SENATE – MINUTES
21 February 2018

PRESENT: Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair); Professor N. Alexander; Professor D. Angwin; Professor P. Ashwin; Professor A. M. Atherton; Professor P. Atkinson; Professor P. Barker; Professor P. Bates; Dr A. Belton; Dr P. Bishop; Mr T. Buckley; Professor S. Bushell; Professor K. Cain; Professor A. G. Chetwynd; Professor S. P. Decent; Professor J. Faulconbridge; Professor A. Friday; Professor A. Gillespie; Ms O. Gomez-Cash; Dr K. Grant; Professor B. Hollingsworth; Dr W. Hollmann; Professor M. Hughes; Professor S. R. A. Huttly; Ms C. John; Professor R. W. L. Jones; Mr M. Khokhar; Professor A. W. Laing; Ms H. Laycock; Dr A. Leeson; Professor C. Leitch; Mr P. Montague; Professor J. Mottram; Professor C. Paoloni; Professor G. Pawlina; Ms C. Povah; Professor E. Semino; Professor M. M. Smyth; Mr J. Thornberry; Dr W. Tych; Ms B. Venkataramani; Dr S. Weare; Professor S. Wilkinson (for Professor S. Bainbridge); Professor M. B. Wright.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P. Boustead; Ms C. Geddes; Ms H. Hunter; Mr S. J. Jennings; Ms H. Knight (items 1-6.3, 6.7, and 8.3); Mr P. Maggs; Ms A. Mullan; Dr A. Nordin (for item 6.4); Ms N. C. Owen.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Dr S. Awanis; Mr D. Barcroft; Ms J. Bennett; Professor J. Boylan; Dr A. Collins; Mr S. Franklin; Dr S. Hughes; Dr R. Isba; Professor N. Johnson; Professor C. May-Chahal; Professor R. Pickup; Mrs S. J. Randall-Paley; Ms V. Tyrrell; Ms L. Wilkinson; Mr J. Woolf; Professor M. Zanardi.

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Senate noted the apologies.

1.2 The Vice-Chancellor noted that this was the final meeting for Professor Smyth and thanked her for her many contributions to the University.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

No questions had been received for the current meeting.

4. MINUTES PAPER A

4.1 Senate approved the minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2017.
5. **SECTION 1: ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

5.1 **REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

5.1.1 The Vice-Chancellor provided an oral report, including:

(a) that UCAS undergraduate applications data demonstrated that overall the University had performed well, including relative to the sector, but that it would be very important to translate this to conversions;

(b) that the sector would be regulated by the Office for Students from 1 April 2018, following imminent confirmation of the framework;

(c) noting the two recent changes in the Government’s ministerial team with responsibility for overseeing the sector;

(d) that the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 3 and subject-level pilot were underway, and that Professors Huttly and Chetwynd had respectively been appointed to those main boards overseeing the activity, and Professor Neil Johnson had been appointed as a subject panel member;

(e) an update on £41M funding secured for the Health Innovation Campus, which was scheduled to open in Autumn 2019;

(f) that based on the current trajectory of research awards, a strong performance in securing research income over the coming year was expected;

(g) noting the Government’s announcement of the review of University funding and an overview of associated implications;

(h) providing an overview of the current pensions dispute, financial implications, the associated strike action and potential impacts, particularly on students and responding to questions covering: (i) the current University position in relation to reimbursement of tuition fees and use of withheld salaries from staff that were striking; (ii) whether there were alternative sector options for pension schemes; and (iii) the potential for the employers and UCU to resume negotiations at this point.

5.1.2 Senate noted the report and approved the proposals set out at Paper N (item 8.1) concerning the invocation of procedures for contingency planning for possible disruption to examinations and assessments, that:

(i) the procedures are invoked for the forthcoming industrial action commencing 22 February 2018;

(ii) henceforth the procedure for invocation of these procedures should be determined by the Vice-Chancellor, as Chair of Senate, considering the timetabled meetings of Senate and through consultation as appropriate.

It was also noted that the procedures would be reviewed where it was deemed necessary and that Senate would be alerted to and/or asked to approve revised arrangements where required.

5.2 **SUMMARY OF UMAG BUSINESS RELEVANT TO SENATE**

PAPER B

5.2.1 Senate noted the report.

5.3 **FORWARD SCHEDULE OF SENATE BUSINESS**

PAPER C

5.3.1 Senate noted the report.
6. **SECTION 2: ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION REQUIRING DECISION**

6.1 **SENIOR OFFICER APPOINTMENTS**  

6.1.1 Senate agreed to **recommend** to Council the reappointments of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) for further terms.

6.1.2 Senate **noted** the appointment of Professor Dame Sue Black as the new Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Engagement, who would take up post in August 2018.  

*Professors Huttly and Decent were not present for consideration of this item.*

6.2 **PROPOSAL FOR LU MANAGEMENT SCHOOL DEPARTMENTAL RESTRUCTURE**  

6.2.1 The Dean of the Management School (LUMS) introduced the paper setting out the proposal and rationale for disestablishing the Department of Leadership and Management and integrating the activity and staff within the Department of Entrepreneurship, Strategy and Innovation and the Department of Organisation, Work and Technology, which was aimed at strengthening the current Faculty provision.

6.2.2 The Dean of LUMS responded to questions concerning possible impacts on the student experience and the loss of a department identity, as well as measures of success, reinforcing that the proposals were intended to strengthen the current offer and arrangements.

