



**MEETING OF SENATE
MINUTES
Monday 14 December 2020
14.00, virtual Zoom meeting**

Present: The Vice-Chancellor (**Chair**) – Professor Brady, Bickers, Birdi, Bond, Carrington, Cater, Cini, Dermott, Faul, Flecker, George, Gilchrist, Grierson, Hickman, Iredale, Jessop, Jordan, Lithander, Linthorst, Luckhurst, Marklof, Neild, Nobes, Oliphant, Orpen, Pancost, Payne, Peters, Powell, Purdy, Pleydell-Pearce, Raven, Ridley, Robbins, Schonle, Smart, B Smith, F Smith, Spear, Squires, Schwarzacher, Szczelkun, Tavare, Taylor, Timpson, Tonks, Tormey, Wilding, Wilson;

Dr J Agarwal, Dr M Allinson, Dr K Austin, Dr M Barbour, Mr E Bempong-Manful, Prof A Blom, Dr N Dahnoun, Dr L Dickinson, Mr E Fay, Dr S Fitzjohn, Dr A Flack, Dr S Fox, Mrs M Gillway, Dr J Howarth, Dr AJ Howkins, , Mr D Jones, Dr P Langton, Dr I Lazar, Dr E Love, Mr John Ms I Marshall, Ms Leah Martindale, Dr D Morgan, Dr MT O'Toole, Dr K Opie, Mrs L Parr, , Dr D Poole, Ms Rebecca Pullin, Dr S Proud, Mr R Rossi, Mr S Sreekanth, Dr L Walling, Dr K Whittington.

In attendance: Prof Imre Berger, Ms T Brunnock, Ms C Buchanan, Ms P Coonerty, Gayle Hanbury (representing Professor Norman), Professor Gooberman-Hill, Mr D Jennings, Mrs S Johnson (Clerk) Ms K Maycock, Dr C Kelly (on behalf of Dr S McGuinness), Dr Duleeka Knipe, Ms Z Pither, Professor Caroline Relton, Ms R Shimeld, Dr S Swales, Dr Emma Williamson, Prof E Wilson.

Apologies: Mr Richard Hammond, Professor M Allen, Mr D Freda, Dr S McGuinness, Mr S Chadwick, Prof H Piggins, Dr R Murray, Mr S Bullock

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS ON 12 OCTOBER AND 12 NOVEMBER 2020.

1.1 **CONFIRMED** and **APPROVED** the minutes of the meetings of 12 October and 12 November 2020.

2. CHAIR'S REPORT

2.1 RECEIVED: Chair's Report: paper ref: (SN/20-21/012).

2.2 There were no written questions for the meeting.

2.3 Senate members were informed that the Governance Team would be writing to Senators for expressions of interest to take part in the Board Effectiveness Review Steering Group for the external Board of Trustees effectiveness review scheduled to take place in the academic year 2021/22. The first meeting of the Steering Group would be in March 2020.

2.4 The key issues arising out of the sector report were the implications of a potential no-deal Brexit and access to Horizon Europe and the outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review which included a multi-annual settlement for research and innovation.

- 2.6 The Vice-Chancellor thanked everyone involved in the successful roll out of testing to approximately 13,000 plus students allowing them to leave safely for the winter break. break and extended thanks from the Board of Trustees to all of the University community for providing a high-quality experience for students and for maintaining research effort and continued civic engagement.

- 2.7 The Vice Chancellor thanked all senators for their continued contributions and in particular Professor Guy Orpen for whom this was his last Senate.

3. VC QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

- 3.1 There were no questions.

4. COVID-19 PLANNING UPDATE

- 4.1 RECEIVED: a PowerPoint presentation from the Registrar & University Secretary and Caroline Relton (*presentation on file*).

- 4.2 The Registrar & University Secretary and Caroline Relton were invited to deliver their presentation.

- 4.3 Senate NOTED the presentation which included an update on data collection and mapping to ensure effective support to students, trends in cases within the University and the City, future planning and support.

- 4.4 Public Health England had now closed the case on the Bristol outbreak and the University was continuing to work closely with public health colleagues and the City Council to manage risk.

- 4.5 There would be a staggered return to the University over a 5-week period from January and students would be offered testing from the 11th January and access to test sites at UWE from the 4th January. The University would also be subsidising private tests for international students who would be attending the University from January.

