

SENATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of 20 February 2019

Present: Professor P Hannaford (Convener), Mrs D Connolly, Professor K Shennan, Professor M Campbell, Professor A Jenkinson, Professor E Pavlovskaja, Professor G Nixon, Professor D Lusseau, Dr H Martin, Professor N Vargesson, Dr D Watts Dr D Maccallum, Professor J Schaper Professor M Delibegovic and Dr R Bernard (Clerk)

Apologies for absence were received from: Mrs C Inglis, Mr L Ogubie, Professor P McGeorge, Mr S Styles, Mrs L Tibbets, Dr R Shanks

435. Minutes

435.1 With minor amendments, the Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2019.

436. Draft Agenda for the meeting of the Senate on 20 March 2019

436.1 The Committee noted that there would be an additional item for discussion at Senate as the Management of Change Toolkit was going to be included for discussion to provide an academic view. The Toolkit would be discussed at Senate prior to being considered by the Partnership and Negotiating Consultative Committee (PNCC).

436.2 Following discussion, it was agreed that the order of the Senate agenda should be amended to ensure that consideration would be given to the papers requiring approval, relating to degree classification, before the items for an academic view. Members were concerned to ensure that sufficient time would be available in the meeting for full discussions and hence agreed that degree classification should be the first substantive item.

436.3 The Committee noted that Martin Gilbert, the outgoing Senior Governor, had been invited by the Senate Assessors to attend the meeting. It was expected that Mr Gilbert would be available from 12.30pm. The Committee agreed that the meeting should be scheduled to start at 12.30pm with the formal business of the meeting commencing at 1pm.

[Clerk's note: subsequent to the meeting, Mr Gilbert rescheduled his visit]

436.4 Subject to these amendments, the Committee approved the agenda for Senate.

437. Senate Assessor Terms of Office on Court

437.1 The Committee noted that, in the context of the *Scottish Code of Good HE Governance* (the Code), the Governance and Nominations Committee had requested:

'Principle 2: Section 19: Limits on Terms of Office: Senate Assessors are elected by Senate for four years but Senate procedures do not specifically limit the number of terms/years that can be served.

Recommendation: The Senate should be invited to review practice in this regard.'

The Code states that:

'Service beyond three terms of three years, or two terms of four years, should be avoided'

437.2 The Committee agreed to recommend to Senate that Senate Assessor appointments should be limited to two terms of four years in order to align with the Code and the approach taken to other positions on Court

438. Senate Elections

438.1 The Committee approved the schedule for the appointment of elected members to the Senatus Academicus and to appoint Senate Assessors to Court.

439. Hay of Seaton Committee

439.1 The Committee approved nominations for the Hay of Seaton Committee:

Dr Elizabeth Shaw, School of Law

Dr Alessandra Cecolin, School of Divinity, History & Philosophy

440. Dates of meetings in 2017/18

440.1 The Committee noted that the next meeting in 2018/19 had been scheduled for:

Wednesday 24 April 2019 at 2.00 p.m. in Committee Room 2