

## SENATE

**Minutes: Wednesday 8 June 2016**

Present: Principal

Dr G Akram, Dr D Andriosopoulos, Dr L Brown, Mrs L Brownlow, Dr C Cassidy, Dr J Delafield-Butt, Mrs E Figgins, Professor R Finlay, Dr P Flett, Mr B Green, Professor B Harris, Professor A Heyes, Professor D Hillier, Dr B Keating, Professor D Kirk, Professor S Kuhr, Dr J Liggat, Professor D Littlejohn, Professor S MacGregor, Dr K Mathieson, Ms C Mcalister, Dr S McCool, Mr R McHugh, Professor J Murphy, Mr M O'Donnell, Dr V O'Halloran, Mr G Paterson, Professor E Riis, Dr O Romice, Professor A Salama, Dr K Savage, Professor Z Shipton, Dr T Tanyimboh, Dr S Terzis, Professor R Thomson

Attending: Dr T Anderson, Mr D Coyle, Mrs H Gould, Mr H Hall, Professor A Incecik, Mr R Jeyaraj, Professor W Kerr, Ms S Matko, Mrs J Meredith, Mrs C Milligan, Mr B Starosta

Apologies: Dr M Alexander, Dr S Brough, Mrs A Corrigan, Professor A Duffy, Professor N Ghani, Professor M Grealy, Professor B Hidding, Dr P McColgan, Dr A McLaren, Mr G McPheat, Dr P Mulheran, Dr M Piani, Dr S Rasmussen, Dr D Rotondo Professor S Roy, Professor I Ruthven, Professor R Stewart, Dr D Willison, Dr J Wilson

### Formal Matters

#### **11930. Minutes of the meeting of 30 March 2016**

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

#### **11931. Matters Arising**

There were none.

#### **11932. Report from Senate Business Committee**

Senate **noted** the report from the Senate Business Committee.

The Vice Principal reported that Senate Business Committee had met on 27 May to review the proposed agenda and discuss the business coming forward to Senate. Business Committee had welcomed the proposed Financial Update and the presentations on the TEF and Sport, Health & Wellbeing project and was comfortable with the overall distribution of items on the agenda. The Committee was content with the reports submitted from the various committees and faculties and had requested some minor edits prior to Senate.

The Committee had considered the report of the Collaborative Provision Agreement (CPA) Subgroup, noting that the subgroup was functioning effectively and providing appropriate scrutiny of agreements. Members noted the significant number of collaborative articulation agreements which reflected the University's efforts to increase international student recruitment. Agreements signed by the Principal by delegated authority from Senate were included in the Principal's report while those requiring Senate approval were submitted with the appropriate Faculty report.

## Presentations and Items for Discussion

### **11933. Principal's Report**

Senate **noted** the following Convener's Actions undertaken by the Principal since the last meeting:

- Approval of a waiver of regulation 12.13.7.
- Approval of the following Collaborative Agreements:
  - Articulation agreement with Capital Normal University - revised Addendum adding Chemistry (Science)
  - Articulation Agreement with Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST) (Business School)
  - Articulation Agreement renewal with Tolani Maritime Institute (TMI) (Engineering)
  - Engineering Academy agreement with Ayrshire College, City of Glasgow College, Forth Valley College, Glasgow Clyde College, Glasgow Kelvin College, New College Lanarkshire and West College Scotland
  - Articulation Agreement with Zhejiang University (Engineering)

Senate was also provided with an update on the following items:

