



SENATE

Approved Minutes:

**Wednesday 4th
September 2024**

Present: Principal

Professor S MacGregor, Professor A Wilson, Dr A Huang, Dr A Moreno-Rangel, A Corrigan, A Elvaldsson, Dr A Ivaturi, Dr B McNeil, Professor B Wagner, C Robb, C Wilson, C Cannon, C Carroll, Professor C Cassidy, C McLaughlin, Dr C Gonzalez-Longo, Professor D Hillier, D Reat, Dr D Ramsay, Professor D Graham, Dr E Henderson, E Curran, Professor E Boulougouris, Dr F Arrigo, Dr G MacIntyre, Dr I Moore, Professor I Rivers, J Campbell, J Carey, Professor J MacBryde, Professor K Chen, Dr K Pyper, L Reaney, Dr M Cunningham, Dr M Parra Rodriguez, Professor M Halvey, Dr M Haw, Dr M Dobрева, Dr M Salamati, Dr N MacKenzie, Professor N Quinn, Dr O Ganilova, R Mujahid, R McHugh, R Collins, Dr S Morrissey, Professor S McArthur, Professor T Tuttle, Professor T Scotto, W Rennison.

Attending: Professor B Green, B Johnson, G Watt, H Gould, Dr L Bonnar, Dr L Gibson, M Middlehurst, L Noble, Professor P McKenna, S Currie, Dr S McKendry, Professor S Howick, Y Yau.

Apologies: Dr A Coulson, Professor A Galloway, Professor A Marshall, A Paddison, Professor A Maier, A Mendes, Professor A Gachagan, Professor A Fletcher, Dr A Toumpis, Dr A Ates, B Lawton, Professor B Wynne, Dr B McMillan, Dr C Verdier, C Milligan, C Whitley, Professor C Mahn, Dr D Roxburgh, Professor D Willison, Professor D Brodie, Professor E Oterkus, Dr F Scott, G Docherty, Professor J Byrne, Professor J Race, Professor K Boyle, Dr K Johnstone, L McKean, Professor M Grealy, Dr M Neal, Dr M Harker, Professor P Connelly, Professor R Maguire, S Day, Dr S Walker, Dr S Oterkus, S Moghadas, Professor S Kuhr, Dr S Brough, Dr S Fancey, Professor T Bedford, Dr Z Rattray.

OPEN BUSINESS

12930. Welcome

The Principal welcomed all members to the first meeting of Senate in AY 2024/25. The Principal in particular extended a warm welcome to the new and returning members of the Student Executive and to the 13 new members of Senate.

12931. Minutes of the meeting of 29th May 2024 (Paper S23-24-89)

The minutes of the meeting of 29th May 2024 were approved as an accurate record.

12932. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

12933. Senate Business Committee Report (Paper S23-24-90)

The Vice Principal invited Senate to note the report from Senate Business Committee which met on 22nd August 2024. The Committee had scrutinised the following:

1. The note of the Collaborative Provision Agreement (CPA) Subgroup which stated that since the last meeting of Senate on 29th May 2025 the Subgroup had processed 11 agreements – 6 of which are new agreements, 4 are renewals and 1 is an addendum to an existing agreement. The Committee noted the 3 new University-wide agreements presented by the Recruitment and International Office appended to the CPA Subgroup Report and recommended to Senate that these agreements are approved.

Under this item the Convener highlighted that at its last meeting the CPA Subgroup reviewed a suite of draft documentation in relation to the Strathclyde Innovation, Research and Education Hub in Bahrain. When finalised, the papers will be circulated for review to the CPA Subgroup and Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal to approve out of cycle on behalf of Senate.

Senate APPROVED the University-wide agreements with BECAL, Fundación BECA and CONAPE.

