

## UNIVERSITY SENATE

### Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014

**PRESENT:** Dr N Andrew, Mrs H Brown, Professor I Cameron, Dr D. Chalmers, Mr Ed Clack, Mr N Clark (SA), Pei Ling Choo (SA), Dr H Gallagher, Professor P Gillies (Chair), Professor D Greenhalgh, Mrs P Hamilton, Ms J Hulme, Ms C Hulsen, Sunna Kaleem (SA), Mr M Lamb (SA), Dr Martin MacDonald, Mr Ben McConville, Mr V McKay, Ms J Main, Professor M Mannion, Professor J Marshall, Ms A Nimmo, Dr Susan Ogden, Professor J Pugh, Dr R Ruthven, Professor L Sawers, Professor B Steves, Professor J Tombs, Dr Ian Trushell, Professor V Webster, Professor Ruth Whittaker, Professor J Wilson.

**APOLOGIES:** Professor T Buggy, Dr V Charissis, Mr A Corbett, Mr Alex Craig, Lynn Cuthbertson, Professor A de Ruyter, Dr R Emmanuel, Ms A Gasteen, Mr P Hopkins, Mr A Killick, Mr T Kilpatrick, Professor J Lennon, Professor S McMeekin, G Milne, Mr Brian Pillans, Ms D Rankin, Professor K Stanton, Mr I Stewart, Professor J Woodburn.

**OBSERVERS:** T Brian (Court), Jen Broadhurst (SA), Fiona Campbell (DP), Sam Ellis (GCU Lead), Kenneth Fleming (PG), Kevin Ward (SA), Calum Webster (OD).

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs M Henaghan, Secretary to Senate

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### CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Principal welcomed members to the third meeting of Senate in academic session 2013-14. Senate also welcomed two additional student representatives Pei Ling Choo (representing international students) and Sunna Kaleem (representing postgraduate students).

### Minutes

- 13.64 Considered: The unconfirmed draft minutes of the meeting of Senate held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013. **(Doc S13/32/1)**
- 13.65 Discussed: A Senate member queried the statistics quoted under 13.43 (Portfolio Refresh) relating to destination statistics of social sciences graduates. It was confirmed that the 23% figure was correct and extracted from the DHLE published data.
- By the GSBS representative on Senate that Social Sciences staff were pleased that discussions with them on the future of Social Sciences provided reassurance that concerns can be resolved.
- Arising on 13.48 amend the typographical error of GCU Learn to GCU Lead and the noted amendments to the attendance register as follows: Alison Nimmo should be recorded under apologies and Vincent McKay should be recorded as present.
- 13.66 Resolved: That the minutes be approved as an accurate record subject to the above amendments.

### Matters Arising

- 13.67 Considered: Any matters arising on the minutes not otherwise provided for on the agenda.
- 13.68 Resolved: There were no matters arising.

### Principal and Vice Chancellor and Executive Board Report

- 13.69 Considered: A report from the Principal and Vice Chancellor and Executives to update members on substantive items considered by the Executive Board since the last meeting of Senate. **(Doc S13/33/1).**
- 13.70 Discussed: By a member of Senate with reference to the recent co-hosting of an event in London with the Prime Minister David Cameron; that it was pleasing to note the confirmation by the University that the University remains neutral in the debate on Scottish Independence.
- By the Principal that it was important to ensure that all reasonable views can be heard. The University will also be providing a platform for a senior member of the Scottish Government to deliver a keynote speech on Scottish Independence in April at the New York campus. The University will defend its right to provide a safe space for debate.
- 13.71 Resolved: That Senate agreed with the sentiments of the above statement and the University's position.

### Portfolio Refresh

- 13.72 Considered: A paper from the Department of Governance and Quality Enhancement setting out the governance and timeline arrangements for portfolio refresh as requested by Senate arising on 13.44 of the minutes of the meeting held in December 2013. **(Doc S13/34/1)**

- 13.73 Reported: (i) By Professor Pugh that Table 1 of the document sets out the governance arrangements at University level (evidenced by APC/Senate Minutes), School level (evidenced by School and Programme Board minutes) and other consideration via consultation with students, external stakeholders, School and Departmental Management Groups (evidence provided by Heads of Administration). Senate members were invited to comment on the paper.
- 13.74 Discussed: The *GSfBS* representative on Senate recorded his thanks for the useful information. Concerns had previously been raised (by the *GSfBS* reps) regarding the governance arrangements surrounding the portfolio refresh. Portfolio refresh is a very important exercise for the University and it is vital to ensure that the staff voice is heard, balanced against the University's right to manage.
- By the PVC Research that in reviewing the paper he was delighted to see that the University had taken time to reach a consensus and the timeline information demonstrated the level of consultation on this important exercise.
- 13.75 Resolved: That Senate noted the timeline of governance arrangements and consideration of Portfolio Refresh.

