SENATE – MINUTES

12 September 2018

PRESENT: Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair); Professor N. Alexander; Professor D. Angwin; Professor P. M. Atkinson; Dr S. Awanis; Professor P. Bates; Professor S. M. Black; Professor G. Blower (for Dr A. Belton); Mr T. Buckley; Dr A. Collins; Professor S. P. Decent; Professor J. Faulconbridge; Professor P. R. Fielden; Professor A. Friday; Ms O. Gomez-Cash; Dr K. Grant; Professor I. Gregory; Dr C. Grover; Professor S. C. Guy; Professor H. Hinds; Professor C. Jackson; Professor P. N. Johnson; Professor R. W. L. Jones; Dr A. Leeson; Professor C. Lewis; Ms R. Llystyn Jones; Professor J. Mottram; Professor C. Paoloni; Professor U. Papen; Professor G. Pawlina; Ms P. Pickles; Professor R. Pickup; Ms C. Povah; Professor J. Sweeney; Professor J. E. Taylor; Dr W. Tych; Dr G. Vince; Professor C. Walshe; Dr S. Weare; Dr K. Wright; Professor M. Zanardi.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P. Boustead; Professor S. Bradley (for item 6.1); Ms C. Geddes; Ms H. Hunter; Mr S. J. Jennings; Ms H. Knight; Mr P. Maggs; Ms A. Mullan; Ms N. C. Owen; Mrs S. J. Randall-Paley.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Professor A. M. Atherton; Dr A. Belton; Professor J. Boylan; Professor A. G. Chetwynd; Professor A. Dawson; Mr A. Eubank; Mr S. Franklin; Professor A. Gillespie; Professor S. R. A. Huttly; Ms C. John; Professor A. W. Laing; Mr I. Meeks; Professor M. Piacentini; Mr J. Thornberry; Ms B. Venkataramani.

1. APOLOGIES AND WELCOMES

1.1 Senate noted the apologies and welcomed new members.

1.2 Professor Neil Johnson was thanked for his work and contributions to the University ahead of his retirement.

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 20 June 2018.

5. SECTION 1: ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (UNLIKELY TO REQUIRE DECISION)

5.1 REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

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

(a) an overview of the recent UUK annual conference as well as the forthcoming Immigration White Paper, Augar Review of post-18 education and funding and the USS Joint Expert Panel report and possible implications for the sector;
(b) UCU and Unison were balloting their membership for industrial action having rejected the 2% final pay offer for 2018-19. Lancaster was implementing the pay offer, on the advice of UCEA, from August 2018 as an interim measure before a final settlement was reached;
(c) the University remained in the top 10 of UK universities following its performance in the National Student Survey (NSS), with 88 per cent (down from 91 per cent in the previous year) of students satisfied overall compared with a national average of 83 per cent;
(d) Alison Mullan had been elected to Council as a Senate-appointed member following the recent election.

5.1.2 The Director of Recruitment, Admissions and International Development reported on student recruitment for the 2018-19 intake, in particular noting a stretching target in support of growth aspirations within a context of a declining demographic of potential UK students. The University had performed strongly in terms of accepted offers, including an increase on the previous year, noting in particular the strength of EU and International undergraduate acceptances, with some growth in Home projected numbers, and was overall a positive performance.

5.1.3 There would be communications to relevant staff concerning the Student Union protest planned for the Open Day on 15 September concerning extending the teaching timetable. It was also noted there was ongoing work to review and address timetable challenges.

5.1.4 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 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PAPER D
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence)

6.2 PROPOSAL FOR A UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTRE PAPER E
6.2.1 The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) introduced the paper setting out a proposal to reposition the Pentland Centre for Sustainability in Business (the Pentland Centre) as a University Research Centre. The proposal had been recommended for approval by the Research Committee.

6.2.2 Senate noted opportunities for the Centre to continue to expand. It was also noted that the Dean of LUMS had confirmed he was supportive of the proposal (having given apologies for the meeting).

6.2.3 Senate approved the establishment of the Pentland Centre as a University Research Centre.
6.3 SENIOR OFFICER APPOINTMENT

6.3.1 The Vice-Chancellor introduced the paper setting out a proposal that Professor Steve Bradley is appointed as Deputy Vice-Chancellor for the interim period 1 January to 31 July 2019 following the resignation of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Andrew Atherton.

6.3.2 Senate considered and indicated it was supportive of the proposal ahead of consideration and approval by Council.

7. SECTION 3: ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION NOT REQUIRING DECISION

There were no items under Section 3 for this meeting.

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

8.1 PROPOSED CHANGES TO RESEARCH COMMITTEE

8.1.1 Senate approved the proposed changes to the Research Committee terms of reference and membership 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 ASSOCIATE DEAN: APPOINTMENT

9.2.1 Senate noted the report.

9.3 WRITTEN REPORTS OF MEETINGS

9.3.1 Senate noted the reports.

9.4 NEW AND REVISED PROGRAMMES

9.4.1 Senate noted the report.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10.1 The next meeting will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday 7 November 2018 in Lecture Theatre 3, Management School.