

## SENATE

### Minutes: Wednesday 6 June 2018

**Present:** Principal

Dr M Alexander, Mr Mohammed Muftahu Alhassan, Dr E Barlow, Dr C Booth, Professor D Brodie, Professor P Cardwell, Professor S Carter, Dr C Cassidy, Dr E Compton-Daw, Dr A Coulson, Dr Y Kemel Demirel, Professor A M Doherty, Dr G El Mountassir, Mr B Green, Dr K Hamiton, Dr D Harle, Professor B Harris, Professor A Heyes, Professor D Hillier, Professor A Incecik, Dr M Karampela, Dr B Keating, Professor S Kuhr, Professor D Littlejohn, Professor S MacGregor, Dr S McCool, Dr W McGeown, Mr R McHugh, Dr B McNeil, Professor A Mulholland, Dr P Mulheran, Dr A Nordon, Dr F Papoff, Professor E Riis, Dr O Romice, Dr D Rotondo, Ms R Smith, Dr B Wagner, Dr G Welsh

**Attending:** Dr A Anderson, Ms G Pallis, Mrs H Gould, Mr D Coyle, Dr V O'Halloran, Mrs M Judge, Mr M Crilly, Ms E Selasie Ahadzie, Mr L McCabe

**Apologies:** Dr S Brough, Mrs L Brownlow, Mrs A Corrigan, Professor J Darby, Dr A Dickson, Professor A Duffy, Dr M Ellis, Dr M Findlay, Professor M Grealy, Professor B Hidding, Dr L Kelly, Dr A McLaren, Professor I Rivers, Professor A Salama, Dr K Savage, Professor T Scotto, Dr J Smith, Dr C White, Dr D Willison, Professor A Galloway, Ms C Milligan, Ms G Watt

### Formal Matters

#### **12161. Welcome**

The Principal welcomed Senators to the final meeting of Senate of the academic year 2017-18. Thanks were expressed to the outgoing members of USSA, the President of the Student Association Calvin Hepburn (in absentia) and the Vice President Education Mohammed Alhassan. The incoming President of USSA Matt Crilly and Vice President Education, who were in attendance for this Senate meeting, were welcomed to Senate. Thanks were also expressed to those members of Senate demitting office following completion of their terms of office on Senate.

#### **12162. Minutes of the meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 (Paper A)**

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

#### **12163. Matters Arising**

There were none noted.

#### **12164. Report from Senate Business Committee (Paper B)**

Senate **noted** the report of the Senate Business Committee which had met on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The Vice Principal informed Senate that the Senate Business Committee had reviewed the following key areas at the meeting:

1. The report of the Collaborative Provision Agreement subgroup (Paper B, Appendix 1) covered the subgroup's meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> June, key points from which were:
  - An update was given on the ongoing review of collaborative activity. Two Faculties, the Business School and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences had been reviewed thus far.

- The CPA subgroup approved four collaborative agreements, details of which were included in Faculty reports. No further agreements had been signed by the Principal under Convener's action.
  - Senate noted approval under Convener's action of a request to extend the list of senior members of academic staff nominated by Senate to preside at University graduations to include Associate Principals. This is as a result of the growing number of graduation ceremonies (15 in June '18).
2. The Senate Business Committee agreed the proposed business agenda of Senate's meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018, and scrutinised the papers to Senate. In addition to the Principal's update, the Committee welcomed presentations to be given to Senate on:
    - Financial Update
    - Learning and Teaching Building Update
    - Higher Education Governance Act: Revisions to Composition of Senate
    - Learning and Teaching Forward Planning
    - Student Partnership Agreement
  3. The Committee reviewed the reports to Senate which, further to minor amendments, were endorsed by the Committee.
  4. Senate's attention was drawn to items under Reserved business, including: (Paper O) the proposal on the re-appointment of the Chancellor (Minute 12183).

### Presentations and Items for Discussion

#### **12165. Principal's Report and Update**

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

#### **The University of Strathclyde as a socially progressive institution**

An update was given on the wide range of activity that has taken place underlining the University's commitment to Widening Access as a socially progressive institution was outlined, including:

- The graduation of over 200 children from Glasgow Children's' University at which the Principal had presided. Thanks were expressed to the organisers of the programme and the event.
- The launch of Strathclyde's Equally Safe in H.E. Toolkit, which had been created by colleagues in HaSS and provided practical guidance to colleges and universities on tackling gender-based violence.
- The University had received Guardian University Awards for: "Advancing Staff Equality" for Trans EDU; and Retention, support and student outcomes for the University's Strathclyde Cares project.

