 University Staff Engagement, Wellbeing And Lifestyle Screening [ET 442] 4, BP02
.7 Resource Allocation Working Group [ET 453] 5, BP02
.8 Equality and Diversity Strategy Committee [ET 563] 6, BP02
.9 The Scottish Government’s Review of Governance in Higher Education [CM 4572, SM 11495] 1, BP03
.10 Renewal of Principal’s Contract of Employment [CM 4568] 2, BP03
.12 Financial Forecast [CM 4575] 4, BP03
.13 Senate: Meeting of 25 January 2012 [CM 4578.1] 5, BP03
.14 HINS Light Award Winning Project 6, BP03
.15 Suspension of Intakes to BSc in Natural Sciences C1, BP04
.16 Single Campus Project C1, BP07
.17 Operation of the Board of Study and its Committees C2, BP07
.18 Update from USSA on Key Activities 350, BP08
.19 Update from Associate Deputy Principals On Key Issues/ Activities 351, BP08
.20 Future Shape of Education: Our Vision 352, BP08
.21 Update on The Education Strategy Action Plan 353, BP08
.22 Curriculum Enhancement 354, BP08
.23 Minutes of the Research & Knowledge Exchange Committee meeting of 14th February 2012, BP09
.24 Minutes of the meeting of Ordinances and Regulations Committee held on 24th January 2012, BP10
.25 Minutes of the meeting of Quality Monitoring Committee held on 6th February 2012, BP11
.26 Minutes of the meetings of Senate Discipline Committee held on 27th February 2012, BP14

11513 RESERVED BUSINESS