UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

SENATUS ACADEMICUS

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2008

Present: Principal, Professors Houlihan, Gane, Rodger, MacGregor, Beaumont, Fynsk, Ms M Pearson, Professors Secombes, Imrie, Salmon, Cotter, Walkden, Duff, Robinson, Dr B Connelly, Dr P Edwards, Mr M Radford, Professor Burgess, Mr A Arthur, Dr D Molyneaux, Dr W McCausland, Dr C Brittain, Dr B Marsden, Dr W Naphy, Dr J Schaper, Dr J Ravet, Dr A Gordon, Dr H Hutchison, Professor Saunders, Dr A Campbell, Mrs M Ross, Mr S Styles, Dr A Arnason, Mr N Curtis, Professor Wallace, Dr E Baggs, Dr M Delibegovic, Dr P Fraser, Dr I Greig, Dr A Jenkinson, Dr B Müller, Dr D Scott, Professor N’Dow, Dr G McNeill, Professor Webster, Dr P Benson, Dr P Jordan, Dr L Philip, Professor Anderson, Dr W Harrison, Dr S Townsend, Dr R Wells, Mr J Hardey, Mrs Shauna Dicks and Miss S Sithamparanathan.

Apologies: Professor Logan, Ms C Macaslan, Professors Haites, Hughes, McCaig, Hannaford, Long, Mrs L Stephen, Dr D Hendry, Ms C Banks, Dr J Forbes, Dr P Mealor, Mrs A Valyo, Dr J Sternberg, Dr M Young, Professors Lurie, Shaw, Dr J Cleland, Dr T MacFarlane, Dr A Schofield, Dr E van Teijlingen, Dr H Wallace, Dr R Bull, Professor Price, Dr N Spedding, Dr J Skakle and Professor Booth.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

62. The minutes of the meeting held on 30 April 2008 were approved.

STATEMENT BY PRINCIPAL

63. In opening the meeting, the Principal thanked members for their hard work over the past session. He noted that it had been a hard but hugely successful year with highlights including the work associated with the RAE submission and the ongoing Curriculum Reform. He also informed members that the Rowett merger was confirmed with Vesting Day scheduled for 30 June 2008. The merger would enhance the University’s research in the areas of nutrition and human health.

ANNUAL REPORTS FROM THE HEADS OF COLLEGE

64. The Senate received presentations (copies available at: http://www.abdn.ac.uk/minutes/minsenat.hti) from the three Heads of College (or nominees) highlighting their College’s main achievements in 2007/08, the challenges facing their College and their future aspirations.

THE CURRICULUM REFORM UPDATE

65.1 Professor MacGregor briefly presented the update on the Curriculum Reform (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes). In presenting his report, he highlighted to the Senate the following points:

- Work was ongoing to prepare a document setting out a contextual analysis covering strategic issues such as demographic changes, implications of the Bologna process, recruitment and employer requirements.
- The various sub-groups (Student Experience, Business, Industry & the Professions, and Research) would be reporting to the Commission in the near future.
- The outcomes of the internal consultation on the first report were available on the website. The main areas of response concerned the New Aberdeen Courses. The Commission was currently reviewing the responses received.
- External consultations were ongoing with meetings having been held in Edinburgh, Aberdeen and London. Meetings had been held with groups including professional bodies and political parties. A meeting with the Cabinet Secretary for Education was scheduled for September.
- The Commission was also considering the outcomes from the various international benchmarking trips to Harvard, Yale, Western Australia, Melbourne and Hong Kong.
Market research would be undertaken over the summer and would include employers, prospective students and parents.

65.2 He informed the Senate the second report would be published by the Commission in July and would focus on key elements arising from the first consultation, in particular in regard to the New Aberdeen Courses. A third report was being planned for September by which time the market research would have been completed together with all the analysis. The Commission’s final report would be considered at a special meeting of the Senate on 29 October 2008.

