



## SENATE

### Approved Minutes: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November

Present: Principal

Professor S MacGregor, Professor T Bedford, Professor T Tuttle, K Doong (Strath Union), A Morrow (Strath Union), J Kardasz (Strath Union), A Lamont (Strath Union), R Welch (Strath Union), L McDermott (Strath Union), Professor S Kuhr, Professor I Rivers, Professor S McArthur, Professor D Graham, Professor A Gachagan, Professor A Maier, Professor S Reid, Professor B Wynne, Professor F Brennan, Professor T Sharpe, Professor V Phoenix, Professor B Wagner, Professor J MacBryde, Professor G Acheson, Professor D Murphy, L Brownlow, Dr L Williams, Professor T Hafford-Letchfield, Professor C McDiarmid, Professor A McGann, C Carroll, R McHugh, W Rennison, C Cannon, Dr K Johnston, Dr E Henderson, Dr S Oterkus, Dr O Ganilova, Dr L Gibson, Professor G McConnell, Dr M Cunningham, Dr L Pritchard, Dr R Rattray, Dr Z Rattray, M Gorrie, Dr A Ates, Dr A Colson, A Paddison, J McQuarrie, E McKee, Dr M Harker, J Carey, R Collins, Dr A Huang, Dr D Roxburgh, Dr M Neal, Dr K Savage, S Day, Dr B McNeil, Dr A Ivaturi, Dr K Pyper, D Finn, Dr I Moore, Dr S Walker (from item 2.2, minute ref 12697).

Attending: S Wallace, S Currie, M Middlehurst, B Green, Dr S Fancey, Professor P Connolly, Professor A Galloway, Professor M Greal, Dr J Race, Professor S Howick, Dr L Bonnar, L McKean, G Docherty, S Wallace, B Lawton, C Milligan, G Watt, Professor A Lowit, Dr C Mahn.

Apologies: Professor E Shaw, Professor D Brodie, Professor A Incecik, Professor D Hillier, Professor J Sefcik, Professor Y Perrie, Professor J Mackenzie, Professor M Revie, Professor J Byrne, Dr S Brough, Dr C Gonzalez-Longo, Dr C White, Dr A Toumpis, Professor R Maguire, Dr F Scott, Dr S Walker, Dr L Caspani, Dr E Simmons, A Mendes, Dr S Murdy, Dr C Verdier, Dr D Robertson, C Robb, Professor W Kerr, H Gould, Professor D Willison,

### OPEN BUSINESS

#### **12692. Welcome**

The Principal welcomed all members to the second meeting of Senate of the academic year.

#### **12693. Minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 (Paper S22-23-21)**

The minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved as an accurate record.

#### **12694. Matters Arising**

It was noted following the last meeting of Senate, that many of the vacancies on the committees of Senate had been filled, however there were still a number of outstanding vacancies.

Members were advised that being involved in committees provided the opportunity to be more involved in the business of Senate, which would be particularly valuable to those who have just commenced their first term.

#### **12695. Report from Senate Business Committee (Paper S22-23-22)**

The Vice Principal invited Senate to note the report of the Senate Business Committee which had met on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The Committee had scrutinised the following:

1. The report from the Collaborative Provision Agreement Subgroup. Senate Business Committee noted that, since the last meeting of Senate on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 the CPA subgroup had processed six agreements, four of which were renewals to existing agreements. It should also be noted that the Principal signed a University-wide Study Abroad with the Indonesian Government Ministry, as detailed in [Paper S22-23-23](#).
2. The Committee received the report from the Senate Effectiveness Review. In ongoing compliance with the expectations of the [Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance](#), Senate members in 2021-22 were invited to reflect on and to review the effectiveness and the operation of Senate over the academic year 2021-22. A total of 69 Senators responded to the survey, out of a membership in 2021-22 of 97 (71%), which ran from 8th - 29th July 2022.

The results of the survey show that Senate can be assured of its effectiveness and that it comprehensively reflects the academic business of the University. Some key findings of the survey are:

- The majority of members found the role of Senate Business Committee in reviewing the agenda and papers prior to Senate to be helpful and aid their engagement in Senate.
- Senate members overwhelmingly felt that academic policies, procedures, and regulations were useful in their understanding of the academic governance framework. With regards to committee and Faculty reports, while the majority found them to be useful, it was considered that further clarity around the key issues would be helpful as would the avoidance of acronyms. It is recommended that the Senate Office produces additional guidance on reports being submitted to Senate.
- In addition, while it is considered that communications to and from Senate work well across the University, it is recommended that the Senate Office develops a role descriptor for Senate members to clarify the collective and individual responsibilities of members, including their role in disseminating decisions made at Senate and the routes through which issues may be raised within Faculties.
- A further recommendation is that Senate continues to incorporate typical standing items on the Senate Agenda and seeks ways to encourage Senate Members to suggest agenda topics of other significant items that are reflective of the external environment and the internal environment.