#### **Enhancement Led Institutional Review (ELIR)**

- 13.76 Reported: By the PVC Learning and Teaching a verbal update on the progress to date on the preparations for ELIR. Senate was advised that the Steering Group has been formed and has allocated tasks on the drafting of the Reflective Analysis with a first draft to be ready by the end of March. Senate will consider the draft Reflective Analysis at its June meeting and approve the final version in October 2014. Work on preparing the Advance Information Set is also underway. Senate will be provided with regular updates in the run up to the ELIR visits in January and March 2015.
- 13.77 Resolved: That Senate noted the update on progress with the ELIR.

#### **SFC Outcome Agreement 2014-2015**

- 13.78 Considered: The SFC Outcome Agreement for session 2014-2015 (approved by Court in January 2014). **(Doc S13/35/1)**
- 13.79 Reported: By the Director of Policy and Planning that Senate had previously been provided with the draft Outcome Agreement for consideration. This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> Outcome Agreement and the SFC will review the submission and provide the University with the outcome at the end of February. GCU has performed well in some areas previously e.g. articulation numbers; however challenges remain in other areas such as widening access and retention.
- By the Principal that GCU is the first University to embed Case Studies in

the Outcome Agreement submission. The SFC reported that this will provide a marketing showcase for the University.

By the Student President that the Students' Association fully supported the Outcome Agreement and welcomed the opportunity to engage and contribute to the submission.

13.80 Discussed: By a GSfBS representative with reference to the student mobility narrative that the GSfBS has achieved 10% of students spending time abroad. They were keen to progress this to 20% in the next few years.

By the Principal that the GSfBS position is impressive. Overall the University has 6% mobility against a UK average of 2%.

A Senate member noted the move to a longer cycle of agreements moving from 1 year to 3 year submissions. He suggested that a popularised version of the agreement would be good for staff communication. The Principal confirmed that the Communications team are considering ways of getting good news out to staff.

13.81 Resolved: That Senate noted the Outcome Agreement for 2014-2015.

#### **Higher Degrees Committee**

13.82 Approved: A recommendation from the Higher Degrees Committee for the award of 12 PhDs. **(Doc S13/36/1)**

#### **Academic Staff Appointments**

13.83 Received: Notification of recent academic staff appointments. **(Doc S13/37/1)**

#### **Academic Policy Committee**

13.84 Received: The confirmed minutes of the meeting of the Academic Policy Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2013. **(Doc APC 13/39/1)**

#### **Research Committee**

13.85 Received: The confirmed minutes of the Research Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013. **(Doc REC13/16/1)**

#### **School Board Minutes**

13.86 Received: The confirmed minutes from the undernoted meetings of School Boards.

##### **Glasgow School for Business and Society held on:**

**23<sup>rd</sup> April 2012 (Doc S13/39/1 to follow)**

**13<sup>th</sup> March 2013 (Doc GSBS/SB/04/26)**

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2013 (Doc GSBS/SB/13/01/01)**

##### **School of Engineering and the Built Environment held on:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012 (Doc EBESB11/22/01)**

**21<sup>st</sup> November 2012 (Doc EBESB12/1/18)**

**13<sup>th</sup> February 2013 (Doc EBESB12/01/31)**

**30<sup>th</sup> October 2013 (Doc EBESB/13/01/17)**

##### **School of Health and Life Sciences held on:**

<b>25<sup>th</sup> June 2012</b>	<b>(Doc HLS/SB/11/24)</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> August 2012</b>	<b>(Doc HLS/SB/11/28)</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> January 2013</b>	<b>(Doc HLS/SB/12/32)</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> April 2013</b>	<b>(Doc HLS/SB/12/44)</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> June 2013</b>	<b>(Doc HLS/SB/13/01)</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> October 2013</b>	<b>(Doc HLS/SB/13/15)</b>

**University Court**

13.87 Received:

The highlights of the meetings of University Court held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013 and 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014. **(Doc S13/38/1)**

**Date of Next Meeting**

13.88 Received:

Notification that the next scheduled meeting of University Senate will be held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2014.