STUDENT RETENTION

66.1 The University Secretary briefly introduced the paper on Student Retention (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes). In doing so, he advised the Senate that the Vice-Principal (Learning & Teaching) had been delayed on her return from an overseas trip and therefore was unable to present the paper. In introducing the paper, he reminded the Senate of the debate at the previous meeting in regard to student retention. He advised members that following that meeting the Vice-Principal (Learning & Teaching) met with relevant colleagues and that the revisions made to the paper addressed the two main concerns in regard to (i) the pre-sessional induction for local students, and (ii) the proposals in regard to assessment, feedback and revision. He proposed that it would be inappropriate to ask Senate to approve the individual recommendations and rather asked that the Senate endorse the paper as a broad framework on which to take forward work in regard to student retention.

66.2 There followed discussion in regard to the proposals set out in the paper, the main points of which are summarised below:

- Concern was expressed that the paper failed to address the fundamental issues of (i) the University’s recruitment strategy and its impact on retention, and (ii) the problem of student disengagement. It was proposed that these issues were fundamental to the retention problem and that work should be done to address these.
- One member queried whether the paper was meant to be a policy on student retention. If this were the case, he suggested that the paper did not include clear objectives. In response, it was noted that the paper was not intended to be a policy rather it was an attempt to identify the problem and to set out a framework of initiatives to address some of the issues.
- As it was a time of substantial flux given the ongoing Curriculum Reform, it was suggested that the document was a helpful interim report setting out examples of best practice in regard addressing to the issue of student retention.
- In regard to student disengagement, it was proposed that consideration should be given to making lecture attendance compulsory.
- It was proposed that uniform solutions to the problem were not necessarily appropriate and that the diversity of the institution should be taken into account when identifying ways to tackle the problem.
- It was noted that the issue of student retention is acute and needs to be taken seriously. With this in mind, it was proposed that the proposals set out in the paper were helpful and should be taken forward.

66.3 Following this discussion, the Senate agreed to endorse the paper as a helpful framework of good practice. In doing so, it was noted that significant further work required to be done in regard to addressing the problem of student retention.

REFORM OF THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

67.1 The University Secretary briefly highlighted to the Senate the main points of the paper on Reform of the Governance Structure (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes). In doing so, he highlighted to the Senate that the proposals had arisen from the recent Court effectiveness review. The proposed reform would increase accountability and transparency. The proposals recommended the establishment of an Operating Board. The proportion of Senate membership on this Board would be increased compared to that presently on JPFEC. The establishment of this Board was the first of a number of changes to the governance structure. Further recommendations
in regard to joint Court-Senate committees would be brought back for consideration to a future meeting.

67.2 He invited comment from the Senate in regard to the proposed establishment of the Operating Board. One member, in welcoming the changes, commented that it would be desirable for the convener of the Operating Board to be a lay-member. In response, it was noted that this was the intention and would be taken on board.

UNIVERSITY NURSERY: MOTION TO SENATE

68.1 The Principal drew members’ attention to the Motion which had been proposed by Scott Styles and seconded by Angela Fraser regarding the University Nursery (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes). He informed the Senate that he welcomed the message conveyed by the motion and commended it to members. In doing so, he invited Mr Styles to briefly speak to the motion.

68.2 Mr Styles reminded Senate that there had been some positive discussion in regard to the University Nursery at the February Senate and, accordingly, he proposed that it would be helpful to have some more formal commitment in regard to the future of nursery provision. He stressed to members that it was vital for the University to provide adequate childcare provision. With this in mind, he had brought this motion to ask the Senate to recommend to the University Court the inclusion of a level of financial commitment for nursery provision in the 10 year capital plan.

68.3 The Senate approved the motion and agreed to forward it to the University Court.

68.4 The University Secretary informed members that the requirement for nursery provision had been recently incorporated into the capital plan which had recently been considered by the JPFEC. The plan did not currently include a timeline for new nursery provision as a number of options were being considered. He further stressed that any new nursery would be developed on the basis of it being financially but not necessarily commercially viable.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY COURT

1 Rowett Research Institute: Designation as a School

69.1 The Senate noted that the Court had noted that negotiations were currently close to completion for the incorporation into the University of the Rowett Research Institute, with a proposed vesting date of 30 June 2008.