2. The Committee's Terms of Reference for AY 2024/25. These were reviewed and approved.
3. The volume of out of cycle business as detailed in the Principal's Report, [PAPER S24-25-03 Principal's Report.pdf](#). There have been a large number of out of cycle approvals since the May meeting of Senate. While this process can be used to expedite matters requiring urgent Senate approval, it should be used by exception and is not a substitute for the in cycle Senate approval process. A recommendation on how to manage out of cycle business will come forward to a future meeting of Senate for approval.
4. The Committee agreed the business agenda for Senate's meeting on 4th September 2024. Eva Curran, President Strath Union was asked to provide a verbal update to Senate on recent Strath Union business. It was agreed that Senate would receive a recruitment update from Wesley Rennison, Director of Strategic Planning and a financial update from Lucy Noble, Chief Financial Officer. Helyn Gould, Deputy Associate Principal, Education, Systems and Enhancement will provide an overview of the results of the NSS from AY 2023/24. This will be followed by each of the Executive Deans providing a verbal update to Senate on their respective Faculty's performance in the survey. Ben Johnson, Professor of Practice, Research and Innovation Policy has been asked to present to Senate on the changing landscape for the higher education sector that a new government will bring. Finally it was agreed that Dr Stephanie McKendry, Deputy Director Student Experience and Yet Yau, Head of International Student Journeys, will present to Senate on the UKVI's latest compliance audit findings and overview of process and policy changes, recently approved by Senate out of cycle, to support international applicants/students.

5. All reports submitted for the Senate meeting had been reviewed and were recommended to Senate

by Senate Business Committee.

6. Requests for Senate's attention and approval were highlighted; with a recommendation that Senate give its formal approval, where requested, to reports as noted below (Minute ref 12942-12962).
7. Senate homologated the following Convener's Actions approved by the Principal on behalf of Senate as outlined in Paper S24-25-03 since the last Senate meeting:
 - Institutional Listing Application to the Higher Education Council (Bahrain) (Appendix 1)

Collaborative agreements:

- Collaborative agreement with Qatar Cultural Office
- Collaborative agreement with Turkish Consulate General
- Collaborative agreement with Northeast Electric Power University (Paper S24-25-14)
- Ngee Ann Polytechnic (Paper S24-25-14)

New programmes:

SBS (Paper S24-25-12)

- Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) – Bahrain
- Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) with a specialisation in Marketing – Bahrain
- PhD International Business

Engineering (Paper S24-25-14)

- PhD Applied Photonics
- PhD Offshore Renewal Energy
- Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Chemical Engineering – Bahrain
- Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Civil Engineering - Bahrain
- Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Mechanical Engineering – Bahrain
- Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Electronic and Electrical Engineering – Bahrain

Science (Paper S24-25-15)

- BSc Hons Computer Science – Bahrain
- BSc Hons Software Engineering – Bahrain

New/ revised policies:

- Admissions Policy (Paper S24-25-17)
- Terms and Condition for Applicants and Students (Paper S24-25-18)
- UKVI Engagement Policy (Paper S24-25-19)
- UKVI Student Visa Reporting Policy (Paper S24-25-20)
- Policy and Procedure for Late Submission of Coursework: revisions (Paper S24-25-21)
- Policy and Procedure on Extensions to Coursework Submissions: revisions (Paper S24-25-22)
- Policy on Compensation Scheme: revisions (Paper S24-25-23)
- Procedure for Awarding Aegrotat and Posthumous Awards: revisions (Paper S24-25-24)
- Procedure for Returning Marks and Disseminating Results: revisions (Paper S24-25-25)
- Proposal to remove standalone policies on Motivational Merit and on Honours Classification (Paper S24-25-26)

12934. Principal's Report

The Principal provided a comprehensive report on news and items of interest since the last meeting, covering the following topics:

Key Updates

The Principal reflected on some of the challenges facing the Higher Education sector currently. Whilst Strathclyde is not immune from the impact of these, the distinctive approach and Strategy 2030 will ensure that the University continues to thrive.

The University has welcomed a number of key Government figures, including Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rachel Reeves to tour the NMIS facility and the Leader of the Scottish Labour Party, Anas Sawar, who is meeting with colleagues in the Widening Access Team in the coming weeks.

Pension Change Proposals

The current proposal and consultation on the changes to the Strathclyde Pension Fund were highlighted to Senators, noting that the Chief People Officer Gordon Scott sent a communication to all staff about these proposals in the week preceding Senate.

Executive Team

The Executive Team engaged with their strategy refresh session, with a focus on supporting our people, enhancing digital transformation, and strengthening the work in sustainability. The political landscape, opportunities and sector challenges were also discussed.

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The Diamond Jubilee celebration events have been continuing successfully, with the Summer Fete held on 14th August and an event in the Scottish Parliament hosted on the University's behalf by two MSPs.

