

SENATE

Minutes: Wednesday 5 September 2018

- Present:** Principal
Professor C Booth, Professor D Brodie, Mrs L Brownlow, Dr E Compton-Daw, Mrs A Corrigan, Mr M Crilly, Dr J Delafield-Butt, Dr L Dennany, Dr A Dickson, Professor AM Doherty, Professor A Duffy, Dr A Fletcher, Dr L Gibson, Dr A Nordon, Professor D Graham, Dr K Hamilton, Professor A Incecik, Dr N Kelly, Dr J Liggat, Dr C Lindsay, Professor S MacGregor, Professor R Maguire, Dr S McCool, Mr R McHugh, Professor P McKenna, Dr K Mitchell, Dr S Murdy, Ms G Pallis, Dr J Race, Professor I Rivers, Dr O Romice, Professor J Sefcik, Ms E Selasie Ahadzie, Professor E Shaw, Dr J A Smith, Ms R Smith, Dr B Wagner, Mrs C Whitley, Dr J Wilson, Dr Y Zhang
- Attending:** Dr D Willison, Mrs H Gould, Mr A Gillespie, Dr V O'Halloran, Ms C Milligan, Ms G Watt, Mrs M Judge, Professor A Goudie, Dr A Thomson, Professor S Marshall, Professor Robert Martin, Dr S Strachan, Dr P Riches, Dr C Knapp
- Apologies:** Professor K Blair, Dr S Brough, Professor P Cardwell, Dr C Cassidy, Dr A Coulson, Dr Y Demirel, Dr M Ellis, Dr M Findlay, Dr L Fleming, Professor I Greener, Dr D Harle, Dr M Karampela, Dr B Keating, Dr N McGarvey, Professor A Mulholland, Dr P Mulheran, Dr J Pestana, Professor R Plevin, Dr D Rotondo, Professor G Roy, Professor A Salama, Dr K Savage, Professor T Scotto, Professor Z Shipton, Professor B Simpson, Professor Y Taylor, Dr T Tezdogan, Dr C White, Professor W Kerr

Formal Matters

12187. Welcome

The Principal welcomed Senators to Senate's first meeting of the new academic year 2018-19, welcoming new Senate members in particular. The Principal stressed the critical role of Senate to the University, as well as the benefits of membership of Senate, encouraging Senators to share their views on Senate.

12188. Minutes of the meeting of 6th June 2018 (Paper A)

Members approved the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.

12189. Matters Arising

There were none noted.

12190. Report from Senate Business Committee (Paper B)

Senate **noted** the report of the Senate Business Committee which had met on 24th August 2018. The Vice Principal informed Senate that the Senate Business Committee had reviewed the following key areas:

1. The report of the Collaborative Provision Agreement subgroup (Paper B, Appendix 1) which covered the CPA subgroup's meeting of 8th August 2018. The Vice Principal thanked Dr Debbie Willison (Vice Dean Academic, Faculty of Science) and Ms Sara Currie (CPA Subgroup Manager) for their work on the institutional review of collaborative activity review which had now been completed, noting the following key points from the review:

- A triennial review of agreements would take place to determine the performance of each agreement;
- Collaborative Agreements would be flagged to indicate the health of the agreement;
- The subgroup's Terms of Reference for 2018-19 had been approved.

The CPA subgroup had in addition approved three collaborative agreements, details of which were included in Faculty reports.

2. The Senate Business Committee had agreed the proposed business agenda of Senate's meeting of 5th September 2018. In addition to the Principal's update, the Committee welcomed presentations to be given to Senate on:
 - NSS Update
 - Vertically Integrated Projects and UN Sustainable Development Goals.
 - University Estate Developments: Update on the Learning and Teaching Project, and the opening of Strathclyde Sport
 - ELIR Update
3. The Committee had reviewed the reports to Senate, which, further to minor amendments, were endorsed by the Committee.
4. Attention was drawn to Senate Minute **12170**, which indicated that a final version of the Student Partnership Agreement would be presented to September 2018 Senate. A written update had been provided to Senate by Professor Sara Carter and Strathclyde Students' Union Vice President Matt Crilly, informing Senate that the Student Partnership Agreement would be debated at the first Student Parliament of the academic year 2018-19. Senate would be updated with regard to the progress of the Student Partnership Agreement thereafter.
5. Senate's attention was drawn to Paper H, Annual Statement to the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) on Institutional Quality 2017-18. Further to ratification by Senate, the report would be **recommended** to Court for endorsement, prior to submission to the SFC by 30 September 2018.

