

SENATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**Notes of the meeting of 16 January 2018**

Present: Professor M Greaves (Convener), Mrs C Inglis, Mr L Ogubie, Professors H Hutchison, C Kee, J Masthoff, J Schaper, K Shennan, W Vasconcelos, Dr D Maccallum, Mrs M Stephen, Mr S Styles, and Dr R Bernard (Clerk)

Apologies for absence were received from Professors M Campbell, D Lusseau and P McGeorge, Ms D Commolly, Mrs L Tibbets and Dr N Vargesson,

403. Draft Agenda for the meeting of the Senate on 24 January 2018

403.1 The Committee agreed that the item for approval, Rectorial Election Rules, should be taken as the first item on the agenda in recognition of the need to ensure the Rules are approved so that the election process could begin on Monday 29 January 2018.

403.2 The Committee discussed, in general terms, the motions submitted for Senate as there was some concern that the subject matter did not fall within the remit of Senate and therefore the motions were not necessarily competent. The Committee noted that as academic purpose was at the core of the motions, they could be considered to be part of Senate's remit. The Committee further noted that Senate could choose to express a view on any subject it wishes, the subject matter does not need to fall within its remit. Concern was expressed at the length of some of the motions received for Senate; it was suggested that consideration might be given the introduction of a word limit.

403.3 With regard to the motion submitted concerning the 'Reclaiming the University Manifesto', the Committee felt that the paper did not make it clear exactly what Senate was being asked to do. It was, therefore, agreed that the proposer should be asked to revise the paper to list the principles being referred to, and to clarify exactly what Senate was voting on.

403.4 In discussing the motion regarding the financial position of the University, it was highlighted to the Committee that there were some factual inaccuracies in the current draft. The Committee also expressed the view that it was not clear from the motion what was being asked of Senate. Following discussion it was agreed that the paper should not be included in its current form at the meeting of Senate on 24 January and that a revised version should be requested for inclusion at Senate on 21 February. The revised version should not contain inaccuracies and should state clearly what Senate is being asked to decide.

[Clerk's note: immediately following the meeting, a revised version of the motion was submitted to the Committee. Following an email discussion between members, it was agreed that the revised version should be included for discussion at the meeting on 24 January]

403.5 Subject to the revisions agreed, the Committee were content to approve the agenda for the extraordinary meeting of Senate on January 24 2018.

404 Dates of meetings in 2017/18

404.1 The Committee noted that meetings in 2017/18 have been scheduled as follows:

Thursday 1 February 2018 at 2.00 p.m. in Committee Room 2

Thursday 29 March 2018 at 2.00 p.m. in Committee Room 2

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