The Principal welcomed the incoming representatives from the Students’ Association to their first meeting of Senate.

11458 Minutes of the meeting of 16th March 2011

Senate approved the Minutes of the meeting of 27th April 2011 subject to the following amendment:

Amendment to item 11448
This item should read:

Senate noted the amendment to its membership, of the addition of four Professional Services Directors from session 2011/12, as approved by Court.

11459 Matters arising – INTO (Item 11451)

Associate Deputy Principal Grant gave members an update on the work that had been ongoing on the development of Foundation Programmes in partnership with INTO which had been discussed at the last meeting.
He reassured Senate that the University would retain control of all academic issues such as admission, curriculum, progression and quality assurance. The University would decide the programmes to be run and the target numbers of students.

There had been positive engagement from colleagues to date and strong buy in from all faculties but there was still some detail that required to be considered. The focus to date had been on undergraduate programmes but it was also planned to move on developing pre-masters programmes too.

The Foundation Programmes would normally be worth 120 credits with a pass in all modules at 40% gaining the student a Certificate of Higher Education. Guaranteed articulation onto their chosen course would require a higher average pass and it was suggested that this should be set at 60%. This was to ensure that articulating students had a good chance of completion and also to set the Strathclyde benchmark at a similar level to that at other institutions.

Members noted that the learning goals in relation to language skills had to be realistic and it was confirmed that the proposed progression from 5.5 to 6.5 ILTS over the course of the Foundation Programme would be achievable. It was also noted that many of the issues likely to arise in such a partnership approach had already been tackled by other institutions in existing partnerships with INTO.

The Vice Dean Academic of the Business School raised concern as to whether Faculty staff would be expected to cover teaching on Foundation Programmes if INTO could not recruit sufficiently qualified staff to meet accreditation requirements. If this were the case the Business School wished to step back for a year. Senate was assured that specific Foundation Programmes would only go ahead if appropriately qualified staff were available to teach on them.

Senate resolved to endorse in principle the development of Foundation Programmes in partnership with INTO, as outlined in paper 2.1 on the basis that further work on the detailed curricula and processes was undertaken and further detail, including an indicative framework for pre-Masters courses, was brought before Senate in September 2011. It was noted that the business and legal aspects for the proposed partnership would require the approval of Court.

11460 Convenor’s Action

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

11461 Principal’s Report and Correspondence

The Principal updated Senate on the following:

- Following the results of the Scottish election and the new majority SNP government, the Principal had contacted all MSPs inviting them to visit the University. To date he had received a good response to this and had also had constructive meetings with a number of key MSPs and members of the Scottish Government.
- The Education Secretary attended the recent meeting of Universities Scotland Main Committee and reiterated the Scottish Government’s commitment to “fill the funding gap”. Universities Scotland was continuing discussions with the Scottish Government on the funding situation.
The Scottish Government was expected to announce a three year budget in September 2011 which, it was hoped, would significantly address the funding gap.

The Education Secretary had announced that a five-person panel would look at university governance. The Panel would be chaired by the Principal of Robert Gordon University, Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynsky, and would include representation from students and unions.

Court had approved the Strategic Appointment and Investment Scheme which would see the appointment of 40 new academic staff in two tranches of 25 and 15 respectively. All four Faculties had put forward solid academic business cases to Executive Team.

Research Pooling activities were going well in Physics, Chemistry, Engineering and Energy with high calibre staff appointments and major research funding wins.

Research Day had been very successful with 500 participants. The event was a formal part of the 2011 Glasgow Science Festival for the first time and feedback received to date was very positive.

The 2011 Teaching Awards had gone well. More awards, in terms of breadth, had been made. The Principal congratulated USSA who led the awards.

Scottish Space School had been a great success with 110 secondary school pupils participating and 400 attendees at the public lecture.

The University is piloting multi-disciplinary, vertically integrated projects in partnership with Georgia Institute of Technology.

Major research funding wins had been achieved from EPSRC, ESRC, AHRC, ERC and industry across all the Faculties. The University now had ten Doctoral Training Centres.

The University continued to attract high quality conferences such as the recent ESRC funded Scottish Election Study 2011 event.

Professor Donald Nicolson, Director of the Law Clinic had been awarded an OBE in the Queen's birthday honours for services to the Legal Profession.

The Rt Hon Elish Angiolini, QC, formerly Lord Advocate and an alumnus of Strathclyde, was made a Dame.