Senate Business Committee considered the results of the survey and the actions arising and recommended the Effectiveness Review to Senate members to note the key findings and approve

the recommendations.

Senate members RECOMMENDED the Effectiveness Review to Court. In accordance with the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance the review outcomes will be reflected Court's review of its own effectiveness.

3. The Committee agreed the business agenda of Senate's meeting of 16th November 2022 and welcomed an interactive strategic session from the University Secretary and the Director of Strategy and Planning on how Senate will be engaged in the 2030 Strategic Plan. The Student President was asked to provide a verbal update to Senate on recent StrathUnion business. Senate would also receive a financial update from the Chief Financial Officer as well as a recruitment update from the Director of Strategy and Planning.
4. All reports submitted for the Senate meeting had been reviewed and, subject to minor refinements, approved by the Senate Business Committee.
5. Requests for Senate's attention and approval were highlighted; with a recommendation that Senate give its formal approval to reports as noted below (Minute ref 12700-12713).
6. Senate homologated the following Convener's Actions approved by the Principal on behalf of Senate as outlined in Paper S22-23-23 since the last Senate meeting:
  - i. A request from the Strathclyde Business School that the agreement between the University and Southwestern University for Finance and Economics be signed out of cycle.
  - ii. A request from Strathclyde Business School for an amendment to the delivery mode of one module on the BA Honours Business programme Accounting pathway for AY 2022-23.
  - iii. A request from the Faculty of Science to rename their 'MSc Advanced Computer Science with Big Data' programme to 'MSc Advanced Computer Science with Data Science'.
  - iv. A request from the Recruitment and International Office to sign a University-wide Study Abroad agreement with the Indonesian Government Ministry.

## **12696. Principal's Report and Update**

### **Lightweight Manufacturing Centre Incident**

The Principal informed Senate of a serious incident that took place which occurred at the Lightweight Manufacturing Centre in Renfrew on Wednesday, November 9th. A third-party contractor working on the site was seriously injured and, subsequently, tragically died in hospital. Three members of staff provided first aid to the injured person at the scene and were commended by the attending paramedics and police for their actions. The Principal, Chief Compliance Officer, the Safety, Health and Wellbeing Director and the Executive Dean of Engineering will be making an on-site visit to meet with these individuals. The Principal informed Senate that the University is working closely with the Health and Safety Executive as they carry out an investigation.

### **Return to Campus**

All staff are now expected to work on campus for a minimum of three days per week (pro-rated for part-time staff). Senators were also informed the University has enhanced its [Carer Policy](#), as well as strengthening the [Maternity Support Leave Policy](#).

## **Vacancies on Committees**

The Principal outlined the outstanding vacancies on committees of Senate. The Deans were asked to identify Senate members within their Faculties who could fill these and respond to the Senate Manager at [educationenhancement-quality@strath.ac.uk](mailto:educationenhancement-quality@strath.ac.uk).

## **Cost of Living**

Strathclyde colleagues have been informed that a non-consolidated payment for all staff, weighted according to grade, will be made in November. There is also now a [Financial Wellbeing](#) area, part of the online [Wellbeing Hub](#), which signposts to a number of external online resources, including a confidential helpline service, access to professionally-qualified counsellors and specialists in welfare rights, debt management and legal advice.

## **Graduations**

83 graduation ceremonies have taken place since November 2021 and approximately 13,000 students have graduated at these ceremonies. The Principal took the opportunity to thank colleagues from across the University for the crucial role they play in organising and running the graduations, and in particular those in Conferencing & Events, Student Experience, Security as well as other supporting staff from across the four Faculties and Professional Services Directorates.

## **Industrial Action**

UCU's strike days in November are Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Colleagues in every Department/School/Faculty/ Professional Services area are working to mitigate the impact on students and the University expects minimum disruption.

## **Accommodation**

There is now a dedicated team focused on accommodation services for students who will join the University in January 2023.

## **Strathclyde INSPIRE Hub**

In October the Principal formally opened Strathclyde Inspire's new enterprise hub in the Graham Hills Building. All Senators are encouraged to visit the space.

## **Research Wins**

Award made to Professor Rebecca Lunn in Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Project title: IGNITE Network+: Innovation and Growth Needs Inclusion and engagement of all Talent in Energy research.

EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council), awarded on 26-Oct-22

Award made to Weichao Shi in Naval Architecture Ocean and Marine Engineering.

Project title: Redefine Energy Efficiency Solutions for Hydrogen Powered Ships in Maritime and Inland Transport

Innovate UK, awarded on 10-Nov-22

Award made to Dr Anja Kuschmann in Speech and Language Therapy.

