

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

**SENATUS ACADEMICUS**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 26 January 2005**

- Present: Principal, Professor Logan, Dr JG Roberts, Professors Haites, Rodger, MacGregor, Hubbuck, Baker, Macinnes, Killham, Jordan, Dawson, Howe, Webster, Beaumont, Frost, Dr B Fennell, Ms C Macaslan, Professors Secombes, Mitchell, Imrie, Ms DW McKenzie Skene, Professor DW Urwin, Dr IA McFarland, Mr WTC Brotherstone, Miss R Buchan, Ms L Clark, Dr G Coghill, Professor Duff, Dr JC Forbes, Dr J Liversidge, Professors Lurie and Salmon, Dr P Edwards, Dr J Geddes, Dr X Lambin, Dr WD McCausland, Dr MR Masson, Dr P Mealor, Dr H Sinclair, Mr SC Styles, Dr SP Townsend, Dr HM Wallace, Dr RPK Wells, Mr P Richards, Mr C Mair with Ms M Wylie and Ms Judith Niven.
- Apologies: Professors Houlihan, Gane, Lyall, Templeton, Sleeman, Bruce, Fraser, Alexander, Booth, Flin, Watson, Ayres, Professor Saunders, Dr P McGeorge, Dr WF Long, Mrs L Stephen, Professors Burgess and Archbold, Dr P Benson, Professor Blaikie, Dr J Farmer, Dr C Gray, Dr D Hay, Dr J MacDowall, Mrs ML Ross, Dr J Skakle, Professor Syrotinski, Dr E van Teijlingen, Professor Watson and Ms D White

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND OF GRADUATION CEREMONIES HELD IN NOVEMBER 2004 AND JANUARY 2005**

907. The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2004 and of the Graduation Ceremonies held in November 2004 and January 2005 were approved.

**STATEMENT BY PRINCIPAL**

- 908.1 The Principal reported that a printed statement entitled 'Principal's Update' was being mailed to staff and may have been received by some already. In selecting highlights from this message to the University community he expressed his great pleasure at Professor Tom Devine and Dr Hugh Barron receiving OBEs and Margaret Main an MBE in the recent Honours List.
- 908.2 The Principal reported that his January message to staff commenced by extending his gratitude and congratulations to the University Community. He believed that the University was in extremely good shape following the recent restructuring and he felt most positive about the University's future. Recruitment during the last year had been particularly pleasing, with almost thirty professorial appointments and others at more junior levels having been made, all of outstanding calibre and potential. Student recruitment had also gone well for the current academic year and early indications were that applications for 2005 entry were encouraging. There had also been an enormous surge in activity in research grant successes in recent months across all areas of the University. Recent, substantial, grants from the AHRB and the EPSRC were noted, together with other significant sums either being awarded or anticipated in the near future. Further details of these grants were provided in the Principal's Update.
- 908.3 The Principal then invited Professor Logan to comment further on recent research grant awards and on the approach being taken by the Research Councils to full economic costing.
- 908.4 Professor Logan reported that, on an annualised award cycle, the University's rolling programme of grant awards exceeded £40 million, which was extremely encouraging. And the Research Councils had recently announced that they would support 80% of the full economic cost of research to cover indirect, including infrastructure, costs. This would be fully implemented in 2006/07, with some funding being made available in the interim years. The

combination of increased grant income and the introduction of full economic costing was extremely good news and should place the University on a much firmer financial footing.