#### **Staff news**

The Principal expressed thanks on behalf of Senate to the outgoing Associate Principal and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Science Professor David Littlejohn in the event of his retirement from the University. Senate welcomed the announcement of Professor Iain Stewart's appointment as the new Associate Principal and Executive Dean of Science.

#### **Estates update**

The Principal updated Senate on the latest developments in the University's Estate, including:

- An important milestone had been reached in the development of the University's new £31M Sports, Health and Wellbeing Facility, which is due to open late summer;
- The Combined Heat and Power District energy System is now more than 80% of the way through.
- The University has been shortlisted for the Estates Strategy of the Year at the Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards (THELMAs).

## **Review of Senate**

Senators' attention was drawn to Paper N (Minute 12181) which outlined the requirements of the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance requiring both the governing body and Senate to review their effectiveness regularly. A communication would be sent out inviting Senators to submit feedback to the Senate Manager.

## **Teaching Excellence Awards**

Senate joined the Principal in congratulating those colleagues nominated and successful in USSA's recent Teaching Excellence Awards, in particular noting Steven Ford (SIPBS) who was the winner of this year's Best Overall Teacher award.

## **Grant activity**

The Principal updated Senate on research awards the University had received since the last Senate, which included a range of awards in the Faculty of Engineering totalling over £2M, as well as awards to the Faculties of Science and Humanities and Social Sciences and Strathclyde Business School.

## **12166. Financial Update**

The Chief Financial Officer presented Senate with an update on the University's budget and financial forecast, from which the following is noted:

- The draft summary budget for 2018-19 was outlined to Senate, noting that it was subject to Court's approval.
- The importance in the University's financial planning was stressed in relation to the delivery of the University's "Strathclyde 2025" vision, the key elements of which had been outlined to Senate at its March meeting.
- In relation to growth rates from the three main income sources, income from SFC core grants remained flat.
- The trend in overseas fee income (from 2008-09 to 2020-21) forecast continued growth.
- An outline was given of assumed significant further investments, which in addition to key areas of expenditure (staff, IT and infrastructure) will include investment in the National Manufacturing Institute of Scotland (NMIS) and the Glasgow City Innovation District (GCID).
- The continuity of the University's robust approach to its financial management was stressed, particularly given the uncertainties that could affect the budget.

Senate joined the Principal in warmly thanking the Chief Financial Officer for his contribution to the University and to Senate, this being the Chief Financial Officer's final Senate meeting prior to his retirement from office.

## **12167. Teaching and Learning Building Update**

The Associate Principal (Learning & Teaching) updated Senate on the latest developments in the Learning and Teaching Building Project which included:

- The tender process for the Main Works had been issued, and bids had been received for the tender. The outcome of the bids for tender would be known in July 2018.
- Space for Student Experience and Enhancement Services (SEES) had been included as a Tender Amendment.
- The plan included USSA Democracy space and Debates Chamber.

Senate was shown a range of visuals of the key zones of the building, and was updated on the timetable for construction and completion of the Learning and Teaching Building project. Senate was encouraged to visit the exhibition of the project. A Campus Identity Group had been established to look at the use of the campus around the Learning and Teaching Building. The Principal thanked the Associate Principal for her presentation.

#### **12168. Higher Education Governance Act: Revisions to Composition of Senate (Paper 2.4)**

The Vice Principal and the USSA Vice President Education gave a presentation to Senate outlining the background and rationale for the request for Senate to approve a proposed increase in membership of Senate to 100, and to endorse the proposed process for appointing student representatives to Senate. The details of the proposal were outlined in the accompanying paper (Paper 2.4). The change was in line with a requirement of the Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Act 2016, requiring at least 10% of Senate's members to be from among the students of the institution, elected through due process.

Discussions had been held with USSA, who had welcomed the increased representation on Senate, and put forward a proposal for appointing student representatives to Senate. Senate approved the proposal, recommending it for endorsement by Court. Further to approval, the University Statutes would be revised accordingly. Senate was informed of the timescale for the implementation of the change, in line with the requirements of the Act.

#### **12169. Learning and Teaching Forward Planning**

The Deputy Associate Principal Learning and Teaching provided Senate with details of a proposed updated approach to learning and teaching planning through enhanced integration of processes around learning and teaching planning. Covering planning over a 2-year scale (2018-19 and 2019-20), the new approach would draw on wider sources of feedback and sources including results from a wider range of surveys beyond the NSS survey.

An outline was given of revised reporting timelines which would allow for more timely reflections and consideration of NSS results prior to submission of the Learning and Teaching Plans. The presentation also provided an update on NSS results and reporting timelines, and on progress and key dates in relation to ELIR planning. The new, revised plans would be distributed imminently. Senate was invited to review the revised approach to planning, to reflect on it and to distil the key messages.