Project title: Variability in child speech (VariCS).

ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council), awarded on 07-Sep-22

Award made to Professor Roma Maguire in Computer and Information Sciences.

Project title: AICE AI supported picture analysis in large bowel camera capsule endoscopy (Horizon-HLTH-2021-Disease-04).

Innovate UK, awarded on 28-Sep-22

Award made to Federico Coffele in Power Networks Demonstration Centre.

Project title: Hydrogen-Electric HGV Powertrain Development.

Innovate UK, awarded on 01-Nov-22

Award made to Professor Wendy Moncur in Computer and Information Sciences.

Project title: AP4L: Adaptive PETs to Protect & emPower People during Life Transitions.

EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council), awarded on 30-Sep-22

Award made to Professor Keith Bell in Electronic and Electrical Engineering.

Project title: SP Chair - Future Power Systems.

Scottish Power Energy Networks Holdings Limited SPEN, awarded on 08-Nov-22

Award made to Dr Luke Chamberlain in Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences.

Project title: S-Acylation of transmembrane proteins in the early secretory pathway.

BBSRC (Biotech & Biological Sciences Research Council), awarded on 08-Sep-22

Award made to Dr Oliver Henrich in Physics.

Project title: oxDNA3 - Introducing Sequence-Specific Curvature Into A Coarse-Grained DNA Model.

EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council), awarded on 07-Sep-22

Award made to Dr Agusti Egea Alvarez in Electronic and Electrical Engineering.

Project title: Distributed multiport converters for integration of renewables storage systems and loads while enhancing performance and resiliency of modern distributed networks.

Innovate UK, awarded on 02-Sep-22

Award made to Professor Lesley Walls in Management Science.

Project title: HYPOBATT Hyper powered vessel battery charging system (Horizon Europe).

Innovate UK, awarded on 04-Oct-22

### **12697. 2030 Strategy Engagement Session**

The University Secretary led Senate in an interactive session on the development of the Strategic Plan 2030. Senators were presented with a series of statements clustered under headings, that have emerged from the strategy development process to date. Senators were asked to respond to those statements using an interactive feedback tool to indicate their level of support for each statement. The feedback from this session will be used to further develop the Plan. A summary of discussions around each of the 6 headings presented is as follows:

#### **Heading 1: Education and Student Experience**

Feedback suggested that PhD students should be mentioned specifically, recognising the role they have in Strathclyde as an industrially-based institution. It was noted that this heading should reflect the entirety of the student experience and that the broader social and cultural aspects as well as the

wellbeing of our students, is captured. Also highlighted was the increased need for teaching to no longer follow the pattern that it historically has, ie Monday-Friday, 9-5pm.

## **Heading 2: Research, Culture and Impact**

It was considered that the statements presented under this heading were too defined by the Research Excellence Framework (REF), and that the REF should be a potential measure, but should not define research excellence. It was considered that further reflection is needed regarding how the University presents itself as world leading when many of the institutions that we collaborate with internationally do not use the REF. Further reflection is also required around the need to ensure the cross-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary nature of our research is captured. It was considered that the heading should be re-named Research Quality, Culture and Impact.

## **Heading 3: People Orientated**

It was considered that the statements under this heading should be more inclusive and refer not only to staff, but to students, stakeholders and the wider community. Personal and career development should also be captured here, as should how the University supports its staff. Clarification is required around the term 'wellbeing' and what a 'safe working environment' looks like in practice.

## **Heading 4: Digitally-enabled**

It is important that the University is aspirational within this area and this must be reflected in the vision for 2030.

## **Heading 5: Internationalisation**

Senators agreed that online delivery is no longer a unique selling point, and that the University needs to reflect on how to expand internationally. Consideration however needs to be given to how this is done sustainably.

## **Heading 6: Net Zero and Sustainability**

The need to be more active in this area was highlighted; how can the University actively look at the impact it's having on the environment, rather than responding? It was encouraging to note that the University is working towards global net zero, but we should be more overt about the active changes we are making and how we influence change.

## **12698. Student Voice**

The Strath Union President reported to Senate students' serious concerns around the cost of living crisis and accommodation, in particular the mental strain that this is causing. The Union is working to ensure students are well supported during this time and encourage all staff to make students aware that the Union is a safe space for anyone under duress. The Student President also updated Senate on the various initiatives it is currently taking forward, for example zero tolerance policies towards Gender-Based Violence and anti-semitism, the Food Bank initiative to which all colleagues are encouraged to donate, and raising awareness around men's health by supporting the 'Movember' campaign.

A discussion followed regarding how leftover catering from University meetings is used. It was agreed that the University Compliance Officer and the Director of Student Experience will take a coordinated approach regarding how left over catering from meetings is distributed appropriately and in accordance with Health and Safety legislation.