### **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING: 2003-2004**

- 909.1 Dr Roberts presented the University Committee on Teaching and Learning's fifth annual report to the Senate, which had been circulated to members (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes). He drew Senate's attention to the data on student progress and retention, which suggested a pleasing decline in the number of full-time students who withdrew from the University in the last academic year and an improvement in the number of those who had returned to study. He believed that these trends reflected the various steps taken by the University in the past two years to improve student retention and progression. The number of students who left the University without a qualification had continued to fall in the last academic year, which reflected Senate's decision to award undergraduate certificates and diplomas in higher education to those who had accumulated sufficient credits. The number of students who withdrew permanently without having achieved any award was now less than 5% of the University's total full-time undergraduate population, a figure confirmed by the recent national *Performance Indicators for HE*. Dr Roberts hoped that our performance in encouraging retention and progression would continue as all three Colleges were looking at ways of enhancing the first year student experience.
- 909.2 In regard to academic appeals, Senate noted that although the number of undergraduate appeals had continued to rise, fewer appeals were being judged to be incompetent, more were being resolved at the School stage and significantly more students were accepting the decisions of Heads of School in response to their appeals. As a consequence, fewer appeals were being upheld by the Senate Academic Appeals Committees. Importantly, no appeal from the last academic year was still under consideration. All of these figures indicated that the changes to the academic appeals procedures agreed by the Senate in the last academic year were having a positive impact both for students and for the University.
- 909.3 On a less positive note, Senate noted a rise in the number of plagiarism cases after a sharp fall in the previous year. This was despite attempts to provide better guidance and changing the procedures for dealing with first time offenders in years one and two. Related to this issue, the University had agreed to use the new Plagiarism Advisory and Detection Service which, in its new form, was much less administratively cumbersome.
- 909.4 In closing his report, Dr Roberts highlighted good progress on several fronts in regard to Quality Enhancement, particularly the effective collaboration with the Students' Association in reviewing the arrangements for class representation. He reminded Senate that, following formal approval of the Reflective Analysis by Senate, the document would be submitted to the QAA within the next week as part of the formal preparations for the impending enhancement led institutional review. Further information would be distributed in due course to those whom the Reviewers wished to meet during their visits in March and April. Before inviting comments or questions, Dr Roberts recorded UCTL's thanks to the Registry staff who supported the work that had been reflected in the report, and in particular the huge contribution of the Deputy Academic Registrar, Dr Gillian Mackintosh.
- 909.5 During the debate that followed, Dr Roberts noted a concern in regard to the staff resource the University was committing to support disabled students. He agreed to refer this matter to the Sub-Committee on Disabilities, of which he was Convener, for consideration. He also agreed to refer to the UCTL, after consultation with the College Directors of Teaching and Learning, the Students' Associations President's hope that all Schools would use the new Plagiarism Detection Service rather than it being used selectively, in order to ensure that all students were being subject to the same level of scrutiny.

## **REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY COURT**

(14 December 2004)

910.1 The Senate noted the actions taken by the University Court at its meeting of 14 December 2004, as under:

### **1. Draft Resolution No of 2004 [Degree of Doctor *Honoris Causa* (DHC)]**

910.2 The University Court agreed that the draft Resolution [Degree of Doctor *Honoris Causa* (DHC)] as recommended by the Senatus Academicus, be forwarded to the General Council and be made generally available in terms of Section 6 of the Universities (Scotland) Act, 1966.

### **2. Validation Agreement with the University of the Highlands and Islands Millennium Institute**

910.3 The University Court, on the recommendation of the Senate, approved the Validation Agreement between the University and the UHI Millennium Institute in regard to the delivery of degree programmes in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering with Nuclear Decommissioning Studies.

## **REPORT FROM THE JOINT PLANNING, FINANCE AND ESTATES COMMITTEE**

(30 November 2004)

911.1 The Senate noted the actions taken by the Joint Planning, Finance and Estates Committee (JPFEC) at its meeting of 30 November 2004, as under:

### **1. “Going Rates” for Admission 2005/06**

911.2 The JPFEC approved the recommendation that there would be no change to the “going rates” for 2006 entry for any undergraduate degrees other than for the MBChB degree, which would be changed in regard to A Levels and the Irish Leaving Certificate (Higher Level).

### **2. Admissions Targets for Entry 2005/06**

911.3 The JPFEC approved admissions targets for entry in the academic year 2005/06.

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

(10 December 2004)

### **1. Programme Revalidation**

912.1 The Senate approved a revision to Appendix 3.8 of the Academic Quality Handbook whereby, in future, the formal revalidation of programmes would become part of the Internal Teaching Review process (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes).