- A successful Court meeting was held in May followed by a visit to the Faculty of HaSS which focused on the Confucius Institute, History and the International Public Policy Institute.
- The University welcomed the appointment of John Swinney as Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills and Keith Broun as Cabinet Secretary for the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work.
- The Principal had recently completed a series of very successful staff engagement sessions attended by approximately 2000 staff.
- The Principal had undertaken visits to prestigious partner institutions in Switzerland and Sweden.
- Strathclyde met all nine components of the Scottish Business Pledge as a socially progressive employer, including no zero hours contracts and paying a Living Wage and was awaiting confirmation from the Scottish Government.
- Professor Keith Ridgway had been appointed as Executive Chairman of the AFRC.
- A new Maritime Safety Research Centre was being established in the Department of Naval Architecture, Ocean & Marine Engineering.
- A new Digital Health Innovation Centre opening in July would bring the total of innovation centres on campus to three.
- Strathclyde's Business Improvement Team had been shortlisted in the Times Higher Education Leadership & Management Awards (THELMAs) in the Outstanding Administrative Services Team category. The winners would be announced on 23 June.
- Congratulations to Professor John Murphy from the Department of Pure & Applied Chemistry, who had won the Charles Rees Award of the Royal Society of Chemistry.
- Congratulations to Professor Duncan Graham, also from the Department of Pure & Applied Chemistry, who had won the Royal Society of Chemistry's Theophilus Redwood Award.
- Congratulations to Mr Ray McHugh who had been confirmed as the University's Director of Marketing and Communications
- Congratulations to Mrs Elaine Figgins who was leaving the University in August to take up a post with Allied Health Professions at NHS Education Scotland. The

Principal wished her well and thanked her for her contribution to the University and to Senate.

- The University's Values Survey 2016 was open and staff had until Friday 1st July to complete it.
- The Principal offered congratulations to those elected or re-elected to Senate for 2016/17 and thanked those who were leaving Senate for their contribution.
- Congratulations were offered to the following staff who had won awards in the recent Teaching Excellence Awards run by USSA:

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Overall Best                   | Miss Hilary Kane<br>Strategy & Organisation           |
| Most Enthusiastic              | Professor Gian-Luca Oppo<br>Physics                   |
| Most Supportive                | Ms Evelyn Hart<br>Education                           |
| Most Innovative                | Dr Ombretta Romice<br>Architecture                    |
| Best in Faculty<br>Business    | Dr Michael Harker<br>Marketing                        |
| Best in Faculty<br>Engineering | Mr Andrew Briggs<br>Civil & Environmental Engineering |
| Best in Faculty<br>HaSS        | Mr Robert Collins<br>Education                        |
| Best in Faculty<br>Science     | Professor Stefan Kuhr<br>Physics                      |

#### **11934. Financial Update**

The Chief Financial Officer updated Senate on the Budget and Four Year Financial Forecast which were in the final stages of preparation for the Court meeting on 22 June. Members first noted the forecast for the remainder of 2015/16 and the budget for 2016/17. An increase of 7% in income was forecast for 2016/17 with income in excess of £300M for the first time. The budget for 2016/17 included a surplus of £3M and it was noted that 2016/17 would also bring challenges in the reduction of SFC funding and increased staff costs (related to changes to National Insurance and Pensions). The exceptional items noted related to the disposal of land and buildings.

Senate then considered a forecast for the next 4 sessions (to 2019/20). An increase of 17% in income and 15% in expenditure over the period was forecast with operating surplus reaching 4% of income by 2019/20. The University would continue with its strategy to increase income from non-governmental sources as the Funding Council grants continued to flat line with a reduction in this form of income in real terms. Forecast expenditure was predicated on substantial income growth with significant further investment assumed in Staff, IT and infrastructure. Robust delivery of the strategy was vital to building on the existing momentum.

When compared with other research intensive institutions, Strathclyde was now increasing income streams by a percentage of income comparable with its competitors and better in some areas. This was a changed picture from 3 years earlier when it appeared to be left behind. Although it was acknowledged that there was still some way to go the University was clearly moving in the right direction and continuing to build on this momentum was vital. It was noted that Strathclyde's investment in infrastructure over the last 4 years far outstripped all of its competitors.

A member raised concerns regarding the effect of UK immigration legislation on plans to increase overseas student recruitment. It was noted that this issue impacted the whole UK sector and, although adding to the challenges, had not prevented other Scottish institutions from significantly increasing their overseas recruitment. Strathclyde needed a more coherent and consistent approach across the University in order to continue growth and share this across all Faculties. International recruitment needed to be prioritised further than it had been in the past. It was agreed that the targets were ambitious but they were necessary to allow Strathclyde to compete.

A question was asked regarding the Estates and Staff strategies in relation to the planned growth in overseas student numbers. While the University continued to invest in both staff and infrastructure, it was noted that teaching methods needed to change to keep pace with changing student expectations and make optimum use of facilities and of staff time. Ideas, such as the use of the campus over 12 months, had been discussed and Senate would return to this issue next session with the Estates Development Framework (EDF)3 being launched in the Autumn.