Undergraduate Open Day

The first Undergraduate Open Day had taken place the day before Senate, the Principal noted the significant numbers of prospective students and positive atmosphere that was generated by the event. Thanks were given to all staff involved in the delivery of this.

Strathclyde Value Medals

The annual Strathclyde Medals ceremony will be held on 5th September which will reward colleagues who put the University's values into practice. 99 individual nominations have been submitted and 31 team nominations.

WhoCares? Scotland

Congratulations were extended from the Principal and Senators on the Outstanding Educational Practice award won by the University at the first WhoCares? Scotland Corporate Parenting Awards 2024. Colleagues within Student Experience and all those involved in the Strathclyde Carers programme were thanked for their hard work and dedication.

Strathclyde and NHS Lanarkshire Partnership Commitment

NHS Lanarkshire was awarded 'University status' in 2020. The University has now extended this partnership for a further 5 years in recognition of the ambition to work together to tackle key health and care challenges, for the benefit of local communities and Scotland as a whole.

Strathclyde People

Dr Ingeborg Birnie from the Strathclyde Institute of Education was congratulated on her appointment to a UNESCO group supporting the protection of indigenous tongues. Dr Kimia Witte from the Department of Biomedical Engineering, Dr Susan Spesyvtseva from the Department of Physics and Dr Helina Marshall from Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences, were all congratulated on their Royal Society of Edinburgh Young Academy of Scotland appointments.

Research Awards

Award made to Dr Xiaolei Zhang in Chemical and Process Engineering

Project title: Reshaping Fossil-free Carbon Supply Landscape for Accelerated Materials-based Net-zero Transition (RAN-Trans)

MRC (Medical Research Council), awarded on 15-Aug-2024

Award made to Professor Katherine Smith in Social Work and Social Policy

Project title: The Health-Justice Nexus: Crime and Justice as Social Determinants of Health in Scotland

Chief Scientist's Office CSO, awarded on 30-Jul-2024

Award made to Dr Rebecca Beveridge in Pure and Applied Chemistry

Project title: Understanding intrinsically disordered proteins and their potential as new drug (FLF renewal)

MRC (Medical Research Council), awarded on 20-Aug-2024

Award made to Dr Kevin Ronald in Physics

Project title: Drilling and Integrated GigaHertz-Generated Energy Resource DIGGER

UK Space Agency, awarded on 22-Aug-2024

Award made to Dr Yashar Moshfeghi in Computer and Information Sciences

Project title: Participatory Harm Auditing Workbenches and Methodologies (PHAWM)

EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council), awarded on 10-Jul-2024

Institutional Award

Project title: EPSRC Impact Acceleration Account - University of Strathclyde 2022

EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council), awarded on 10-Jul-2024

£440,647 awarded to Professor Michael Ward in National Manufacturing Institute Scotland

Project title: Future electrical Machines Manufacturing Hub (EPSRC Manufacturing Research Hub)

EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council), awarded on 14-Jun-2024

Award made to Professor Keith Bell in Electronic and Electrical Engineering

Project title: Global Centers Track 1: Electric Power Innovation for a Carbon-free Society (EPICS) (NSF Global Centres)

EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council), awarded on 03-Jul-2024

Award made to Dr Glenn Burley in Pure and Applied Chemistry

Project title: GLAS-CYTO: AN INTEGRATED FACILITY FOR THE BIOPHYSICAL ANALYSIS OF CELLULAR INTERACTIONS

BBSRC (Biotech & Biological Sciences Research Council), awarded on 19-Jun-2024

Award made to Professor Evangelos Boulougouris in Naval Architecture Ocean and Marine Engineering

Project title: EcoShipYard (ESY)

Innovate UK, awarded on 03-Jul-2024

Award made to Professor Patricia Findlay in Work Employment and Organisation

12935. Student Voice

Eva Curran, Strath Union's President, presented the Strath Union update which welcomed the new Strath Union CEO Morna Simpkins, and the three new Executive Officers, Jamie Campbell (VP Community), Ramisha Mujahid (VP Inclusion), and Anna Edvaldsson (VP Sport). Senators were informed that the Class Reps system has been updated and that Departments have been encouraged to begin recruitment from week 0. The preparations for Freshers' Week are ongoing and there has so far been a very positive response to the planned events. It was noted that the 2024/25 version of the Strategic Framework Alliance will be shared with Senate at the November meeting.