6.2.3 Senate **agreed** to **recommend** to Council approval of the proposal for the disestablishment of the Department of Leadership and Management as set out in the paper.

6.3 **PROPOSAL FOR AN INSTITUTE FOR ENHANCEMENT OF LEARNING AND TEACHING (InELT)**  

6.3.1 The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) introduced the paper setting out a proposal for an Institute for Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (InELT).

6.3.2 Key points from the discussion included that Colleges would be able to contribute to the InELT, the suggestion of using ‘Curriculum’ in the title of the Institute, the benefits for joint courses, and the suggestion to include formal student representation.

6.3.3 Senate **approved** the establishment of the Institute for Enhancement of Learning and Teaching.

6.4 **LANCASTER UNIVERSITY CHINA CENTRE**  

6.4.1 The Deputy Vice-Chancellor introduced the paper setting out the proposal for the establishment of Lancaster University China Centre as a Research Centre, which will initially be based in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, with the intention that the Centre will become a University-level centre within three years and at this point formal Senate approval would be sought.

6.4.2 Senate **noted** the report.
6.5 AMENDMENTS TO STATUTES AND ORDINANCES

6.5.1 The Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary introduced the paper setting out proposals concerning amendments to Statutes and Ordinances, which primarily reflected the outcomes of the recent Council and Court effectiveness reviews.

6.5.2 There was extensive discussion concerning the proposed amendments in relation to the powers of Senate with regard to Council, noting in particular: (i) the importance of providing adequate safeguards to ensure Senate’s role in academic governance, through the ability to consider and advise/recommend on matters where it had a legitimate interest (in particular the need to further strengthen wording at Statute 10, and amend revisions to Charter clause 15 (1)); and (ii) the shifting emphasis within sector regulation on the authority of Council, including the requirements to provide annual assurances on academic governance, and risks of possible impasse within the current arrangements, particularly where Senate ‘concurrence’ was required in order for Council to make a decision.

6.5.3 Senate agreed through a vote (36 for, 2 against, 4 abstaining) to remove the right of Senate to provide concurrence to Council decisions. However, there would be further review of the proposed amendments concerning the powers of Senate, involving Professor Gillespie, in order to provide Senate with reassurance on the proposed changes and that there were adequate safeguards for Senate to fulfil its role. Senate would also be provided with information on external processes that could be invoked in the event that it had concerns it wanted to raise regarding or not being addressed by Council. A further report and recommendation for amending the Statutes and Ordinances would come to the May meeting of Senate and the timeline for Council and Privy Council approval would be amended accordingly.

6.6 PROPOSAL REGARDING THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF SENATE

6.6.1 Senate approved the proposal for changing the existing arrangements for the summer meeting of the Committee of Senate, including the terms of reference for the Classification and Assessment Review Board.

6.7 INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS FOR UNIVERSITY DEAN

6.7.1 Senate noted the report setting out the interim Deanery arrangements, approved the University Dean appointments of David Gregson and Alison Mullan, as set out in the paper, and agreed that a third University Dean would be approved by Senate Chair’s action following a selection process and recommendation from the Disciplinary Committee.

6.7.2 Senate noted its thanks to Mr Matt Storey for his contributions to the University in his role as University Dean.

Ms Mullan was not present for consideration of this item.
7. **SECTION 3: ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION NOT REQUIRING DECISION**

7.1 **LOW PARTICIPATION NEIGHBOURHOOD FOCUS IN LANCASTER’S WIDENING PARTICIPATION STRATEGY**

7.1.1 The Deputy Vice-Chancellor introduced the report covering the University’s approach to activities in Low Participation Neighbourhoods (LPNs) in line with the Government’s broader widening participation and access strategy as well as the University’s overall enrolment objectives.

7.1.2 Senate noted the report.

7.2 **REPORT ON CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY**

7.2.1 The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) introduced the report outlining the University’s position in relation to national employability measures, as well as explaining the role of the Careers Service to provide University wide support for employability and careers and describing our new enhanced employer engagement and equality, diversity and inclusivity activity.

7.2.2 Senate noted the report.

7.3 **REPORT ON PERIODIC QUALITY REVIEWS 2016-17**

7.3.1 Senate noted the report.

8. **SECTION 4: ITEMS FOR DECISION UNLIKELY TO REQUIRE DISCUSSION**

8.1 **CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR POSSIBLE DISRUPTION TO EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS**

8.1.1 This item was considered under item 5.1, the report of the Vice-Chancellor.

8.2 **FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONSTITUTION: AMENDMENTS**

8.2.1 Senate approved the proposed amendments to the Faculty of Science and Technology constitution.

8.3 **UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR EMERITUS APPOINTMENTS: PROPOSALS UNDER STATUTE 10**

8.3.1 Senate agreed to recommend to Council for approval the proposals for Emeritus Professor appointments as set out in the paper.

Professor Smyth was not present for consideration of this item.

9. **SECTION 5: ITEMS FOR REPORT**

9.1 **SENATE CHAIR’S ACTIONS**

9.1.1 Senate noted the report.
9.2 FACULTY DEPUTY DEAN, ASSOCIATE DEAN AND HEADSHIPS OF
DEPARTMENTS: APPOINTMENTS PAPER R

9.2.1 Senate noted the appointments as set out in the report.

9.3 WRITTEN REPORTS OF MEETINGS PAPER S

9.3.1 Senate noted the reports.

9.4 NEW AND REVISED PROGRAMMES PAPER T

9.4.1 Senate noted the report.