- 4.3 The University was also looking to maximise study space and time available to use spaces.

5. FLEXIBLE AND BLENDED EDUCATION AND THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE 20/21

- 5.1 RECEIVED: a PowerPoint presentation from the Pro Vice-Chancellors for Education, Student Experience and Global Engagement respectively (*presentation on file*).

- 5.2 The Pro Vice-Chancellors for Education, Student Experience and Global Engagement respectively were invited to deliver their presentation.

- 5.3 Senate NOTED the presentation which included information on student support during the winter vacation, key activities post winter-break including the assessment process and lessons learnt from TB1. In January there would be 'vision sessions' to draw out what things the University would want to hold on to in 21/22 and for the longer-term strategy.

6. RESEARCH UPDATE: ELIZABETH BLACKWELL INSTITUTE

- 6.1 RECEIVED: a powerpoint presentation from the PVC Research and Prof. Rachel Gooberman-Hill (*presentation on file*).

- 6.2 The Pro Vice-Chancellor Research introduced Prof. Rachel Gooberman-Hill and colleagues Dr. Duleeka Knipe, Prof. Imre Berger, Dr. Emma Williamson.

- 6.3 Senate NOTED the presentations and were impressed by the research projects showcased and the speed and agility in which they had been taken forward.

7. EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

- 7.1 RECEIVED: Education Committee Report: paper ref: (SN/20-21/013).

- 7.2 The Pro Vice-Chancellor Education introduced the report.

- 7.3 AGREED that further work would be done on the new policy for staff participation in the CREATE scheme and that following consideration at Education Committee be brought back to Senate for approval, (see Annex A for full policy) and NOTED the rest of the report.

In particular it was suggested that the policy needed to be explicit about a more nuanced approach and consideration on a case-by-case basis acknowledging that teaching experience does not follow the narrow format the current policy suggested. There also needed to be more flexibility in terms of participation timescales in acknowledgment of the extra burdens arising out of the pandemic.

8. RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

- 8.1 RECEIVED: Research Committee Report: paper ref: (SN/20-21/014).

- 8.2 The Pro Vice-Chancellor Research introduced the report.

- 8.3 APPROVED the UoB Statement on Responsible Research Assessment (Appendix 1) and NOTED the rest of the report.

9. STAFF AND STUDENT EDI UPDATE

- 9.1 RECEIVED: paper ref: (SN/20-21/015)

- 9.2 The DVC & Provost and Pro Vice-Chancellor Student Experience spoke to the paper.

- 9.3 Senate NOTED the institution's progress with its work in relation to the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI).

- 9.4 EDI (both for staff and students) was a key priority for the University and a major cross cutting scheme of the new strategy. The University was developing its EDI priorities, agreeing what it would be measuring and monitoring and tracking progress. There were regular reports to UEB, and the Board of Trustees had established an EDI Oversight Committee. The Anti-Racism Steering Group was up and running and work was ongoing in working towards a de-colonised University. Going forward there would be more of a focus on intersectionality and support for students with disabilities. Working across different networks would be pivotal in meeting EDI priorities.

10. CIVIC UNIVERSITY UPDATE

- 10.1 RECEIVED: paper ref: (SN/20-21/016).

- 10.2 The DVC & Provost introduced the paper and additional PowerPoint (*presentation on file*).

- 10.3 NOTED the creation of a new University Civic Engagement Committee, reporting to the University Executive Board.

CLOSE OF BUSINESS MEETING

Date of Next meeting:

The date of the next meeting of Senate would be Monday 8 February 2021.

11. ETHICS OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

- 11.1 RECEIVED paper ref: (SN/20-21/017). Members were encouraged to send in any questions to the Governance team who would seek answers from report sponsors and authors outside of the Senate meeting.

- 11.2 No questions or queries were submitted.

12. REVISED INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY POLICY

- 12.1 RECEIVED paper ref: (SN/20-21/018). Members were encouraged to send in any questions to the Governance team who would seek answers from report sponsors and authors outside of the Senate meeting.

- 12.2 No questions or queries were submitted.

13. SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

- 13.1 RECEIVED paper ref: (SN/20-21/019). Members were encouraged to send in any questions to the Governance team who would seek answers from report sponsors and authors outside of the Senate meeting.

- 13.2 No questions or queries were submitted.