

SENATE

Minutes: Wednesday 25 January 2017

- Present: Principal
Professor D Brodie, Dr L Brown, Dr C Cassidy, Dr S Chase, Dr A Coddington, Dr E Compton- Daw, Mrs A Corrigan, Dr J Delafield-Butt, Professor D Drikakis, Dr M Ellis, Dr M Findlay, Professor R Finlay, Professor D Graham, Professor M Greal, Mr B Green, Professor A Heyes, Professor B Hidding, Professor D Hillier, Dr M Karampela, Dr B Keating, Dr N Kelly, Professor S Kuhr, Dr J Liggat, Professor D Littlejohn, Professor S MacGregor, Ms C McAlister, Dr S McCool, Mr R McHugh, Dr A McLaren, Dr B McNeil, Professor A Mulholland, Dr P Mulheran, Dr E Newlands, Dr A Nordon, Dr V O'Halloran, Dr F Papoff, Professor K Paudyal, Dr Marco Piani, Professor R Plevin, Professor E Riis, Professor S Roy, Dr K Savage, Professor B Simpson, Ms R Smith, Dr S Terzis, Dr G Welsh
- Attending: Dr D Willison, Dr T Anderson, Ms Gillian Pallis, Professor T Bedford, Professor S Carter, Professor A Inceik, Professor W Kerr, Mr D Coyle, Mr R Jeyaraj, Mr B Starosta, Mrs C Milligan, Ms K Hannah, Ms S Matko, Mr J Hogg, Mrs M Judge
- Apologies: Dr M Alexander, Dr D Andriosopoulos, Dr E Barlow, Dr S Brough, Professor C Cooper, Dr A Fletcher, Dr P Flett, Dr D Harle, Professor B Harris, Professor D Kirk, Dr P McColgan, Dr W McGeown, Mr G McPheat, Dr D Rotondo, Professor I Ruthven, Professor R Stewart, Professor R Thomson, Dr B Wagner, Mrs H Gould, Mr H Hall, Dr J Wilson

Formal Matters

11998. Welcome

The Principal welcomed Senators to Senate's third meeting of the academic year.

11999. Minutes of the meeting of 2 November 2016

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

12000. Matters Arising

There were none.

12001. Report from Senate Business Committee

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

The Vice Principal reported that Senate Business Committee met on 13 January to review the proposed agenda and discuss the business coming forward to Senate, which included two nominations for Honorary Degrees, tabled to Senate. Senate Business Committee welcomed presentations to Senate on the following items:

- Q1 Business Report from the Chief Finance Officer and the Director of Strategy
- An update on NSS and TEF from Deputy Associate Principal Brian Green
- An update on Estates Developments from the Director of Estates Services

The Committee welcomed the presentations to be given to Senate as part of the Strategic Update session, including a presentation on the Future Direction of Senate to be delivered by the Vice Principal, and updates on the six Executive Team projects. The Committee also reviewed the report of the Collaborative Provision Agreement Subgroup, noting that there had been a significant number of agreements presented.

Whilst confident that the subgroup was operating effectively, the Committee proposed that refreshed operational advice would be helpful to Faculties.

The Committee noted the proposal for a New Courses Subgroup, welcoming this initiative, and was content to recommend the paper for Senate's approval. No items required further discussion. The Committee considered the Committee and Faculty Reports which further to minor amendments were recommended for Senate approval. The Committee welcomed the report and update from the Principal on institutional and sector-wide issues.

Presentations and Items for Discussion

12002. Principal's Report and Update

The Principal provided Senate with an update on the following items:

- **Scottish Government Budget:** the Principal noted that pending approval of the Scottish Government's budget, further information would be given on the expected grant from the Scottish Funding Council. It was expected that there would be an increased uplift in Research revenues/grants reflecting the University's good performance in the REF. Senators were reminded that the University's future development would continue to be based on its investing strategy which had been effective over the past 8-10 years.
- **Enterprise and Skills Review:** Senators were updated on developments in relation to the Scottish Government's Enterprise and Skills review. Phase 2 of the review was now ongoing with outcomes from this expected by the spring.
- **Governance Matters:**
 - Senate welcomed the appointment of Dame Sue Bruce as Convener of Court, following approval by Court, and expressed thanks to the outgoing Convener of Court Richard Hunter whose term of office would end on 31 July 2017.
 - The Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Bill had been enacted.
- **EU Exit:** the Principal informed Senate of recent and ongoing activity further to the result of the EU Referendum. The Principal had been involved in constructive discussions on the impact of Brexit issues to the city of Glasgow, and stressed the importance of ensuring continued recognition of H.E being at the front of thinking. Further updates would be given.
- **Scotland's Universities Welcome the World events:** The University had taken part in an event where H.E institutions across Scotland came together to launch a new campaign to welcome students from around the world. The USSA President had been present at the event and informed Senate that the event had been warmly received, highlighting that Scotland is very much welcoming international students.
- **Children's Futures Institute:** The Principal informed Senate that the University was about to launch of an international institute for children's futures, a world-class centre of excellence dedicated to improving the lives of the most vulnerable young people in societies across the globe.
- **NSS Launched:** NSS had launched on 9th January. A communication from the Principal would be sent out to students informing them of the launch.

