SENATE – MINUTES

2 May 2018

PRESENT: Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair); Professor N. Alexander; Professor D. Angwin; Professor P. Ashwin; Professor A. M. Atherton; Professor P. Atkinson; Professor S. Bainbridge; Professor P. Barker; Dr A. Belton; Dr P. Bishop; Professor J. Boylan; Mr T. Buckley; Professor S. Bushell; Professor K. Cain; Professor A. G. Chetwynd; Dr A. Collins; Professor S. P. Decent; Professor A. Friday; Professor A. Gillespie; Ms O. Gomez-Cash; Dr K. Grant; Professor B. Hollingsworth; Professor M. Hughes; Professor S. R. A. Huttly; Dr R. Isba; Professor N. Johnson; Professor R. W. L. Jones; Mr M. Khokhar; Professor A. W. Laing; Professor C. Leitch; Professor C. May-Chahal; Mr P. Montague; Professor J. Mottram; Professor C. Paolini; Professor G. Pawlina; Professor R. Pickup; Ms C. Povah; Professor E. Semino; Mr J. Thornberry; Dr W. Tych; Dr N. Watson; Dr S. Weare; Mr J. Woolf; Professor M. B. Wright; Professor M. Zanardi.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P. Boustead; Mr S. Franklin; Ms C. Geddes; Ms H. Hunter; Mr S. J. Jennings; Ms H. Knight; Ms A. Mullan; Ms N. C. Owen; Mrs S. J. Randall-Paley; Mr D. Williams (until end item 6.1).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Dr S. Awanis; Mr D. Barcroft; Professor P. Bates; Ms J. Bennett; Professor J. Faulconbridge; Professor P. R. Fielden; Dr W. Hollman; Dr S. Hughes; Ms C. John; Ms H. Laycock; Dr A. Leeson; Mr P. Maggs; Ms B. Venkataramani.

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Senate noted the apologies.

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

4.1 Senate approved the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2018.

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) the recent Gender Pay Gap report of University performance including a mean gender pay gap of 26% across the organisation, that an action plan was in place to close this gap and it was a priority of the Executive to improve the position;
(b) an update on the pensions dispute and industrial action, and thanking staff, students and union members for their conduct during the period of industrial action;
(c) that the University had submitted its registration documentation to the Office for Students, and thanking staff responsible for this work;
(d) that the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was due to come into force on 25 May 2018, and thanking staff for their work in preparing the University for this;
(e) that the Medical School had been awarded an additional 60 student numbers following a competitive bidding process, and thanking the Dean of FHM and the Head of the Medical School for their work to achieve this;
(f) that recently published data showed the University’s performance for student retention had significantly improved, noting however further work was still required to achieve the benchmark performance with comparator universities, and thanking staff for their work to achieve this;
(g) that the University had moved from 9th to 8th position in the Complete University Guide, as well as improving from having 14/34 to 18/31 classified subject areas in the top ten;
(h) wishing luck to students for the forthcoming Roses tournament.

5.1.2 Senate noted the report.

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 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STRATEGY  PAPER D

6.1.1 The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) introduced the paper setting out a proposed Intellectual Property Strategy, which extended the focus from principally commercialisation to activities aimed at strengthening broader research translation and impact, and intended to provide for a more entrepreneurial culture at the University within an external environment where impact remained a key focus. There had been wide consultation ahead of bringing the proposal to Senate.

6.1.2 Senate considered the Intellectual Property Strategy and recommended the approach and strategic framework to Council for approval.

6.2 AMENDMENTS TO STATUTES AND ORDINANCES  PAPERS E(i) and (ii)

6.2.1 The Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary introduced the reports setting out the broad accountabilities of Council and the safeguards to ensure Senate’s role in academic governance, together with amendments to the proposals to amend the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances following Senate consideration of the proposals at its meeting in February.
6.2.2 Professor Gillespie confirmed that he had reviewed and was content with the revised proposals, in particular that they provided Senate with adequate safeguards to ensure it was able to provide a view or recommendation to Council in areas that it had a legitimate interest, and that there were alternative avenues of protection in the extreme event that Council acted unreasonably.

6.2.3 Following extensive discussion about the proposals Senate voted (37 for/3 against/3 abstaining) and agreed to recommend to Council the proposed amendments to the Statutes and Ordinances.

6.3 HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE: RECOMMENDATIONS

6.3.1 Senate approved the recommendations from the Honorary Degrees Committee for the award of Honorary Degrees and Honorary Fellowships and the proposed change to the terms of reference.

7. SECTION 3: ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION NOT REQUIRING DECISION

7.1 KPIs: MID-YEAR REPORT FOR 2017/18

7.1.1 Senate noted progress against the University KPIs as outlined in the mid-year report.

7.2 REVISED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONFERRAL OF PhDs

7.2.1 The Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary introduced the paper setting out revised arrangements for the conferral of PhDs in graduation ceremonies.

7.2.2 Senate noted the revised arrangements, and the following key points:

(a) the opportunity to provide greater visibility to the award and flexibility for graduands;
(b) the importance of faculty/department ability to tailor celebratory events;
(c) whether the lead in times could be reduced.

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

8.1 DEPARTMENTAL CHANGE OF NAME: DEPARTMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP, STRATEGY AND INNOVATION

8.1.1 Senate approved the name change from the ‘Department of Entrepreneurship, Strategy and Innovation’ to the ‘Department of Entrepreneurship and Strategy’.

8.2 UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR EMERITUS APPOINTMENTS: PROPOSALS UNDER STATUTE 10

8.2.1 Senate agreed to recommend to Council for approval the proposals for Emeritus Professor appointments as set out in the paper.
9. **SECTION 5: ITEMS FOR REPORT**

9.1 **SENATE CHAIR’S ACTIONS**  

9.1.1 Senate noted the report.

9.2 **WRITTEN REPORTS OF MEETINGS**  

9.2.1 Senate noted the reports.

9.3 **NEW AND REVISED PROGRAMMES**  

9.3.1 Senate noted the report.