## **12699. Recruitment and Financial Update**

The Director of Strategy and Planning provided Senate with an overview of student recruitment, noting that undergraduate recruitment was good, in particular in terms of Scottish UG Widening Access. It is

important that the University maintains a strong focus on exceeding targets for January PGT recruitment and concentrates its efforts in increasing PGR recruitment.

The University's Chief Financial Officer presented an overview of the financial statements for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022. It was reported that the University is in a strong financial position and that the focus now is on navigating a volatile external environment, while achieving our strategic vision.

All presentations made at Senate are available [here](#).

### **Committee and Faculty Reports to Senate**

#### **12700. Executive Team Report (Paper S22-23-24)**

Senate **noted** the report.

#### **12701. Court Report (Paper S22-23-25)**

Senate **noted** the report.

#### **12702. Education Strategy Committee Report (Paper S22-23-26)**

Senate

- **noted** the report
- **approved** the following policies:
  - Policy on Faculty Annual Reports (PAPER S22-23-36)
  - Dignity and Respect Policy (PAPER S22-23-37)
- **Noted** the 'Graduate Outcomes Survey Results for 2019-20 Leavers' paper.

#### **12703. Quality Assurance Committee Report (Paper S22-23-27)**

Senate **noted** the report.

#### **12704. Learning Enhancement Committee Report (Paper S22-23-28)**

Senate **noted** the report.

#### **12705. Student Experience Committee Report (Paper S22-23-29)**

Senate **noted** the report.

#### **12706. Strathclyde Online Learning Report (Paper S22-23-30)**

Senate **noted** the report.

#### **12707. Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee Report (Paper S22-23-31)**

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **recommended** the following for Court approval:
  - Research Integrity Concordat Annual Statement 2021-22
  - Researcher Development Concordat Annual Statement 2021-22

#### **12708. Strathclyde Business School Report (Paper S22-23-32)**

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **approved** the introduction of the following programme:

- MSc in Sustainable Finance
- **approved** the following collaborative agreement:
  - Scottish Graduate Programme in Economics (SGPE) Agreement
- **noted** the following collaborative agreement, signed out of cycle via Convener's action on behalf of Senate:
  - Southwestern University of Finance and Economics
- **noted** the change to the delivery mode for one module in the BA Honours Business Accounting pathway following out of cycle approval via Convener's action on behalf of Senate

#### **12709. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Report (Paper S22-23-33)**

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **approved** the introduction of the following programme:
  - MRes Speech and Language Sciences
- **approved** an amendment to the following programme:
  - PG Cert Learning and Teaching in Higher Education
- **approved** the following collaborative agreement:
  - Validation agreement with Primary Engineer Ltd (renewal)
- **noted** the introduction of the following programme:
  - LLM Construction Law (Online) – January intake version of existing programme

#### **12710. Faculty of Engineering Report (Paper S22-23-34)**

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **approved** the introduction of the following programme:
  - Doctor of Engineering (EngD) in Wind and Marine Energy Systems and Structures
- **approved** the following collaborative agreements:
  - AMET University, India
  - Jimei University, China
  - Lovely Professional University (LPU), India
  - Mahidol University, Thailand
- **noted** the Memorandum of Understanding with S Eleven Group, Bahrain

#### **12711. Faculty of Science Report (Paper S22-23-35)**

Senate

- **noted** the report;
- **approved** the regulation waivers for 8 students.
- **noted** the change in title of their 'MSc Advanced Computer Science with Big Data' programme to 'MSc Advanced Computer Science with Data Science' following out of cycle approval via



Convener's action on behalf of Senate

**Policies (new and revised)**

**12712. Policy on Faculty Annual Reports (Paper S22-23-36)**

On the recommendation of Education Strategy Committee and Senate Business Committee, Senate approved the Policy on Faculty Annual Reports, now available [here](#).

**12713. Dignity and Respect Policy (Paper S22-23-37)**

On the recommendation of Education Strategy Committee and Senate Business Committee, Senate approved the revisions to the Dignity and Respect Policy.

**Any other business: for information**

**12714. Nominations for Honorary Degrees to be conferred (CONFIDENTIAL) (Tabled Paper S22-23-38)**

A paper listing the nominations for Honorary Degrees to be conferred was tabled at the meeting. Senators were asked to observe the confidential nature of this business, and were asked to feedback comments to the Senate Manager by 30<sup>th</sup> November.

**RESERVED BUSINESS**

**12715. Re-appointment of University Chancellor**

Senate **endorsed** Court Management Group's recommendation of the re-appointment of the University Chancellor.

**12716. Student Business Report (Paper S22-23-39)**

Senate **noted** this report.