- **Estates investment Update:** The significant levels of on-going investment were highlighted, noting in particular: the construction of a new Health and Wellbeing Facility, the redevelopment of the Wolfson Building, the Combined Heat and Power district energy network and the anticipated investment in The Place. Details of the planned investment would be outlined in the presentation from the Director of Estates later in the agenda.
- **Chief Operating Officer:** Senate was informed that the Chief Operating Officer (COO) Hugh Hall would leave the University at the end of February 2017. Further to formal agreement from Court, the Chief Finance Officer, David Coyle, would be appointed as interim COO. Senators were informed of plans to shape the COO post into two roles, Chief Commercial Officer and University Secretary, with the expectation that the roles would be filled in the next 3-4 months.
- **Grant Awards:** the Principal updated Senate on the top recent research awards the University had received since the last Senate which included: awards to Physics, Engineering, Mathematics and Statistics, with other significant awards to SIPBS, awards to English and Strategy and Organisation, and significant collaborative awards at contract stage.
- **Business School of the Year:** Strathclyde Business School was warmly congratulated further to being named the UK's Business School of the Year by the Times Higher Education in November 2016.

12003. Q1 Business Report

The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and the Director of Strategy and Policy presented the Q1 Business Report for 2016/17. Providing the background to the report, the CFO explained that the quarterly business reports had been introduced for Court's benefit, initially covering resource issues, thereafter expanding to cover much wider financial and academic issues. The following points of particular importance were highlighted:

- The introduction of a new financial reporting standard and the net impact of ensuing changes has significantly impacted on the presentation of the University's financial results.
- The overall outturn for the year was on target, however, the forecast deficit before one-off items adverse to budget was noted;
- SFC grant income was higher than budget;
- There has been significant growth in overall terms in tuition fees, though falling short of budget. Recurring research grant income was anticipated to be slightly lower than budget;
- Salary costs are higher than forecast, with operating costs also slightly higher than forecast;
- An offsetting factor was depreciation, which had reduced;
- Cash balances were anticipated to be higher than forecast;
- Focussing on Staffing Indicators, staff sickness absence rates were lower than the previous year, below the sector average; staff turnover was also below sector average – both of these were positive indicators;
- PGR Indicators showed Q1 intakes ahead of the equivalent position in the preceding year.
- Student Profile Indicators showed an increase in the number of RUK entrants compared to previous year, with particularly significant growth of PGT RUK numbers.
- UG access indicators indicated that figures were on track with year-on-year growth in the number of SIMD0-20 and SIMD0-40 widening access entrants and entrants from low progression schools.

Senators welcomed the report, noting in relation to UG access figures that results reinforced the University's position as a leading socially progressive institution. The value of the report to Senate was acknowledged, particularly given Senate's strategic responsibility for the academic work of the University in teaching, research and knowledge exchange. It was proposed that the report should be made available to Senate routinely, with key messages from the report disseminated more widely across the University.

Action: Committee Manager

12004. NSS and TEF Update

An update was provided by Deputy Associate Principal Brian Green on key activities in NSS. It was noted that it was helpful to look at NSS activity in the context of wider educational enhancement. Amongst ongoing enhancement activity, a series of NSS forums had been taking place, focussing on: Improving & Enhancing Consistency; changes to NSS for 2017; and Launch of NSS 2017. Engagement in the forums had been encouraging. Key actions had been identified and taken forward. Meetings had been held with those subject areas with the most significant impact on scores. An update was given of key dates for NSS 2017. An outline was given of NSS communications and key messages to be disseminated.

The (Scottish H.E.) sector's position on TEF and ongoing engagement in TEF discussions was outlined. TEF 2 was optional for institutions. It had been agreed by the Executive Team that the University would revisit its decision on participation in TEF as more details emerged. A formal communication on the University's decision on TEF 2 would be considered.

12005. Update on Estates Developments

Director of Estates Services Stella Matko provided a presentation to Senate on developments in the University's estate.