69.2 The Senate noted that the Court, for its part, had approved a recommendation that, subject to the formal approval of a merger, a recommendation that on incorporation, the Institute be accorded the status of a School within the College of Life Sciences and Medicine, and be represented on the Senate by the Head of School and two elected members of Grade 6 or above.

69.3 The Senate approved the recommendation regarding the designation of the Rowett Research Institute as a School in the College of Life Sciences and Medicine and the proposed membership of the Senate.

2. Research Ethics Framework and Guidelines on Keeping of Research Records

69.4 The Senate noted that the Court had approved the Research Ethics Framework and Guidelines on Keeping of Research Records.

3. Amendment to the Remit of the University Committee on Teaching and Learning

69.5 The Senate noted that the Court had approved amendments to the remits of the University Committee on Teaching and Learning and the Academic Standards Committee (Postgraduate).
4. **Policy on Student Complaints**

69.6 The Senate noted that the Court had approved amendments to the Policy on Student Complaints to make it consistent with the Policy on Academic Appeals with respect to the section on grounds for appeal to the Court.

5. **Resolutions**

69.7 The Senate noted that the Court had approved the following resolutions that had previously been approved by the Senate and the General Council and made generally available in terms of Section 6 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966.

Draft Resolution No 253 of 2008  
[Changes in Regulations for Various Degrees]

Draft Resolution No 254 of 2008  
[Regulations for the Degree of Master of Physics (MPHYS)].

Draft Resolution No 255 of 2008  
Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Education (EDD)]

Draft Resolution No 256 of 2008  
[General Regulations for Awards Conferred Jointly with other Degree Awarding Institutions]

---

**REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING**

1. **Code of Practice on Student Discipline**

70.1 The Senate approved, for its part, the recommendation of the University Committee on Teaching and Learning, and agreed to forward to the University Court, the draft Resolution ‘Code of Practice on Student Discipline’ (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes) and to ask the University Court that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 6 (2) of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, the draft Resolution be passed forthwith, so that the amended provisions could be applied with effect from date on which they are passed by the University Court.

2. **Regulatory Changes**

70.2 The Senate, for its part, approved, on the recommendation of the University Committee on Teaching and Learning, and agreed to forward to the University Court, the draft Resolutions ‘Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery’ (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes) and ‘Changes to Regulations for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery’ (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes) and to ask the University Court that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 6 (2) of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, the draft Resolutions be passed forthwith, so that the amended provisions may be applied as follows: ‘Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery’ with effect from the day on which the Scottish Parliament approves the Order in Council empowering the University of Aberdeen to confer joint degrees; ‘Changes to Regulations for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery’ with effect from 15 September 2008.
3. Term dates for students for the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) 2008-2009

70.3 The Senate noted that the University Committee on had approved term dates for students registered for the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term Type</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter term opens</td>
<td>Tuesday 23 September 2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter term closes</td>
<td>Friday 19 December 2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring term opens</td>
<td>Wednesday 7 January 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring term closes</td>
<td>Friday 3 April 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer term opens</td>
<td>Monday 13 April 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer term closes</td>
<td>Friday 17 July 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Fitness to Practise (Medicine and Dentistry)

70.4 Following changes to the guidance issued by the General Medical Council (GMC), and the introduction of degrees in dentistry, amendments to the existing Guidance notes for students whose studies as a candidate for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) are being considered for suspension or termination on the grounds that they are not “Fit to Practise” were approved by the Committee. The main change included in the revised Guidance Note removed the requirement for cases of breaches in non-academic discipline to be considered and upheld under the Code of Practice on Student Discipline before proceedings may be instigated under Fitness to Practise procedures. Breaches of academic discipline would continue to be considered under the Code of Practice before being referred under Fitness to Practise procedures. A full copy of the amended Guidance was available from the Registry on request.