An update was given on ELIR progress, noting the governance structure that had been put in place for oversight of ELIR planning. An initial ELIR planning workshop had taken place on 21<sup>st</sup> May, focussing on key themes for ELIR: Widening Access & Participation; Student Feedback; Online, Digital & Work-based Learning. The workshop had been constructive and had provided useful context to ongoing work on ELIR preparations. The ELIR 4 critical path was outlined. Immediate next steps would focus on institutional & student engagement to gather evidence for Reflective Analysis & Advance Information Set. Senate would receive regular updates on ELIR planning.

#### **12170. Student Partnership Agreement**

The Associate Principal (Learning & Teaching) and the USSA Vice Principal Education (VPE) updated Senate on the development of the Strathclyde Student Partnership Agreement. Following an outline of the framework of the Agreement, key areas identified as priority action areas for the next two years were given: Enhancing student mental health; Careers and employability; Ensuring effective feedback. Action plans would be developed for each priority area.

A summary of the consultation process further to completion of the Agreement was given, with an outline of next steps. It was proposed that the Student Experience Committee, reporting to Education Strategy Committee and chaired by the USSA President, would take forward the Agreement, developing action plans for the priority areas and co-ordinating with the University on implementation. A final version of the Student Partnership Agreement would be presented to September Senate.

Senate approved the proposals for the process and thanked both the Associate Principal and the USSA VPE for their contribution to the process.

## Items for Information

### **12171. Senate Election Results** (Paper D)

Senate noted the paper.

## Committee and Faculty Reports to Senate

### **12172. Executive Team** (Paper E)

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

### **12173. Court Report** (Paper F)

Senate noted the report from Court

### **12174. Quality Assurance Committee report** (Paper G)

Senate **noted** the report from the Quality Assurance Committee and approved the extension to a moratorium from Pure and Applied Chemistry as requested in Paper G.

### **12175. Education Strategy Committee report** (Paper H)

Senate noted the report from Learning Enhancement Committee.

### **12176. Learning Enhancement Committee** (Paper I)

Senate noted the report from the Learning Enhancement Committee.

### **12177. Strathclyde Business School report** (Paper J)

Senate **noted** the report from the Strathclyde Business School, and **approved**, subject to scrutiny by the Academic Regulations Review Group of regulations the following:

- New Course: Masters of Science in Industrial Management (International)
- Articulation Agreement: Jinan University (China)

### **12178. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences report** (Paper K)

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and **approved**, subject to scrutiny by the Academic Regulations Review Group the:

- Introduction of PhD in Gender Studies
- Introduction of Joint combination of Psychology and Journalism, Media and Communication

Collaborative Agreement with Nanjing Normal University (Appendix 1.3)

The renaming of Subject Area 'Journalism' to 'Journalism, Media and Communication' – amendment from March 2018 Senate Report

### **12179. Faculty of Engineering report** (Paper L)

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Engineering, and **approved**, subject to scrutiny of any regulations by the Academic Regulations Review Group, the following:

Collaborative agreements:

- Collaborative Agreement: Carnegie Mellon University
- Collaborative Agreement: Heavy Industries Taxila Education City University (HITEC University)
- Collaborative Agreement: Engineering Academy

#### **For Information**

Memorandum of Understanding:

- Lodz University of Technology, Lodz, Poland
- Universidad Del Atlantico, Colombia
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India
- Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, Egypt

**12180. Faculty of Science report** (Paper M)

Senate **noted** the report from the Faculty of Science, and **approved**, subject to scrutiny of the regulations by the Academic Regulations Review Group:

For approval:

- Introduction of MSc in Advanced Science

Collaborative agreements which have been reviewed by the CPA:  
Middle East University Jordan (MEU)

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**12181. Review of Senate** (Paper N)

Senate noted the paper and the request to submit feedback to the Senate manager.

RESERVED BUSINESS

**12182. Nominations for Honorary Degrees to be conferred** (Tabled paper)

Senate **noted** the nominations for the conferment of Honorary Degrees. Senators were advised to provide any feedback to the Senate Manager by 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

**12183. Chancellor's Re-appointment** (Paper O)

Senate considered and unanimously **endorsed** the re-appointment of the University Chancellor for an additional five year period.

**12184. Senate Discipline Committee Report** (Paper P)

Senate **noted** the report of the Senate Discipline committee

**12185. Combined Student Business Report** (Paper Q)

Senate **approved** Paper Q

**12186. Scholarships** (Paper R)

Senate approved the paper, and welcomed the five new Scholarships presented for approval.

*MJ*

*14/06/2018*