### **2. Updates to the Quality Enhancement Strategy and Action Plan**

912.2 The Senate approved the following revision to Section 6 of the Quality Enhancement Strategy (QES):

## 6 RELATIONSHIP OF THE QES TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN

### Replace old with new Section 6 as follows:

- 6.1 The University of Aberdeen's *Strategic Plan* embraces SHEFC's vision for quality in HE, and so provides a wider framework within which the QES operates. The *Strategic Plan* states that:

*The University seeks to enhance continuously the quality of learning and teaching. This it does through the development and implementation of policies which ensure that its courses and programmes are enriched by scholarship and research, underpinned by effective learning support services, informed by best academic practice, and subject to effective internal peer review which takes account of student feedback and the outcomes of external audit.*

- 6.2 The relationship between the QES and the *Strategic Plan* is reciprocal. The QES informs actions to be taken as part of the *Strategic Plan*, and its yearly operational plan. To maximise alignment between the QES and the *Strategic Plan*, the Appendix to the QES and the relevant section of the operational plan share the same action points.

- 912.3 The above change was made in order to align the QES with the new Strategic Plan. The Senate also noted the action taken in response to the QES Action Plan for 2003/2004 (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes) and approved the alignment of the Action Plan for 2004/2005 with that of the Strategic Plan's 2004/2005 operational plan for Quality Learning as detailed at <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/admin/ambition.shtml#qllearning>

### 3. Resits at Honours – reporting of Level 4 compensation

- 912.4 In introducing a requirement for students to achieve 480 credit points, including 90 credit points at Level 4, Senate approved in June 2004 the introduction of a system of compensatory credit for students achieving CAS 6, 7 or 8 in a Level 4 course (minute 867.1 refers). In such cases, a student may be awarded compensatory level 1 credit, up to a maximum of 30 credit points. The practical mechanisms for the award of this compensatory credit was not discussed at the time approval was given to this.

- 912.5 The Senate therefore approved the following procedure:

- Compensation should be awarded in respect of performance in the programme as a whole and not the individual course. As such, the Examiners should only determine the amount of compensatory credit to be awarded when the final degree class is determined. The hard-copy programme results list should be annotated to indicate the number of compensatory credit points, where appropriate. This will ensure that a student who has failed more than 30 credit points of Level 4 courses is not awarded too much compensatory credit.
- Such credit will be entered as 'unnamed' credit on the student's record.

### 4. Staff Development

- 912.6 The Senate noted that the University Committee on Teaching and Learning (UCTL) had received the Educational & Staff Development Unit Annual Report (2003/2004). The UCTL had noted several key developments which had occurred during 2003/2004:

- The accreditation by the Higher Education Academy (HEA) of the Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education Teaching (PGCertHE), which provides a pathway for staff members to become Registered Practitioners of the HEA.

- The development of Personal Development Planning (PDP) tools for undergraduate and postgraduate students. The Committee noted that PDP would be of particular importance in the future in promoting the employability graduates of the University.
- The establishment, in response to the Roberts' Report, of a generic skills programme for postgraduate students.

912.7 The UCTL had been concerned to note that, despite current discussions within the Higher Education Sector as a whole, the University had no clear policy requiring staff to commit to their pedagogic development. The UCTL agreed that their concerns on this issue, and also regarding the need to re-examine the University's staff induction process to further ensure that staff was equipped for their role, should be referred to the Staffing and Development Committee.

912.8 The Senate also noted that UCTL had received a discussion paper in which possibilities for the restructuring of the organisation of Staff Development for Teaching and Learning, through the establishment of a Learning and Teaching Centre to include the Educational and Staff Development Unit (EDSU), the Learning Technology Unit (LTU) and the Academic Learning and Study Unit (ALSU), were presented. Whilst the Committee endorsed the proposal to establish a single centre for learning and teaching, with the aim of providing a school focused approach to development supported from the centre, they are of the opinion that the University should consider a range of options for the location and final structure of such a single centre.

## **5. Plagiarism Detection**

912.9 The Senate noted that the UCTL had approved the recommendation that the University sign-up to the Plagiarism Detection Service for the next three years.

