

SENATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**Notes of the meeting of 27 March 2018**

Present: Professor M Greaves (Convener), Mrs C Inglis, , Ms D Connolly, Professor P McGeorge, Professor K Shennan, Professor J Masthoff, Dr D Maccallum, Professor H Hutchison, Mrs M Stephen, Dr N Vargesson, Professor and Dr R Bernard (Clerk)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr L Ogubie, Mr S Styles, Mrs L Tibbets, Professors M Campbell, C Kee, D Lusseau, W Vasconcelos and J Schaper

410. Minutes

405.1 The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2018.

411. Draft Agenda for the meeting of the Senate on 23 April 2018

411.1 The Committee noted that in addition to the items shown on the draft agenda there would be a paper from the Senate Working Group on Transnational Education (TNE). Concerns were raised regarding the readiness of the paper for Senate discussion; it was noted that the paper had not been well received at both the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Committees. It was noted that the paper would be further considered by the University Committee on Teaching and Learning (UCTL), before going to Senate and that as the Working Group had been set up by Senate it was the wish of the Group to present their paper to Senate.

411.2 In agreeing that the TNE paper should be included at Senate, there was discussion around whether the paper should be for discussion and approval or whether it was simply for discussion at this stage. The Committee concluded that it was not an item for approval. It was noted that Senate would need to determine the next steps for the paper, as the paper does not state its purpose clearly in terms of its relationship to the existing policy approved by Senate in January 2017.

411.3 The Committee agreed that the Student Partnership Agreement, which had not been discussed at the meeting of Senate on 1 February, should be included on the agenda for discussion and approval.

411.4 The Committee noted that a paper on degree classification processes would be considered by UCTL before Senate, and that it would be appropriate for this to be included on the agenda for discussion.

411.5 In discussing recent meetings of Senate, the Committee noted that the usual practice of considering questions to the Principal towards the beginning of the agenda was leading to substantive teaching items being deferred until future meetings. It was noted that the discussion of questions often filled a large portion of the meeting. It was confirmed that the Standing Orders do not dictate the agenda position of such questions and it was, therefore, agreed that in the future questions to the Principal should be included in the 'Other Items for Discussion' section of the agenda.

411.6 The Committee further noted that the tendency of recent meetings to continue beyond 4pm was not helpful and that many members of Senate find that they have to leave before the conclusion of the meeting. The Convener agreed that he would raise this

point at the start of the meeting on 23 April with a view to Senate proceeding being more focused.

412. Election of non *ex-officio* members of the Senate

412.1 The Committee approved the schedule for the appointment on non *ex-officio* members to the Senatus Academicus (copy filed with principal copy of the minutes).

413 Dates of meetings in 2017/18

413.1 The Committee noted that the remaining meeting in 2017/18 had been scheduled as follows:

Thursday 26 April 2018 at 2.00 p.m. in Committee Room 2