A member asked whether the recent public debate between the First Minister and the University’s Chancellor, in his role as Deputy President of The Supreme Court, over the role of the Supreme Court in Scotland, would have any adverse effect on the University. The Principal responded that the Chancellor had made a dignified response to the First Minister’s comments and that it was hoped the situation would soon be resolved. It was noted that a statement had been made by the Faculty of Advocates and the Law Society of Scotland which was backed by the majority of Law Schools in Scotland.

11462 Business Committee Report

Senate noted the report from the Business Committee detailed in paper 3.2.

11463 HASS Restructuring

Motion to postpone Senate decision on proposed closures and reshaping at the University of Strathclyde

A motion had been received requesting additional time for consultation on the reshaping of HASS. Specifically, it requested that the proposals not be brought to Senate for ratification on 22 June 2011 but rather be considered at a later meeting of Senate, to be held in September 2011. The Principal notified Senate that the motion
had been received too late for inclusion on the agenda but that, as Convenor, he had taken the decision to accept it in line with the Standing Orders.

Dr Rogerson introduced the motion. He noted the University's strategy in relation to social sciences, the appointments being made in that area and the need for painful decisions to strengthen the Faculty in the future. He recognised the consultation that had already taken place, the engagement of staff in this process and the submissions made by individuals and groups. The motion was not aimed at preventing Senate from debating the issues but rather increasing the opportunity for Senate to get involved in the consultation.

Although it was acknowledged that the Faculty Management Team was in agreement about the way forward, a significant number of staff and students in the Faculty remained unconvinced. The consultation period had only ended a few days before and it was therefore considered that there had not been sufficient time to explore all possibilities.

The consultation to date had been focused mainly on the disciplinary areas most affected and it was felt that there had been less time for the rest of the Faculty and Senate members to reflect on the proposals. How the process would be viewed by those external to the University was also considered important. Senate had a key role in defining the University’s profile and also in defining the role of social science.

The motion, if carried, would give more time for consultation both across the University and with external bodies on how the proposals would affect the academic profile of the University.

The Dean of HASS responded by highlighting the robustness, thoroughness and extent of the consultation that had taken place. He noted that a Court Member had attended the meetings of the Academic Development Group to ensure due diligence. The motion was unclear on the purpose of extended consultation and would prolong the uncertainty for staff and students. The Faculty Board of Study had rejected a similar motion.

Senate was reminded that the vision for the Faculty was well developed, discussed and reviewed and that the University had a strong, substantive commitment to the social sciences and was delivering on this through significant investment in both staff appointments and estate. The implications of delaying decisions had to be considered.

The Director of Human Resources briefed Senate on the main legal aspects of the consultation:

1. Consultation had to begin while proposals were still proposals and end before agreement could be reached. This had been the case with consultation taking place between 10th May and 17th June.
2. Staff had to be given appropriate information to enable them to input to the process. Staff had received this on 10th May with additional information available on SharePoint.
3. Staff had been given five weeks to respond. This was not a legal requirement and would be considered a generous timescale in other sectors.
4. Appropriate consideration needed to be given to responses. The Director of Human Resources had attended the meeting of the Academic Development Group and could confirm the conscientious consideration given to the submissions.
The unions and other appropriate fora had been involved throughout the process and HR would continue to work with affected staff to consider all possible options available to them.

The Dean of Science had been a member of the Academic Development Group and confirmed the professional, investigative, diligent and thorough nature of the Group’s deliberations. The ADG had worked on the proposals since the consultation closed and unanimously supported the recommendations being brought forward to Senate.

Senate debated the motion for some time and the following points were made:

- The final paper had only been made available 2 hours before the meeting of the Faculty Board of Study the previous day.
- Concerns had been raised regarding the affected areas during Excellence Reviews before the Faculty merger and by the Merger Implementation Group during the merger process and the proposals were therefore not new but the result of an accumulation of reviews.
- Delay contributes to uncertainty for staff and students.
- Changes would not take place over night as courses would be run down.
- Prolonging the uncertainty would be damaging to the Faculty and its reputation.
- Students affected were seeking certainty. Delaying the decision to September would put this off for a further year as the UCAS application process would begin.
- Students had been told of the proposals and consultation on the eve of their examinations.
- Opportunities for meaningful engagement of students had been reduced because of the timing during the examination period.
- Senate received the final paper 24 hours before the meeting.
- The lateness of the paper was due to the extension of the consultation period.
- Recommendations contained statements that discussions should continue with external partners regarding future provision.
- Seven hundred contributions had been received during the consultation and the ADG and HR had responded to requests to extend the consultation period.
- For music the process had already been long and consultation had been ongoing for 18 months.
- Decisions needed to be made before meaningful discussions could take place with external agencies and other higher education institutions about provision.
- May submissions stated that insufficient time had been available to gather all relevant information.
- Recommendations had been finalised over the weekend and it was difficult to see how all alternatives could have been fully explored.
- None of the issues raised or discussed were new to the Faculty.
- Unless Senate has the opportunity to debate the issues and take a view no further progress could be made.
- Students might take the view that courses could be withdrawn at short notice.
- Key themes of the consultation were raised early in the consultation process and later submissions consolidated these views.
- A huge amount of information had been made available, far more than in similar situations in the past.
• Prolonged discussions did not serve staff or students. Senate needed the opportunity to make a decision. A long consultation period during restructuring in the Business School had strangled the external reputation of the subject area concerned and delayed recovery.