12936. NSS Results 2023-24 – overview and Faculty perspectives

Helyn Gould, Deputy Associate Principal for Education, Systems and Enhancement provided Senate with an update on the annual NSS results. It was noted that the overall response rate was similar to the previous year, which was strong within the sector, and that within overall satisfaction Strathclyde was placed third in Scotland. The Executive Deans for each Faculty gave an overview of the data from each of their respective areas. They noted that although it had been a difficult landscape for final year students, with the effects of the pandemic still being felt and the impact of industrial action, the results were generally positive. The Vice Principal noted that the results showed consistency and a stable trend in performance which is an indication of the high quality of provision across the institution.

12937. Reflections on the impact of a new government on the Higher Education sector

Ben Johnson, Professor of Practice in Research and Innovation Policy, presented to Senators on his reflections of the impact of a new UK Government on the Higher Education Sector. Topics discussed included the policy landscape going forward, attitudes towards universities and international students, and a new Industrial Strategy with potential for research funding implications. Whilst there are unlikely to be significant policy changes in relation to university funding or immigration it is hoped that there will be positive and productive discussions going forward, with opportunities in research with industry, Artificial Intelligence and the energy sector.

12938. UKVI compliance – University's role as a Student Sponsor, audit findings and overview of processes and policy to support international applicants/ students

Dr Stephanie McKendry, Deputy Director Student Experience and Yet Yau, Head of International Student Journeys, presented an update on the University's role and responsibilities in relation to UKVI compliance and sponsorship. This included an overview of the visa process from application to graduation, the recent audit from UKVI, and new policy and system developments to support students studying on a visa.

12939. Recruitment and Financial Update

Wesley Rennison, Director of Strategic Planning, provided Senate with a recruitment update. The recruitment numbers across the different student groups for intake in September 2024/25 were presented. Lucy Noble, Chief Financial Officer, presented Senate with an overview of income and expenditure movements for 23/24, and outlined the proposed budget for 2024/25, which has been reviewed and approved by Court.

Items for Information

12940. Senate Appointments and Membership of Senate Committees (Paper S24-25-04)

Senate noted and APPROVED the membership for AY 2024-25 and the membership of the Senate committees for AY 2024-25.

12941. Senate Annual Report AY 2023-24 (marked 'to follow')

The Senate Annual Report was not available to Senators in time for the meeting, however has since been circulated for noting. All Senators were encouraged to read the report.

Items for Approval without Discussion**12942. Student Membership of Senate Discipline Committee and Appeals Board (Paper S24-25-06)**

Student discipline cases have risen by 240% over the duration of the last four academic years, from 5 in 2020/21 to 17 in 2023/24. Currently, the only student members of Senate Discipline Committee are StrathUnion Executive Officers, usually numbering six individuals. The number of cases now progressing to Senate Discipline Committee hearings, and the potential for Senate Discipline Appeals Board hearings is anticipated to continue to increase. Senate noted that [University Regulation 1.5.5c](#) stipulates that the Senate Discipline Committee composition will include two members of the Council of the Students' Association. This is repeated under University Regulation 1.5.7c, in relation to the composition of the Senate Discipline Appeals Board.

Senate endorsed this proposal and RECOMMENDED to Court the proposal to amend University Regulations 1.5.5c and 1.5.7c.

Committee and Faculty Reports to Senate**12943. Executive Team Report (Paper S24-25-07)**

Senate **noted** the report.

12944. Court Report (Paper S24-25-08)

Senate **noted** the report.

12945. Education Strategy Committee Annual Report (Paper S24-25-09)

Senate **noted** the report.

12946. Quality Assurance Committee Report (Paper S24-25-10)

Senate **noted** the report.

12947. Student Experience Committee Report (Paper S24-25-11)

Senate **noted** this report.