Presentations and Items for Discussion

12191. Principal's Report and Update

In addition to **noting** the Convener's Actions undertaken by the Principal since the last meeting and listed in Paper B, Senate was provided with an update on the following items:

External Visits

The University had received a range of visits, including: the Minister of State for Universities and Science, Sam Gyimah, who had visited the Technology and Innovation Centre to see the work being done on research and innovation; the (Scottish) Minister for Trade, Investment and Innovation Ivan McKee MSP had also visited the University.

Summer Activity

A wealth of activity had taken place on campus during the summer across all Faculties, such as:

Faculty of Engineering: Scottish Space School; International Summer Schools held by four Departments in the Faculty;

Faculty of Science: Summer schools had included – China Summer School, Al Faisal Summer School and China Pharmaceutical University Summer School;

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences: short-term outward mobility to China and South Korea;

Strathclyde Business School: students from the Indian Institute of Management Calcutta had visited as part of an immersion programme hosted by the Business School.

Student Success

Senate joined the Principal in celebrating student successes and achievements, including:

- A Strathclyde Business School graduate has been awarded £10,000 from the John Mather Trust Rising Star award.
- A student from the Faculty of Engineering had been awarded the Outstanding Contribution from a Student award at the Herald Higher Education Awards in Glasgow in June.
- A PhD student from the Faculty of Engineering was named Best Student at the International Conference on Nuclear Engineering (ICONE) – the first time this award has been presented to a student from a UK University.

Estates Updates

The University's £31M Strathclyde Sport was due to formally open on 17th September 2018.

Funding for Innovation

The Principal updated Senate on investment and developments in several key areas:

The next development phase of the Technology & Innovation Centre (TIC), a key aspect of the Glasgow City Innovation District (GCID);

The establishment of the National Manufacturing Institute for Scotland (NMIS), within the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District Scotland (AMIDS) at Inchinnan;

Funding for the expansion of Catapult Centres to go to the Advanced Forming Research Centre (AFRC) – the University of Strathclyde's lead in the High Value Manufacturing Innovation Centre.

The Strathclyde Doctoral School would be launched formally in October 2018, helping to bring Postgraduate researcher student support, facilities and training to enhance the student experience.

Staff Successes

The Principal noted that a number of staff members had achieved success, citing:

- Professor Graeme Roy, Director of the Fraser of Allander Institute in Strathclyde Business School, who has been appointed Chair of the Scottish Government's Independent Review Group tasked with evaluating the economic impact of minimum unit pricing in Scotland.
- Professor Michael Heath, Dept of Mathematics & Statistics, has been awarded the RSE/Sir James Black Medal for his outstanding contribution to the field of Fisheries Science.
- Five Strathclyders have been appointed to the Royal Society of Edinburgh Young Academy of Scotland, in recognition of their talent and potential. They are:
 - Dr Margaret Cunningham, SIPBS
 - Dr Asimina Kazakidi, Department of Biomedical Engineering
 - Dr Laura Kelly, School of Humanities
 - Dr Churnjeet Mahn, School of Humanities
 - Mr Jimmy Paul, CELCIS

Grant Activity/Funding

The Principal updated Senate on research awards the University had received since the last Senate, and also noted that the University had received additional funding as a result of the quality of its REF performance, highlighting the University's strong position in terms of research influencing.

12192. NSS Update

Introducing a presentation on the University's National Student Survey (NSS) 2018 results and action plans, the Principal noted with disappointment a decline in overall satisfaction, which was a general trend across the sector, and stressed the importance of ongoing actions to ensure that students have an excellent student experience.