Senate then took a vote on the motion. Sixteen members voted for the motion, thirty seven members against and six abstained. The motion was therefore defeated and Senate went on to debate the recommendations made in paper 3.3.

2 Reshaping the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

The Dean of HASS introduced a set of strategic recommendations about the future direction of the Faculty. These dealt with the Faculty’s priorities and future investment, strengthening research excellence, enhancing the student experience and ensuring academic and financial stability. If the recommendations in paper 3.3 were accepted, HASS would remain the largest Faculty with a diverse portfolio that would contribute to wider society locally and globally.

Concerns had first been raised about the subject areas during Excellence Reviews. The Merger Implementation Group (MIG) had sought to identify areas of investment and disinvestment during the merger and the areas under discussion had been highlighted by MIG. The future shape of the Faculty’s portfolio was always going to be the second stage in the merger implementation as the current portfolio was unsustainable in its present form. Decreasing numbers of students on the BA and decreasing funding for the University as a whole also had an effect.

The Faculty Management Group (FMT) had established the Academic Development Group (ADG) under the authority of the Executive Team to review the academic portfolio of the Faculty. A member of Court was included in this group to oversee the integrity of the process. The ADG began with the MIG report and focused on areas within quartile 4 of the last RAE and areas of low RAE submission. Performance since 2008 was considered in research trajectory, education and financial viability.

The final recommendations came after five weeks of consultation with staff, students and external agencies and debate in a number of fora. The ADG and FMT unanimously supported the recommendations after conscientious consideration of all the submissions.

Community Education
Nothing in the submissions persuaded the ADG to change its original proposals. The issue of provision was discussed and whether this was significant enough to override all other considerations. The ADG felt that the proposals should not be reversed on questions of provision alone but the recommendation included a strong message to the University about considering availability of future provision in this area.

Music
The BA Applied Music had been withdrawn at the time of the merger. ADG had given consideration to a new programme, acknowledging the uniqueness of provision in this area. The University was invited to explore the implications of withdrawal.

Geography
There was a limited critical mass of research active staff in this area along with issues of financial and programme sustainability.
**Sociology**

Significant concerns were raised in this area about research performance and trajectory, critical mass of research active staff and programme sustainability. However, sociology remains core to social sciences and the reconfiguration of Sociology in line with the Faculty Strategy was central to the recommendation.

All of the recommendations contained a commitment to existing students to enable them to complete their courses and to maintain a high quality student experience.

The Heads of two of the affected Schools then spoke. One of them had served on ADG and was assured that ADG had interrogated a wide range of evidence from a wide range of stakeholders and come to conclusions on the basis of the evidence. Both spoke in support of the recommendations while regretting the necessity of the decisions being made although acknowledging that these decisions had been reached conscientiously and robustly.

In the case of music, while there was no question about the competence of staff or the quality of the degree, the research potential was less strong and there was no business case for the planned Creative Industries strand.

During the discussion that followed the following points were made:

- Sociology was being handled differently as it was considered core to the social sciences.
- Resource challenges were not the main driver in the process, academic sustainability, quality, research to inform teaching and external standing were also examined.
- Resource challenges could not be entirely ignored in the current environment.
- The University has a strong, clear vision of which social sciences form an integral part.
- Cross subsidy from more lucrative areas was considered but there was insufficient in terms of research to justify this and consideration had to be given to what the resource could achieve if invested in areas which were currently small but strong.
- MIG had examined all subject areas not just the four being discussed. The recommendations needed to be considered in light of the position in the whole Faculty and the effect on all subject areas.
- There appeared to be no obvious changes to the proposals following the consultation.
- The greater focus seemed to be on research activity rather than teaching excellence.
- Strong research was crucial to inform practice. A marriage of education, research and knowledge exchange was needed in each area.
- ADG worked over the weekend to give due consideration to an issue raised on Friday afternoon.
- The formation of a teaching only department had been considered but was not in line with University or Faculty strategy and it was not considered a wise move for the University to go down this route.
- The number of FTEs across the institution had already been reduced with HASS facing a significant drop. FTEs could potentially be used in stronger areas.
• The Education Secretary had requested consideration be given to mapping of provision across the Higher and Further Education Sectors and Strathclyde was well placed for these discussions due to its clear vision.