Senate was reminded of the strategic goals and KPIs that were considered in the development of the campus. The Estates Development Framework (EDF2) 2010-2024 was currently being refreshed. Capital projects that had been delivered from 2010-2016 were outlined, noting the considerable changes and excellent developments that had resulted such as, the redevelopment of Strathclyde Business School, and the flagship Technology and Innovation Centre. Internal and external influencing factors in the development of the estate were noted.

Focussing on the next stage of capital investment, the development programme from 2016-2020 was outlined. Investments in projects from 2016-2020 currently totalled £141M. Approved capital investment projects from 2014-2018 included: the flagship project on the Centre for Sports and Health Wellbeing, the redevelopment of the Wolfson Building, and the Combined Heat and Power Project. Key business cases in development included the building and development of the Teaching and Learning Building, The Place, the business case for which would be presented to Court in March.

An overview of the Public Realm and Heart of the Campus plans was given, providing a snapshot of areas being developed across the campus and work that had already been completed which included provision of high level signage, improvement of pathways. Pipeline projects were outlined which included potential for TIC II/ Innovo II being developed. An overview of building masterplans noting potential improvements to be made to key University buildings was given. It was noted that building

performance since the implementation of the Estates Development Framework had vastly improved.

Senators welcomed the developments, noting in particular that The Place, if approved, would offer huge potential to students. USSA had been involved in supporting the business case for the project, the development of which would be extremely positive and beneficial in the ongoing transformation and improvement of the University's campus.

Committee and Faculty Reports to Senate

12006. Executive Team

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

12007. Court

Senate **noted** the report from Court.

12008. Education Strategy Committee

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

12009. Quality Assurance Committee

Senate **noted** the report from the Quality Assurance Committee and **approved**: the Moratorium on extension to a thesis from Pure and Applied Chemistry.

12010. Learning Enhancement Committee

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

12011. Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee

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

12012. Strathclyde Business School

Senate noted the report from the Business School and **approved** the following new courses subject to scrutiny by the Ordinances and Regulations Working Group:

- 1 MSc Innovation and Marketing Management
- .2 MSc Marketing (Greece)
- .3 MSc Operational Research

12013. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Senate noted the report from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and **approved** the following new courses subject to scrutiny of any regulations by the Ordinances and Regulations Committee:

1. New courses:
 - .1 LLM Law
 - .2 BA (Hons) in Psychology and/with Sport
 - .3 BA (Hons) in Education and Sport
 - .4 Accelerated PGDE - Update
 - .5 MSc in Politics
 - .6 MSc in European Politics
 - .7 ESRC Review Framework
 - .8 LLM in Law of the Sea, Sustainable Development and International Law (30/11/2016)
 - .9 BA (Hons) Behavioural Aspects of Business (19/12/2016)
 - .10 PhD Pathway in Public Health and Health Policy
 - .11 PhD Pathway in Criminology

2. Collaborative agreement(s) which have been submitted for review by the CPA:
- .1 Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics (JUFE), China
 - .2 Xiamen University Tan Kah Kee College (TKK), China)
 - .3 East China University of Political Science and Law (ECUPL), China
 - .4 Jinan University (JNU), China
 - .5 Nanjing Xiaozhuang University (NJXZU), China
 - .6 Tianjin University of Finance and Economics (TUFE), China)
 - .7 Hebei Normal University (HNU), China)
 - .8 Nanjing University of Finance and Economics (NUFE), China
 - .9 Yangtze University, China

12014. Faculty of Engineering

Senate noted the report from the Faculty of Engineering and approved the following new courses subject to scrutiny of any regulations by the Ordinances and Regulations Working Group:

1. For approval:
- .1 Significant Amendments to Regulations
 - .1 MSc/MRes in Biofluid Mechanics - new course
 - .2 EngD/MSc in Medical Devices
2. Collaborative Agreements:
- .1 Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore.
 - .2 Mahidol University, Thailand

12015. Faculty of Science

Senate noted the report from the Faculty of Science, **approving** the following collaborative agreements subject to scrutiny of any regulations by Ordinances and Regulations Working Group:

1. For Approval:
- .1 Introduction of MSc Optical Imaging Entrepreneurship
 - .2 Introduction of MSc in Advanced Computer Science with Big Data
 - .3 Introduction of MSc Advanced Immunology, MSc Advanced Pharmacology, MSc Molecular Microbiology, MSc Advanced Biochemistry
2. Collaborative agreements which have been reviewed by the CPA:
- .1 Capital Normal University Collaborative Agreement
 - .2 Kasetsart University Collaboration Annex

12016. New Course Approval Subgroup

Senate approved the paper (N).

12017. Revised Policy and Code of Practice for PGR Study

Senate approved the paper (O).

Reserved Business

12018. Student Business [Reserved]

12019. Scholarships [Reserved]

12020. Honorary Degree nominations [Reserved]