Faculty Executive Deans provided Senate with presentations summarising their respective NSS action plans, following detailed consideration of the results from the National Student Survey. Key areas of priority for improvements focussed on a range of areas, including:

- Measures for enhancements in communications with students, such as: improved pastoral care; consultations and feedback sessions; active online forums for class discussions; additional classroom support; introduction of year co-ordinators for UG programmes; establishment of class fora where students would meet with senior academic staff; organisation of informal student-staff events.
- Enhancements in the area of assessment and feedback such as: the introduction of a new assessment schedule; providing enhanced two-way feedback; discussing performance and managing expectations to ensure that students feel supported; ensuring feedback office hours are well publicised; introducing electronic surveys in relation to assessment, and new automated feedback systems at various stages of progress.
- Various measures were proposed in relation to enhancements in the areas of the Student Voice, Learning Opportunities, and enhanced support for transitions to new levels of study.

The importance of reviewing and strengthening current processes, and of ensuring effective monitoring of NSS processes and procedures, was stressed by all Faculties, as well as of ensuring consistency in the application of processes, through clear reporting routes.

Discussing the Faculties' action plans, Senate endorsed the positive proposals that had been presented, noting the University's commitment to delivering an enhanced student experience for all students, whilst at the same time noting concerns in some areas, in particular in relation to student feedback. Strathclyde Students' Union offered assistance in planning and policy development to support plans, which was welcomed.

Summing up, the Vice Principal highlighted the importance of maintaining focus on NSS plans, and stressed the need for effective implementation, delivery and engagement, as well as effective monitoring and intervention, and of ensuring that NSS remains as a constant on agendas at all levels. Senate would continue to monitor implementation plans and would receive regular updates from the Faculties. **ACTION: Senate Manager**

12193. Vertically Integrated Projects and UN Sustainable Development Goals

Professor Stephen Marshall and Dr Scott Strachan presented to Senate on the Vertically Integrated Projects programme. The background to this programme, which is operational in the University, and is part of an international VIP consortium, was outlined. Implemented in 2012, the programme provides students with the opportunity to work in teams with students from other years of a course, from different disciplines, and with postgraduate researchers and staff, and in addition provides opportunities for working on long term challenges, preparing students for graduate employment. Key programme enablers were outlined: Undergraduate engagement in research-based learning; providing continuity in research; tackling long-term research goals; access to multidisciplinary research; building track-records for larger grants. The University's Unique Selling Points (USP) as they relate to the programme were highlighted. It was noted that the programme is part of wider VIP consortium based at Georgia Institute of Technology, and that the University of Strathclyde is the first of the European participants, with the second largest and most diverse Programme. Examples were given to illustrate the type of work students can undertake whilst on the programme.

The programmes' UN Sustainable Development Goals, which align with the University's values and ethos of "Useful Learning", were outlined. The value of the programme, not only to the students, but to the University as an academic institution and to society was explored, with examples given of the tangible benefits VIP projects had offered, such as the "Energy for Development VIP", which provided an opportunity to impact directly on the wellbeing and quality of life of target communities. Further examples were given of the range of project work done abroad and of the positive impact the project work had had on people's lives, in some cases life-saving.

Consideration was given as to how the programme could be institutionalised, with a vision put forward as to how this could be implemented, focussing on the shared values with international partners through the programme's sustainable development goals. Senate was encouraged to attend an information session on VIPs on 19th September 2018.

Commenting on the presentation, Senators agreed that the goals of the programme were admirable, and acknowledged that the programme was an extremely strong asset to the University. The Principal thanked Professor Marshall and Dr Strachan for their work on the initiative, encouraging Senate to be active players in the programme.