12948. Strathclyde Business School Report (Paper S24-25-12)

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **approved** the following collaborative agreements:
 - A new agreement with East Asia Institute of Management, Singapore
 - A renewal with Xiamen University, Malaysia

- A renewal to a validation and articulation agreement with City of Glasgow College
- **noted** the following:
 - Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) – Bahrain and Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) with a specialisation in Marketing - Bahrain
 - PhD in International Business

12949. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Report (Paper S24-25-13)

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **approved** the following amendments to a programme:
 - BA Hons Primary Education

12948. Faculty of Engineering Report (Paper S24-25-14)

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **approved** the following programmes:
 - PhD Nuclear Engineering
- **noted** the following:
 - Programme approvals – Strathclyde Innovation, Research and Education Hub in Bahrain
 - A renewal to the agreement with Northeast Electrical Power University (NEEPU)
 - Addendum to agreement with Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore
 - Amendment to PhD Applied Photonics
 - Amendment to PhD Offshore Renewable Energy

12949. Faculty of Science Report (Paper S24-25-15)

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **noted** the following:
 - Appointment of Vice Dean (Academic)
 - Appointment of Associate Dean (Equality, Diversity & Inclusion)
 - Change of Assessment: Department of Mathematics and Statistics
 - Change of Assessment: Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences
 - Change of Assessment: Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry
 - Programme approvals - BSc Hons Computer Science – Bahrain and BSc Hons Software Engineering – Bahrain

New or Revised Policy

12950. Minor amendments to General Academic Regulations: Postgraduate Research and Code of Practice for Postgraduate Research Students (Paper S24-25-16)

It was noted that the minor amendments highlighted have been requested to bring both documents into line with new changes to UKRI scholarship funders' policy on maximum duration of study. These amendments had been considered by both QAC and ESC and recommended by Senate Business Committee to Senate to approve.

Senate APPROVED the minor amendments to the General Academic Regulations: Postgraduate Research and Code of Practice for Postgraduate Research Students

Any Other Business: For Information

12951. Admissions Policy (Paper S24-25-17)

This Policy was updated to better reflect the University's approach in relation to admissions and clearly communicate this to potential applicants and students. The Policy was submitted by Admissions Management Committee to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12952. Terms and Condition for Applicants and Students (Paper S24-25-18)

The Terms and Conditions document will form part of the Student Contract alongside Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations etc that will be drawn together on a specific student contract webpage. Engagement with the Terms and Conditions and Student Contract webpage will be an element of registration. It was noted that the University is taking a phased approach to its development. This paper was considered by ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12953. UKVI Engagement Policy (Paper S24-25-19)

It was noted that this Policy outlines the University's commitment to its duties in relation to demonstrating that our international students are engaging in their programme of study and that there are procedures in place to identify and address any concerns. The Policy was submitted by Admissions Management Committee to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12954. UKVI Student Visa Reporting Policy (Paper S24-25-20)

This Policy has been designed for staff and details the reporting duties for education sponsors as set out in the Home Office's '*Student Sponsor Guidance Document 2: Sponsorship Duties*' *Student Route Sponsor Guidance*. The Policy was submitted by Admissions Management Committee to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12955. Policy and Procedure for Late Submission of Coursework: revisions (Paper S24-25-21)

Over the course of the academic year 2023/24, the Assessment and Feedback Working Group (AFWG) carried out an extensive review of University policies related to assessment and feedback. In the main this review ensured the policies reflected current practice, provided clarity and were made more accessible to students. This Policy was submitted by AFWG to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12956. Policy and Procedure on Extensions to Coursework Submission: revisions (Paper S24-25-22)

This Policy was submitted by AFWG to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12957. Policy on Compensation Scheme: revisions (Paper S24-25-23)

In particular it was noted that this Policy amendment addressed the potential disadvantage to January start students where the structure of the programme is different to September starts. This Policy was submitted by AFWG to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12958. Procedure for Awarding Aegrotat and Posthumous Awards: revisions (Paper S24-25-24)

This Policy was submitted by AFWG to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12959. Procedure for Returning Marks and Disseminating Results: revisions (Paper S24-25-25)

This Policy was submitted by AFWG to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

12960. Proposal to remove the standalone policies on Motivational Merit and on Honours Classification (already incorporated into the General Academic Regulations) (Paper S24-25-26)

The relevant information contained within these two separate policies can be communicated through minor amendments to the general regulations as set out in the paper. Accepting this proposal locates this information in a single source, making it easier to access and reducing the likelihood of inaccuracies or inconsistencies. This Policy was submitted by AFWG to ESC and then Senate Business Committee for recommendation to the Principal for approval out of cycle on behalf of Senate. This approval was granted on 29th July 2024.

Reserved Business: For Approval Without Discussion

12961. Student Business Report (Paper S24-25-27)

Senate **approved** this report.

12962. Student Discipline Report (Paper S24-25-28)

Senate **approved** this report.