5. Regulatory changes

70.5 The Senate noted that on the recommendation of the Academic Standards Committee (Undergraduate) the University Committee on Teaching and Learning approved changes to the Supplementary Regulations for the Centre of Lifelong Learning to amend the regulations for the Certificate in Science and to take account of the introduction of the Diploma in Science.

70.6 The Senate also noted that in addition, the University Committee on Teaching and Learning had approved changes to the Supplementary Regulations for the Professional Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) designed to improve student attendance during the school experience placements within the Diploma.

6. Code of Practice for Research Students

70.7 The Senate noted that on the recommendation of the Academic Standards Committee (Postgraduate) and further to discussions at the meeting of UCTL held on 13 March 2008, the University Committee on Teaching and Learning had approved amendments to the Code of Practice governing research students, to take account of the Research Ethics Framework. A full copy of the amended Code is available from the Registry on request.

7. Guidance Note on Student Complaints

70.8 The Senate noted that the University Committee on Teaching and Learning had approved an amendment to the Guidance Note on Student Complaints. Complaints involving two students, i.e. which are student against student, are dealt with under the Code of Practice on Student Discipline. The amendment was intended to specify more clearly the types of complaints which would be considered under the Code of Practice. The second introductory bullet point had been amended as detailed below, additions in bold:
Complaints against another student, where it can be demonstrated that the alleged misconduct interferes with the proper functioning of the University, its activities, or with the legitimate interests of those who work or study in the University, will normally be considered under the Code of Practice on Student Discipline, a copy of which can be accessed at www.abdn.ac.uk/registry/quality/appendix5x15.pdf or obtained from the Registry, University Office.

8. SENAS form amendments

The Senate noted that the University Committee on Teaching and Learning had approved minor amendments to the New Course Proposal form (SENAS 1) and the associated guidance note. Two of the amendments were required to take account of changes in the legal responsibilities of the University, i.e. Disclosure checking and equality and diversity issues.

9. Disclosure checking for students

The Senate noted that following consultation with the Colleges, the University Committee on Teaching had approved guidance to be incorporated into section 6.12 within the Academic Quality Handbook, which sets out the University's policy on when students are required to complete a Disclosure Scotland check.

10. Enhancement led institutional review (ELIR)

The Senate noted that the University Committee on Teaching and Learning had noted that the Quality Assurance Agency Scotland (QAAS) is in the final stages of a consultation exercise on the draft second edition of the Enhancement-Led Institutional Review (ELIR) Handbook. Reviews carried out from session 2008-09 would be undertaken in line with the methodology defined in the second edition. In line with the timetable used by the QAA in the first round of ELIR, the University of Aberdeen had been scheduled to undergo review during session 2009/10.

11. Careers Service

The Senate noted that the University Committee on Teaching and Learning had received a report on Employability work undertaken by the Careers Service during 2007 – 2008. In addition the University Committee on Teaching and Learning had approved a proposal to amend the way in which Careers Service partnership agreements operate within the University.

ELECTION OF READERS AND LECTURERS TO SENATE

The Senate approved, for its part, revisions to the Resolution concerning the Election of Readers and Lecturers to the Senatus Academicus (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes) in order that it could be considered by Court at its meeting on 24 June.

The revisions were proposed to reflect the necessary amendments to the distribution of seats on the Senate which would result from the merger with the Rowett Research Institute.

REPORT FROM THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The Senate noted the Annual Report from the Joint Committee on Equality and Diversity (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes).