#### **11935. Future Direction of Senate**

The Principal reminded Senators that Senate's primary role was that of Academic Governance for the University. However, it was felt that Senate should be provided with more business information in order to have a greater focus on where academic issues fitted into the overall governance of the institution. A condensed version of the quarterly business reports provided to Court would be made available to Senate from next session.

A questionnaire would be circulated to Senators shortly which would seek their views on the current working of Senate and where this was effective, along with their vision for the future direction of Senate and where and how it could develop a stronger strategic role.

#### **11936. TEF/White Paper**

The Associate Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching) briefed Senators on the White Paper published in May 2016 and the implications for the sector in Scotland and for Strathclyde of the proposed legislation and the development of the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). It was noted that the timelines were tight and the pace of change would be rapid. The changes would mainly affect the English sector but posed significant questions for the positioning of Scottish Universities. The development of the TEF would have implications for the revision of the Quality Enhancement Framework (QEF) in Scotland.

The White Paper had focused on: Competition, Student Choice, Teaching Excellence Framework and Sector Architecture. TEF 1 decisions had been made for all UK universities on the basis of a valid Quality Audit (ELIR in Scotland). However, Scottish Universities would have to decide on TEF 2 participation by the end of July 2016. Scottish Universities were seeking a coordinated approach to an equivalent to TEF 2 for Scotland.

TEF 2 would use a range of metrics covering Teaching Quality, Learning Environment and Student Outcomes and Learning Gain. Some of these were more clearly defined at present than others. Similarly, the ratings that institutions would be given through the process were not yet defined. TEF 2 would begin with undergraduate courses and provide an overall institutional rating. The development of discipline level pilots and the inclusion of postgraduate taught provision was proposed thereafter.

In Scotland, the QEF and ELIR were both currently under review. Universities Scotland Learning & Teaching Committee agreed that the Scottish sector wished to ensure that the QEF was recognised as going considerably beyond a "Meets Expectation" rating, that the ELIR Advance Information Set was acknowledged as providing equivalency to the

baseline TEF standard and that the sector should be in discussion to develop a parallel, equivalent route to higher TEF ratings based on the QEF.

It was noted that the metrics driven approach meant that the University could be given an unofficial “rating” even if it opted out. This meant that the ongoing work on Education Strategy and the development of Education Performance Indicators was vital. Work already underway, such as that around the impact of the NSS, the development of robust Management Information and the ongoing quality assurance systems gave the University good alignment with the direction of travel for TEF. However, it was noted that the lack of concrete information at present made it very difficult to make an informed decision on whether the University should opt in or out. It was therefore hoped that the development of a comparable Scottish framework, based on the existing QEF and ELIR, would be agreed.

The USSA President noted that there was an assumption among the student body that the TEF would only apply to England and the very real danger that Student Associations were not engaging in discussions. There was support for the development of a Scottish framework and the engagement of students in this process was key. Concern was also raised that the TEF appeared to be wider than teaching quality drawing in other aspects of the overall student experience.

Members agreed that the preferred outcome would be a Scottish framework but that the University needed to engage with whatever national framework was implemented in order to compete in UK and international markets and to avoid externally rebuilt results being published. Senate would be updated on ongoing developments at the next meeting.

#### **11937. Sport, Health and Wellbeing Project Update**

The Associate Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching) and the Director of Estates updated Senate on the plans for the proposed Sport, Health and Wellbeing Facility, the budget for which was due to be approved by Court at its June meeting. The project plan had progressed through a number of key committees.

The proposed site for the new building was on the North side of Cathedral Street, creating a cluster with the Curran and Lord Hope buildings and reinforcing the University’s presence in that area of the campus. The design had been challenging due to the need to mass several large volume areas on a congested site. However, some green space had been preserved and the potential for future expansion onto the site currently occupied by Estates Services had been identified.

Senators were then shown some drawings of the proposed exterior and interior of the building which would cover 4 levels and contain: a swimming pool, two large 4 court sports halls, a fitness area, a dance studio, treatment rooms and flexible teaching spaces as well as offices, changing rooms and a café. The planning application had been submitted, the call for tender would follow the Court meeting and it was hoped that work would begin before the end of 2016 with the facility ready for the start of academic year 2018/19.