Senate then took a vote on the four proposals as follows:

1. ADG/FMT recommend to Senate that the University initiates a phased withdrawal from Community Education (with final entry in 2011) whilst also guaranteeing that current and prospective students will be supported through to the completion of their studies.

   For: 48  
   Against: 1  
   Abstentions: 6

2. ADG/FMT recommend to Senate that the University initiates a phased withdrawal from Music from 2011 (given final entry to BA Applied Music was in 2010) whilst also guaranteeing that current students will be supported through to the completion of their programme of studies.

   For: 51  
   Against: 0  
   Abstentions: 6

3. ADG/FMT recommend to Senate that the University initiates a phased withdrawal from Geography (with final entry in 2011) whilst also guaranteeing that current and prospective students will be supported through to the completion of their programme of studies.

   For: 47  
   Against: 5  
   Abstentions: 6

4. ADG/FMT recommend to Senate that the University initiates a phased withdrawal from Sociology as a principal subject area within the BA degree (with final entry in 2011) and that a Restructuring Implementation Group is created and tasked to determine how sociology will continue as part of the Faculty’s social science portfolio. Current and prospective students studying Sociology will be supported through to the completion of their programme of studies.

   For: 53  
   Against: 1  
   Abstentions: 5

Senate therefore resolved to recommend all four proposals to Court for approval.

11464 SKIL: Update

The Dean of the Business School gave a brief update on the SKIL operation in India. The launch had taken place at the end of February with significant press coverage. A Dean has been appointed to the SKIL campus in India. The appointee had good research credentials and would be returnable in the REF. The process of recruiting students to the Masters in Management was underway, in partnership with the
Recruitment and International Office, and Faculty staff in the areas of Finance and Marketing were being recruited.

Some issues remained with the UK Border Agency regarding student visas and these needed to be resolved for future delivery.

The Business School was also in the process of developing an undergraduate Bachelors degree in Business Studies. This degree would run predominantly in India, with students given the opportunity of studying at Strathclyde for one semester.

11465 Items for Recommendation to Court

.1 Amendments to University Ordinances

Senate resolved to recommend the proposed amendments to the University Ordinances, as detailed in paper 4.1, to Court for approval.

.2 Executive Masters in Hospitality and Tourism Leadership

The Vice Principal Informed Senate that the correct award for the above course would be MSc and it would not therefore require Court’s approval as no change to ordinance was needed. Senate approved the amended title of the MSc Leadership in the Hospitality and Tourism Industry as MSc in Hospitality and Tourism Leadership, B (Postgraduate) BP06

11466 Recommendations for Approval nem con

.1 Policy on Collaborative Provision

Senate approved the revised Policy and Code of Practice on Collaborative Provision Leading to Awards or Joint Awards of the University and Policy and Code of Practice on Flexible and Distributed Learning (including e-learning) recommended by ESC, 322 and Appendix BP08

.2 Award of Research Degrees

Senate approved an addition to the list of subjects in which research degrees could be awarded in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences from 2010/11 as follows: (B BP07)

Research students who graduate after November 2010 be awarded the appropriate degree “for research in Y”, where Y is one of the following subjects:

- Counselling
- Education
- English
- European Public Policy
- French
- Geography
- History
- Italian
- Journalism
- Law
- Music
- Politics
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Physical Activity for Health
- Spanish

.3 Delegated Authority for Appointment of Examining Committees

Senate approved the delegation of authority to Vice Deans, Academic to approve the Examining Committee on its behalf with QMC endorsing the membership of the
Committee in order that QMC may retain its monitoring role in the use of External Examiners, as detailed in Paper 5.3.

.4 Introduction of Courses

.1 MSc in Forensic Science (Distance Learning)

Senate approved the MSc in Forensic Science (Distance Learning) for introduction from 2011/12, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations, B1.2 BP04.

.2 BA (Honours) in Business Enterprise with Business Law

Senate approved the BA (Honours) in Business Enterprise with Business Law for introduction from 2011/12, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations, A1 BP06.

