

## **SENATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of the additional meeting of 9 June 2025**

Present: Pete Edwards (Chair), Scott Allan, David Anderson, Nick Forsyth, Patience Schell, Diane Skatun, Scott Styles, Steve Tucker, Richard Hepworth-Young with Samantha Waters and Bruce Purdon (Acting Clerk) in attendance

Apologies: Jo-Anne Murray, Miles Rothoerl

### **Draft Agenda for the Meeting of 23 June 2025**

630.1 The Committee discussed the circulated draft agenda for the additional meeting of Senate on 23 June 2025. This was a single item agenda to receive an academic view from Senate on proposals for a TNE project in India, prior to its formal consideration for agreement by Court which was expected to be required before the summer. It would be a closed meeting of Senate given the commercially sensitive nature of the discussions.

630.2 It was agreed that it would be helpful for this agenda item to be structured with sub-headings to focus discussion on key areas where the Senate view was required. The Chief Governance Officer & University Secretary would circulate an updated version of the agenda to the Committee.

**Action: Samantha Waters.**

630.3 The Committee made some suggestions on questions and matters which the papers for the Senate might helpfully consider to help the effective consideration of the item. These included:

- Explaining how the view reached by Senate would be reported to Court to inform its decision making on the project;
- The key decision stages and timeline (to date and ahead);
- To keep any presentation short and focused to maximise time for Senate discussion;
- Outline what the scope of the meeting was and which issues or decisions would return to Senate at a later stage as the project progressed;
- What the academic programmes involved would be;
- Who the partners in the project and what the legal entity for the project/campus would be;
- How the TNE campus would operate and what the norms of operation in country were expected to be.

630.4 Professor Anderson noted that he understood Senate had previously agreed a policy document governing the issues and areas that it should consider as part of its consideration of a TNE project and which might help to structure any discussion or shape any papers. Professor Anderson offered to identify the document and provide it to the Secretary. The Chair also highlighted weblinks to the University's process for considering TNE projects which would apply.

- 630.5 Several members noted that Senators had previously requested that they have access to the Senate's archive of papers reinstated. This was noted and would be considered further. **Action: Samantha Waters.**

#### **Additional Item for Agenda**

- 631 Mr Styles proposed that the agenda also include an Honorary Degree Nomination the proposed recipient of which was a very elderly war veteran. The Committee approved this addition.

#### **Joint Meeting of Senate and Court on Financial Position**

- 632 The Chief Governance Officer & University Secretary reported that due to a number of additional meetings of both Senate, Court or Court-subcommittees taking place in the coming weeks, it had not been possible to identify a time for the requested joint meeting ahead of the graduations and summer holiday period. As an alternative, it was suggested that holding a session for Senate members to formulate views, on the areas that were within Senate's remit rather than those that were Court's responsibility, that could then be presented to Court by a small sub-set of Senators. In discussion of the idea, it was suggested that there could be varying views of Senators and queried whether Senate would ultimately have to agree a position to represent. While, the timeframe to do this before the Court met on 25 June was very short, the Committee considered it preferable to delaying until after the summer. Those points being noted, the Committee, therefore, welcomed the suggested approach. The Chief Governance Officer & University Secretary would reflect on the Committee's feedback and develop this further for communication to the Senate.

**Action: Samantha Waters.**

Ends