REPORT FROM THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE – COURSE AND PROGRAMME CHANGES

The Senate noted the changes to the list of courses and programmes approved by the Academic Standards Committee at their recent meetings, available at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/senastracking/report.
ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE SENATUS ACADEMICUS

74. The Senate noted that the following had been elected to serve on the Senatus Academicus with effect from 1 October 2008 until 30 September 2012 in the constituencies stated:

School of Education

Mr David C McMurtry
Dr Paul Mealor
Mrs Frances Payne

School of Law

Professor John Carty
Professor Peter Duff

School of Social Science

Mr Neil Curtis
Dr David Galbreath

School of Biological Sciences Constituency

Dr Lee Hastie

School of Medical Sciences Constituency

Dr Alison Jack
Dr Jonathan Pettitt
Dr Kath Shennan
Dr Neil Vargesson

School of Medicine Constituency

Dr Michael Crilly
Dr George Shirriffs

DIRECTORS OF UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

75. The Senate noted that on the recommendation of the relevant Heads of College, the Senate Business Committee, on behalf of the Senate, had approved the following appointments as Directors of Undergraduate Programmes with effect from the start of session 2008/09 for a period of three years, except where indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arts and Social Sciences</th>
<th>Dr J Geddes (School of Divinity, History and Philosophy)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Mrs LM Stephen, to be appointed for one further academic year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Professor WF Long (School of Medical Sciences)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Professor LD Ritchie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONVENER OF THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE (POSTGRADUATE)

76. The Senate noted that on the recommendation of the relevant Heads of College, the Senate Business Committee, on behalf of the Senate, had approved the appointment of Professor Gordon Burgess as Convener of the Academic Standards Committee (Postgraduate) for a period of three years with effect from the start of session 2008/09.
77. The Senate noted that the Senate Business Committee, on behalf of the Senate, had approved the appointment as Governors of the Dick Bequest Trust of Professor Saunders with effect from 2007/08 for a period of five years and of Mrs Yvonne Dewhurst with effect from 2008/09 for a period of five years.

DIRECTORS OF UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES – JOB DESCRIPTION

78. The Senate noted that following the recent approval by the University Management Group of a proposal to review the way in which Student Promoters are identified for Graduations, the Senate Business Committee, on behalf of the Senate, had approved the deletion from the existing Job Description for Directors of Undergraduate Programmes of the following:

“to promote graduands, both undergraduate and postgraduate, at Graduation Ceremonies in July and November”.

WORKING GROUP ON ACADEMIC AND PASTORAL SUPPORT

79. The Senate noted that the Senate Business Committee had approved revisions to the remit and composition of the Working Group on Academic and Pastoral Support (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes).
College of Arts and Social Sciences

Professor Bryan MacGregor
Head of College
Main Achievements – 1

- **PG Recruitment:**
  Since May 07: Applications +21%
  Offers +47%, Cleared +91%

- **UG Recruitment Events**
  1200 at MA AD (500 in 2007).

- **Student Retention Initiatives:** School plans in place.

- **Staff Recruitment:** 5 Chairs, 3 ongoing. High quality at all levels - Cambridge, KCL, LSE, Berkeley.

- **HR** – Appraisal, Training & Development, Support Staff Forums/Working Group, IiP Preparation, HR tracking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>In 5 years</th>
<th>Aug 07 – Feb 08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PGT (F)</td>
<td>+37%</td>
<td>+4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGT (NF)</td>
<td>+58%</td>
<td>+4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGR (H)</td>
<td>+93%</td>
<td>+18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGR (O/S)</td>
<td>+156%</td>
<td>+5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Main Achievements - 2

- **RAE**: 18 Units, 903 outputs, 87% inclusion (Ex. Educ & TFs).
- **Awards**: +100% (03/04). £4.26m (+12% on 06/07)
**Applications**: +136% (03/04). £21.3m (+46% on 06/07).
- **Major Research Projects**: STNE yr 3 (£2.7m); Inclusive Practice (Oct 2006, £1.4m); SIRE (£0.84m); Entrepreneurship (£0.77m); Gaelic SRDG (£4.3m, £1.2 to UoA – result pending).
- **Teaching**: New programmes incl. CLL; Teaching data collection; Peer observation; Prizes; Forums.
- **Internationalisation**: LLM–Europe, Bangalore, MBA–Mumbai.
- **Estates**: Emergency decant of PGRs to create UG rooms.
- **Finance** – Targets now met for 5 years.
Challenges