In response to questions from the floor, the Director confirmed that there would be bicycle racks and secure bicycle storage along with locker provision, though the latter would be mainly for building users. The building had been equality and diversity impact assessed and designed to be accessible to all, as far as possible, with additional accessible parking spaces being requested at the rear of the building.

#### Items for Information

#### **11938. Senate Elections**

Senate **noted** the outcome of the recent elections to its membership for the following year.

### Committee and Faculty Reports to Senate

#### **11939. Executive Team**

Senate **noted** the report from the Executive Team.

#### **11940. Court**

Senate **noted** the report from Court.

#### **11941. Education Strategy Committee**

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

#### **11942. Quality Assurance Committee**

Senate **noted** the report from the Quality Assurance Committee.

#### **11943. Learning Enhancement Committee**

Senate **noted** the report from the Learning Enhancement Committee.

#### **11944. Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee**

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

#### **11945. Strathclyde Business School**

Senate **approved** the following subject to scrutiny of any regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Working Group:

- Withdrawal of PGCert Equality in Pay and Reward
- BA Hospitality and Tourism Management Prize: The Lord Forte Prize

Senate **noted** the report from the Business School including the following:

- Articulation Agreement with Huazhong University of Science and Technology

#### **11946. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

Senate **approved** the following subject to scrutiny of any regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Working Group:

- New Courses
  - BA Hons Intercultural Communications and Global Business
  - Postgraduate Certificate in Researcher Professional Development
- Amendments to Courses
  - MSc Applied Educational and Social Research
  - MEd Children and Young People's Literacy, Language and Literature

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences including the following:

- Quinquennial Course Review - Open Studies
- Saudi Arabia: Building Leadership For Change Through School Immersion
- Hanban teachers

#### **11947. Faculty of Engineering**

Senate **approved** the following subject to scrutiny of any regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Working Group:

- Withdrawal of Courses
- New Course: MSc in Oil and Gas Innovation
- Collaborative Agreements
  - Jimei University (JMU), China
  - Shandong Maritime Vocational College (SMVC), China

- Harbin Engineering University, China

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Engineering including the following:

- Collaborative Agreements and MOUs
  - ZJU Zhejiang University, China
  - Tolani Maritime Institute
  - Heriot Watt – MoA Sensor and Imaging Systems
  - Middle East Technical University (METU), Turkey
  - Hefie University, China
  - Shengyang Aerospace University, China
- Appointment of Vice Deans
- Internal Review Reports – Key Points
- Faculty Flexible Learning Centre

#### **11948. Faculty of Science**

Senate **approved** the following subject to scrutiny of any regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Working Group:

- Introduction of BSc (Hons) Microbiology and Pharmacology
- Withdrawal of Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences Professional MSc, PgDip and PgCert
- Introduction of a new award under Ordinance 3.1 –PhD with Integrated Study – Senate **approved** this item for **recommendation** to Court.
- Collaborative Agreements
  - Donghua University, China
  - Zhejiang University of Technology Collaboration
  - University of Electronic Science and Technology China
  - Soochow University
  - Communications University China
  - Beijing University of Chemical Technology
  - Harbin Institute of Technology

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Science including the following:

- Capital Normal University Addendum

#### Reserved Business

##### **11949. Student Business – Business School**

Senate **approved** the student business as detailed in Paper O.

##### **11950. Student Business – Faculty of Engineering**

Senate **approved** the student business as detailed in Paper P.

##### **11951. Student Business – Faculty of Science**

Senate **approved** the student business as detailed in Paper Q.

##### **11952. Student Business – Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

Senate **approved** the student business as detailed in Paper R.

##### **11953. Scholarships**

Senate **approved** the following new scholarships, subject to scrutiny by the Ordinances and Regulations Working Group of regulations:

- The Espie Scholarships
- The Carrick Scholarships
- The RACS Foundation Scholarship
- The Peter Thomson Scholarship

- The Barcapel Foundation Scholarship

**11954. Emeritus Professor**

Senate **noted** the conferment of title of Emeritus Professor, as detailed in Paper T and approved by the Academic Professional Appointments Panel.

**11955. Honorary Degree nominations**

Senate **noted** the nominations for the conferment of Honorary Degrees. Senators were advised to provide any feedback to the Convener of Senate within two weeks.

JM 10/06/16