## **6. Levels Descriptors**

912.10 The Senate noted that Alan Runcie (QAA Scottish Office/Universities Scotland) had agreed to run a workshop for the University on the use of the SCQF level descriptors to enhance students' learning. Details to be arranged.

## **7. Honours Degree Classification**

912.11 The Senate noted that, as part of the work of the Quality Enhancement Theme on Assessment, which reviewed the recommendations from the UK Government White Paper *The Future of Higher Education*, several issues were currently being reviewed at a sector level. Work was currently being undertaken to review the system of Honours Degree Classification: the Theme Group had identified and considered a number of approaches and systems, and agreed that there was a need for wider discussions with the higher education sector in Scotland, and throughout the UK, about the issues and emerging options. Any future developments in this area would be brought to the attention of the UCTL and the Senate in due course.

## **8. Post Qualification Application Systems**

912.12 The Senate noted that, further to the publication of the final report from the Admissions to Higher Education Review in September 2004, an implementation group had been formed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to examine how a post-qualification application system could be established. The UCTL and Senate would be kept informed of any relevant future developments in this area.

## 9. Interim Report from the Working Group on Student Feedback

912.13 The Senate noted that the UCTL had received an interim report from the Working Group on Student Feedback.

### REPORT FROM THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEES

#### 1. Degree; Diploma and Certificate Regulations

913.1 The Senate approved, for its part, and agreed to forward to the University Court, the draft Resolution 'Changes in Regulations for Various Degrees' (copy filed with the principal copy of the minute), which enacted the changes in Degree Regulations recommended by the Academic Standards Committee since June 2004.

913.2 The Senate also empowered the Conveners of the Academic Standards Committees to consider and approve, on its behalf, any drafting amendments to the above document which may be suggested by the Business Committee of the General Council in the course of its consideration of the draft Resolution, or which may come to light following circulation of the Senate papers.

#### 2. New and Discontinued Courses and Programmes

913.3 The Senate noted that the Academic Standards Committees, on the recommendation of the relevant Colleges, had approved changes to the list of courses and programmes available, as under:

##### (A) INDIVIDUAL DEGREE AND DIPLOMA COURSES (UNDERGRADUATE)

##### Accountancy

Withdrawal of courses: AC2022 and AC4016.

Introduction of new level 2 course: 'Business Finance'.

##### Anthropology

Introduction of new level 4 courses: 'Anthropological Theory 2' and 'Gender, Sex, War and Peace'.

##### Biological Sciences

Withdrawal of course ZO4807.

##### Biological Sciences (Clinterty)

Introduction of new level 3 course: 'Specialist Animal Care: Avians'.

##### Biotechnology

Introduction of new level 3 course: 'Working Out? Placement and Career Skills'.

##### Celtic

Introduction of new level 2 courses: 'Advanced Gaelic Language 2' (with effect from 2004/2005) 'Arthur in Medieval Welsh and Gaelic Tradition', 'The Vikings in Scotland AD 795-1266' and 'Gaelic Folklore' (with effect from 2004/2005).

Introduction of new level 3 courses: 'Ireland and Scotland in the Twelfth Century A', 'Picts Gaels and Britons: North Britain to AD 900 A', '17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Gaelic Poetry in its Context A', 'Level 3 Gaelic Language 1', 'Level 3 Gaelic Language 2', 'Level 3 Gaelic Language 3', '19<sup>th</sup> Century Gaelic Poetry in its Social Context A', 'Gaelic Dialectology A', 'The Gaelic Poetry Renaissance A', 'Celts, Germans and the Making of Modern Nationalism A', 'Medieval Literary Welsh 1A', 'Modern Literary Welsh 2A', 'Druids and Human Sacrifice A', 'Visualising the Celts: From Classical Sculptures to Modern Films A', 'The Gaelic Novel A', 'Traditionalism and Modernism: Gaelic Poetry 1900-1950 A', 'Early Modern Gaelic Language and Texts A', 'The Gaelic Short Story A' (with effect from 2004/2005), 'Scottish Gaels in the New World A' (with effect from 2004/2005), 'Language Policy and Planning and the Insular Celtic Languages A' (with effect from 2004/2005) and 'Arthur and his Retinue A' (with effect from 2004/2005).