- **Staffing:** Succession planning; return on investment, staff retention & development (balance intellectual ambition with financial reality).
- **Programmes:** Attractive, efficient, meet professional and government agendas; work experience; PGT review.
- **Student recruitment and retention:** Home and overseas.
- **RAE2008:** Impact of results.
- **Income Generation/Collaboration/Sponsorship**
- **Space:** DHP co-location, improve quality; PGR; social space.
- **Resources:** Library budgets.
Aspirations

- To be a major international centre for arts and social science research and teaching - strategic but also opportunistic.
- Theoretically informed; strong disciplines; permeable boundaries across Colleges: Culture, Legacy & Artefact; Energy; Health; International Development; Modern Thought.
- Centre for Advanced Studies as hub for research centres.
- On campus cultural enhancement.
- Maintain funded numbers; overseas recruitment.
- Increase research and third party income.
- An estate which matches our other aspirations!
STRUCTURES

Achievements:

• IBES – The Institute of Biological and Environmental Sciences: Addressing the biological consequences of environmental change
• School of Medicine restructuring: To create simplified and coherent line-management structures

Opportunities:

• Merger with the Rowett Research Institute

Aspirations:

• Investors in People
• Achieving the Best
• Effective Cross-College working in institutional priority areas such as International Development, ACES, sustainable pooling
ACES
Aberdeen Centre for Environmental Sustainability

Interdisciplinary research centre linking natural, physical and social sciences with stakeholders and policy makers to develop solutions for environmental sustainability.
TEACHING

Achievements:
• Industrial placements
• Biological challenges
• Second Year Science Skills Course
• Use of personal response system handsets

Challenges/Opportunities:
• Recruitment – New Products/increased promotion in UK and abroad/ERASMUS agreements
• Science Promotion
• Retention

Aspirations:
• Dentistry
RESEARCH

Achievements:

• Current total grant income of £140 million
• In the last three years there has been a 26% increase in total research awards and an 87% increase in research grant income
• Large awards

Challenges/Opportunities:

• Awaiting RAE results…
• 2 new research institutes in the College

Aspiration:

• Achieving the next level of international competitiveness
Institute of Biological and Environmental Sciences (IBES)
INFRASTRUCTURE

Achievements:
- Matthew Hay Teaching and Learning Centre – fundraising target achieved
- LSI – on time, on budget and fully occupied as soon as complete
- Oceanlab 2 – contractor now on site
- Zoology Building Refurbishment – complete Summer 2008
- Royal Society/Wolfson Foundation Tissue Engineering Laboratory refurbishment

Challenges/Opportunities:
- Dental Institute – due for completion 2009/10
- Pressure on space on both Foresterhill and Old Aberdeen campuses
- Rowett Research Institute

Aspirations:
- LSI 2 – scoping exercise for feasibility underway
- Bioplex
- Imaging Centre incorporating cyclotron
INFRASTRUCTURE
Senate Report

PROFESSOR ALBERT A. RODGER
VICE-PRINCIPAL, HEAD OF COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

June 2007
Since the Inception of the College of Physical Sciences (2003)

- Introduced staff change of about 40% within our College
- Influx of internationally highly regarded scientists
- New discipline & major new taught programmes launched
- Four fold increase in research grant & contract income
- 27% of staff externally funded
- College Income projected to reach £29m in 2007/08

Achievements

46% of research income now from research councils

Participation in funding council sponsored research pooling initiatives and strategic partnerships that create scientific networks across Scotland and across disciplines
Achievements: International Staff Recruitment

