

THE SENATE



Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2013

Present: The Vice-Chancellor (Professor E.D.J. Acton) (in the Chair), the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Professor D.J. Richardson), Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor N. Ward), the Executive Deans of Faculty (Professor J. Collier, Professor P.M. Gilmartin, Professor I. Harvey, and Professor Y. Tasker), Heads of Schools (Professor V. Moulton, Professor V. Lattimer and Professor D. Zizzo), Academic Representatives (Mrs J. Barker, Dr M.G. Blyth, Professor T. Chapman, Professor D. Crossman, Dr J. Drugan, , Dr S.D. Laycock, Professor F. Lettice, Dr M. O'Connell, Professor G. Plank, Dr T. Sach, Professor G. Schofield, Professor N. Spalding, Dr O. Springate-Baginski, Dr M Williams, Dr L. Xu), Dean of Students (Dr A. Grant), Director of Information Services (Mr J. Colam-French), and the Student Representatives except for business marked ** (Ms L. Withers-Green and Ms B. Foday (SU).

With: The Registrar and Secretary (Mr B. J. Summers), the Academic Director of Taught Programmes (Dr A. Longcroft), Head of Admissions (Mr D. Giles), the Director of Planning (Mr I. Callaghan) for minute 4 and the Committee Clerk (Mrs R. Phillips).

Apologies: The Head of School representative for HUM (Professor P. Womack), Academic representative for HUM (Dr A. Haour).

1. MINUTES

Confirmed
the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2013.

2. STATEMENTS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

- (1) The Vice Chancellor welcomed the following new members of Senate:
Professor Fiona Lettice (SSF), Professor Nicola Spalding (FMH), Professor Peter Womack (HUM), Dr Melanie Williams (HUM), Professor Vincent Moulton (SCI), Dr Maria O'Connell (SCI), Dr Stephen Laycock (SCI) and from the Union of Students: Ms Louise Withers-Green and Ms Bintu Foday.
- (2) that Members of Council were advised over the summer that Senate had resolved to recommend the appointment of Professor Gillian Schofield as their representative on Council for the period of 1 August 2013 to 31 July 2016. The Registrar and Secretary had received no objections to this nomination and therefore Professor Gillian Schofield was appointed to Council with immediate effect.
- (3) that from September 2014 the Faculty of Arts and Humanities (HUM) will comprise of four Schools of Study. The School of History and the School of Literature, Drama and Creative Writing will continue in their current form with the remaining eight HUM Schools combining to form two new Schools:
 - a) School of Politics, Philosophy, Language and Communication Studies (PPL) which will be formed from the current Schools of Department of Political, Social and International Studies, Language and Communication

- Studies and Philosophy. Professor Lee Marsden would be Head of the new School with effect from 1 August 2014;
- b) School of Art, Media and American Studies (AMA) which will be formed from the Schools of Art History and World Art Studies, Film, Television and Media Studies and American Studies. Professor Mark Jancovich would be Head of the new School with effect from 1 August 2014.
 - c) that the School of Arts and Humanities will become the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities.
- (4) The University's REF submission was due for submission on 29.11.13 and the Vice Chancellor thanked the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Associate Deans (Research), staff in REN, and all other colleagues involved in preparing the submission. Whilst the University has been more selective than in 2008, 450 fte of staff were to be returned in 24 submissions to the 4 main panels. The outcome would be published in December 2014 with the results influencing funding from 2015/6 and contributing to league tables from 2015.

3. NOTIFICATION OF CHAIRS ACTION

Reported

- (1) that the Chair approved the appointment of Dr Nicola Spalding to replace Professor Jacqueline Collier on Senate as one of the FHM Representatives
- (2) that the Chair approved the appointment of Professor David Crossman, Dr Duncan Watson, Dr Silvia Evangelisti and Dr Sanna Inthorn on the SSDC.
- (3) that the Deputy Chair approved the nomination of Dr Nalini Boodhoo as the member nominated by Senate to serve on a Tribunal.
- (4) that the Deputy Chair approved the appointment of Professor James Gazzard as the FMH ISSC Representative.
- (5) some unhappiness and disquiet amongst the student body in relation to the 2013/14 General regulations. The Vice-Chancellor explained that he had approved the proposed changes on behalf of Senate when the matter had arisen and required attention between Senate meetings. Realizing that there was considerable unease in relation to the new wording the Vice Chancellor had asked the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) to conduct both a review of the process and content and bring forward amendments. It was clear that a more transparent process and a happier outcome in relation to the actual wording of the regulations themselves was required.
(Senate endorsed the Vice Chancellor's role in acting on its behalf between meetings as the need arose and the course of action in relation to the 2013/14 General regulations.)

*4. UNIVERSITY PERFORMANCE

This minute is confidential and appears on a separate sheet.

5. GOVERNANCE OF POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Considered

recommendations for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of governance of postgraduate research degree programmes. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN13D004)

6. MERGER OF SCHOOLS (NSC & RSC)

Considered

a proposal that the Schools of Nursing Sciences and Rehabilitation Sciences become one School – the School of Health Sciences – with effect from 1 August 2014. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN13D005)

(Senate welcomed the initiative and were supportive of this proposed change in School structure.)

7. THE SENATE 2013/14

Received

- (1) the Senate – Membership. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN13D006)
- (2) the Senate - Standing Orders (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN13D007)

8. RESERVED AREAS OF BUSINESS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Received

statements of the University's policies on reserved areas of business and confidentiality. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN13D008)

9. LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE

Received

a round up report from the Learning and Teaching Committee from its meetings on 26 June 2013 and 23 October 2013. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN13D009)

10. ITEMS FOR REPORT

Received

a report. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN13D010)

- (1) Heads of School - BIO, FTM, LAW, NSC, RSC

11. DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2013-2014

Reported

that the remaining dates for meetings in 2013-2014 were:

Wednesday 15 January 2014
Wednesday 19 February 2014
Wednesday 11 June 2014

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Reported

that the next meeting of the Senate was scheduled for Wednesday 15 January, 2014. This is an 'if necessary' meeting.