12194. University Estates Developments: Update on Learning and Teaching Building Project, and Strathclyde Sport

Associate Principal Professor Sara Carter firstly updated Senate on progress in the development of the Learning and Teaching Building project, providing Senate with an update on the key areas of activity, including: the main works contracting process; enabling works, which were now complete. Building contractors would soon be starting work. Communications had been working with the graphic artist on the artwork for the hoardings which were being erected. Noting the progress that had been made in relation to the student Democracy Zone, Professor Carter stressed the key role of the student body in discussions on the development of the project.

Turning to a key milestone in the development of the University's estate, Professor Carter was delighted to inform Senate that the University's new £31M Strathclyde Sport building was due to open on 17th September 2018. Highlighting the vision and mission of the building, a visual outline was given of the building, a description of its core facilities, as well as details of membership packages for staff and students. Senators were encouraged to book a tour of building, and to make use of this excellent facility. Senate joined Professor Carter in welcoming this state-of-the-art sports centre at the heart of the University's campus which would further enhance the outstanding student experience.

12195. ELIR Update

The acting Director Education Enhancement, Cathy Milligan, updated Senate on key developments in the University's preparations for the Enhancement-led Institutional Review (ELIR). Following a brief summary reminding Senate of the purpose and main focus of ELIR, an outline was given on the range of activity and preparations that had taken place since the previous update to Senate. Senate noted progress in the development of the Reflective Analysis which would be submitted for sign off by the Principal, pending approval by Senate at its November meeting. Court would also be requested to endorse the Reflective Analysis. Final submission of the Reflective Analysis was scheduled for 16th November. An illustration was given of the ELIR 4 critical path, summarising key milestones and outlining next steps to be undertaken. Senate would continue to receive regular updates on ELIR planning.

Items for Information

12196. Senate Appointments and Membership on Main Committees 2018-19 (Paper D)
Senate approved the paper.

Committee and Faculty Reports to Senate

12197. Executive Team (Paper E)
Senate **noted** the report from the Executive Team

12198. Court Report (Paper F)
Senate noted the report from Court

12199. Education Strategy Committee report (Paper G)

Senate **noted** the report from the Education Strategy Committee.

12200. Annual Statement to SFC on Institutional Quality 2017-18 (Paper H)

Senate noted the annual statement to SFC on institutional quality. Senate recommended to Court that the report be endorsed prior to submission to SFC by 30 September 2018.

12201. Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee (Paper I)

Senate noted the report from the Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee.

12202. Strathclyde Business School report (Paper J)

Senate **noted** the report from the Strathclyde Business School, and **approved** the following, as appropriate, subject to scrutiny by the Academic Regulations Review Group:

Certificate in Applied Business Skills

Senate noted **for Information**:

Articulation Agreement with Nankai University

Collaboration with Politecnico di Milano (MIP), Masters Global Industrial Management

MoU with University of Delhi, Department of Financial Studies

12203. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences report (Paper K)

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and **approved**, subject to scrutiny by the Academic Regulations Review Group the:

Introduction of English and Creative Writing as a subject area pathway within the BA Honours Humanities and Social Sciences degree programme

12204. Faculty of Engineering report (Paper L)

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Engineering, and **approved**, subject to scrutiny of any regulations by the Academic Regulations Review Group, the following:

Collaborative agreements:

Collaborative Agreement: Taylor's University, Malaysia (Appendix 1)

For Information

Memorandum of Understanding:

Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada (Appendix 2)

Piri Reis University, Turkey (Appendix 3)

New Programme:

MSc in Smart Grids (Appendix 4)

12205. Faculty of Science report (Paper M)

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Science, and **approved**, subject to scrutiny of the regulations by the Academic Regulations Review Group:

Introduction of MSc in Applied Statistics in Health Sciences (online)

Introduction of BSc Honours in Biology with Teaching

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12206. Senate Effectiveness Review (Paper N)

Senate noted the paper.

RESERVED BUSINESS

12207. Combined Student Business Report (Paper O)

Senate **approved** Paper O.

12208. Senate Discipline Committee Report (Paper P)

Senate **noted** the report of the Senate Discipline committee

12209. Scholarships (Paper Q)

Senate approved the paper, and welcomed the four new Scholarships presented for approval.

MJ

19/09/2018