- Chair in Mathematical Sciences, from Ohio State University
- Chair in Pure Mathematics, from University of Birmingham
- Chair in Pure Mathematics, from Université Claude Bernard, Lyon
- Chair in Mathematics, from Reading University
- Chair in Mathematics, from University of Georgia, USA
- Vassili Gorbounov, Chair in Mathematics, from University of Kentucky
- Kilgour Chair in Geology, from Woods Hole Oceanographic Inst./MIT
- Chair in Materials Chemistry, from University of Dundee
- Chair in Human Environment Interactions, from Louvain University
- Chair in Engineering Hydraulics, from Nat. Inst. for Water and Atm. Res., New Zealand
- Chair in Geosciences, (SEERAD Chief Scientific Adviser)
- Chair in Complex & Non-Linear Systems, University of Sao Paulo
- William Neill, Chair in Spatial Planning from Queen’s Belfast
- John Nelson, Chair in Transport from Newcastle University
- Alexey Bondal, Chair in Mathematics from Russian Academy of Science
- Chair in Engineering Dynamics, from University of Manchester (FREng)
- Neil Price, Chair in Archaeology, University of Stockholm
- Chair in Engineering Dynamics from University of Cambridge (FRS)
- Robert McMeeking, Chair in Engineering Materials from University of California, SB
- Douglas Price, Chair in Archaeological Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Ron Steel, Chair in Geology from University of Texas at Austin
- Chair in Computing Science, Carnegie Mellon University
Achievements: Major Awards & Commercialisation

- $5.3M for International Technology Alliance (ITA) programme in Network and Information Sciences.
- Second (£1m+) Leverhulme grant to fund human-environment interactions research.
- Industry funded (£1m+) research on reservoir modelling and distribution.
- EPSRC Platform Grant – Natural Language Generation (£6m+).
- £897k from the BBSRC @ SysMo Initiative – cross College.
- EBP: Aberdeen business with big idea for tackling climate change wins £40,000 prize in Shell Springboard competition.
- Blue Flow: Enterprise Fellowship Award from Royal Society of Edinburgh/Scottish Enterprise.
- Brinker: Locate a Subsea Umbilical Leak for Norsk Hydro.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archaeological Science</td>
<td>New in 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Centre for Marine Bio-Diversity; ScotChem;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRP Institute for Medical Technologies (with Engineering)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing Science</td>
<td>SICSA; ScotGrid; NRP Institute for Computational Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Institute of Energy Technologies (with Geosciences);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRP Institute for Energy &amp; Clean Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Centre for Applied Dynamics Research;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Centre for Micro &amp; Nanomechanics;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRP Telford Institute; SULSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geosciences</td>
<td>Institute for Coastal Science &amp; Management;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Centre for Transport Research; SAGES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>UK Institute for Fundamental Physics; SUPA II; NRP Centre for Complex Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Institute of Mathematics; (SIMS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anglo-French Network on Representation Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Planning</td>
<td>Centre for Planning &amp; Environmental Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Achievements: Teaching & Learning

Establishment of Science Communication Unit
Award of Academic Staff Teaching Prize

New programmes in:
Spatial Planning
(RPTI accreditation secured)
Archaeology

New programmes in:
Chemical engineering
Petroleum Engineering
Subsea Engineering

Explohub
International PhD Masterclass
(20 countries represented)

New ventures:
Global Challenges
Systems Biology & Complex Systems
Challenges: Undergraduate Recruitment

Student recruitment - applications 2005 -2007

Average retention across College = 12.7%
Challenges:
Income Growth
Staff & Student Recruitment

CPS Awards 2003 - 2007

CPS Age Profile - all academic, teaching and research staff 2006/7

CPS - Total PGR

CPS: Number of Research-only Staff 2006/07
Challenges: Postgraduate Recruitment

PGT Students/Academic FTE 2005/06
All CoPS subjects

Aberdeen University CPS
7th highest

Growth target
80%
Research Vision

1. To maintain an unwavering commitment to fundamental research, expressed through a diversity of strong, interconnecting, and outwardly reaching, disciplines with the capacity to compete at the highest international level.

2. To create an environment that enables researchers to perform to their highest potential.

3. To be cognisant of, and responsive to, (but not exclusively driven by) the needs of industry, particularly in view of the region’s unique industrial base.