.3 Postgraduate Certificate in Management (Weir Group)

Senate approved the Postgraduate Certificate in Management (Weir Group) for introduction from 2011/12, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations, A2 BP06.

.4 Postgraduate Diploma (also called the Scottish Qualification for Headship) and MSc in School Leadership and Management

Senate approved the existing Postgraduate Diploma and new MSc award in School Leadership and Management for delivery from 2011/12, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations, B(i) BP07

.5 MSc/PgD/PgC in Mediation and Conflict Resolution

Senate approved the MSc/Postgraduate Diploma/Postgraduate Certificate in Mediation and Conflict Resolution for introduction from 2011/12, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations, B(ii) BP07

.6 MSc in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies

Senate approved the MSc in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies, full-time, for introduction from 2011/12, subject to approval by Ordinances and Regulations Committee of the proposed course regulations, B(iii) BP07

.5 Amendments to Existing Courses

.1 EngD in Optics and Photonics Technologies

Senate approved the replacement of the EngD in Photonics by the EngD in Optics and Photonics Technologies with effect from 2009-10, subject to
scrutiny of the draft Calendar entry in Appendix B1 by the Ordinances and Regulations Committee, B1.1 BP04

.2 Waiver of Regulations - BSc in Business Information Systems and BSc in Mathematics, Statistics and Management Science

Senate approved the waiver of regulations for students taking the BSc in Business Information Systems and BSc in Mathematics, Statistics and Management Science to allow students to replace the class Information Systems Support for Managers (MS.306) with Knowledge Management (MS.307) during 2011-12 as detailed in B2 BP04.

.3 BA (Honours) Business

Senate approved the amendment to the BA (Honours) Business degree to omit reference to the language pathway, subject to approval of the detailed regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, A3 BP06

.6 Withdrawal of Courses

.1 MSc in Construction Management

Senate approved the withdrawal of the MSc in Construction Management from September 2011, A2 and Appendix 2 BP05

.2 MSc in Water Resource Management

Senate approved the withdrawal of the MSc in Water Resource Management from September 2011, A2 and Appendix 2 BP05

.3 MLitt in Northern Renaissance Studies

Senate approved the withdrawal of the MLitt in Northern Renaissance Studies with immediate effect, B(iv) BP07

.7 Prizes

.1 Student Prize in Chemical and Process Engineering - The Conoco Phillips Student Summer Placement Prize

Subject to scrutiny by Ordinances and Regulations Committee, Senate approved the Conoco Phillips Student Summer Placement Prize for inclusion in the University Calendar, listed under the Faculty of Engineering, with effect from 2011/12, B1, BP05.

11467 Items for Information

Senate noted the following items of information and noted also that Item 1 was reserved business and Item 2 was reserved under the Freedom of Information Act as being commercially sensitive until the end of June 2011.

.1 Financial Forecasting, 1 BP02
.2 Scottish Universities Insight Institute [ET 325], 2 BP02
.3 Strategic Appointment and Investment Scheme [ET 327], 3 BP02
.4 Policy and Procedures for Consultancy, 4 BP02
.5 Voluntary Early Release Scheme, CM 4512 BP03
.6 Research and Knowledge Exchange, CM 4518 BP03
.7 Technology Innovation Centre (TIC) (CM 4517) BP03
.8 Annual Health and Safety Report (CM 4519) BP03
.9 Review of Policies (CM 4520) BP03
.10 Head of Department/School Appointments (CM 4521) BP03
.11 Student Exchange Agreement with Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology, Ulsan, Korea, C1 BP04
.12 SKIL, B BP06
.13 Undergraduate, B BP06
.14 New Course and Class Approval Process, B BP06
.15 Visiting Professors, B BP06
.16 Research, B BP06
.17 Collaborative Agreement with UHI - BA in Childhood Practice, C1 BP07
.18 Provisional Release of Exam Marks (ESCM309), 318 BP08
.19 Convenor’s Report, 319 BP08
.20 ERASMUS Financial Framework, (ESCM 308) 320 BP08
.21 Faculty Strategy Statements, 321 BP08
.22 Update on Review of the Academic Year, 323 BP08
.23 Personal Development Advising within the Faculties, 324 BP08
.24 Request for Extension to a Moratorium, 325 BP08
.25 Minutes of the Research & Knowledge Exchange Committee meeting of 10th May 2011, BP09
.26 Minutes of the meetings of Senate Discipline Committee held on 26 April 2011 and 23 May 2011, BP14

11468 RESERVED BUSINESS