Introduction of new level 4 courses: 'Gaelic Senior Honours Seminar', 'Ireland and Scotland in the Twelfth Century B', 'Picts Gaels and Britons: North Britain to AD 900 B', '17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Gaelic Poetry in its Context B', 'Level 4 Gaelic Language 1', 'Level 4 Gaelic Language 2', 'Level 4 Gaelic Language 3', '19<sup>th</sup> Century Gaelic Poetry in its Social Context B', 'Gaelic Dialectology B', 'The Gaelic Poetry Renaissance B', 'Celts, Germans and the Making of Modern Nationalism B', 'Modern Literary Welsh 1B', 'Modern Literary Welsh 2B', 'Druids and Human Sacrifice B', 'Visualising the Celts: From Classical Sculptures to Modern Films B', 'The Gaelic Novel B', 'Traditionalism and Modernism: Gaelic Poetry 1900-1950 B' and 'Early Modern Gaelic Language and Texts B', 'The Gaelic Short Story B' (with effect from 2004/2005), 'Scottish Gaels in the New World B' (with effect from 2004/2005), 'Language Policy and Planning and the Insular Celtic Languages B' (with effect from 2004/2005) and 'Arthur and his Retinue B' (with effect from 2004/2005).

Withdrawal of courses: CE2025, CE2026, CE210, CE3026, CE3032, CE3035, CE3036, CE3037, CE3038, CE3040, CE3050, CE3052, CE3535, CE3536, CE3540, CE3541, CE3543, CE3552, CE4020, CE4032, CE4035, CE4036, CE4038, CE4040, CE4050, CE4052, CE4535, CE4536, CE4540 and CE4552.

### Computing Science

Introduction of new Level 1 courses: 'Foundations of Computing Science 1', 'Foundations of Computing Science 2' and 'Web Technology'.

Withdrawal of courses: CS1009, CS1507 and C1511.

### Cultural History

Withdrawal of course CU4522.

### Divinity

Introduction of new level 1 course: 'Beliefs Matter! Faith and Spirituality in an Age of 'Unbelief'.

Introduction of new level 2 courses: 'Himalayan Buddhism', 'Prophets and Psalms (with Texts in Hebrew)', 'Covenant and Wisdom (with Texts in Hebrew)', and 'The European Reformations: History and Ideas'

Introduction of amended level 3 courses: 'Exploring the Tradition of Christian Ethics' (replacing DR3067), 'Theology of Karl Barth' (replacing DR4550).

Introduction of new level 4 courses: 'Contemporary Issues in the Study of the Hebrew Bible', 'Christian Ethics in a Technological Age: Problems and Prospects', 'Psalms for the Practice of Life: Prayer as a Context of Christian Formation' and 'Interpreting Religious Fundamentalism'.

Withdrawal of courses: DR1528, DR2520, DR3566, DR4049 and DR4550.

### Economics

Introduction of new level 3 course: 'International Economics'.

Withdrawal of course EC3521.

### Engineering

Introduction of new level 5 courses: 'Continuous & Discrete Materials' and 'VLSI and Digital Architecture'.

Withdrawal of course EG40GF.

### English

Introduction of new level 3 course: 'Discourse Analysis'.

Introduction of amended level 4 courses: 'The Victorian Woman in Contemporary Women's Fiction' (replacing EL40DG) and 'Frankenstein to Einstein: Literature and Science'.

Introduction of new level 4 courses: 'Culture and the Savage', 'Forensic Phonetics', 'Kingdom of the Mad: Self and Place in 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Poetry', 'Modern Dramatic Masters: Beckett, Pinter, Stoppard' and 'Romantic Woman'.

Withdrawal of courses: EL38LC, EL40DG, EL43GO, EL43WB, EL43ZN, EL40JR, EL45JQ, EL45WA, EL45WB and EL48XN.

### French

Withdrawal of courses: FR1010, FR2007, FR2008 and FR2010.

### Geography (subject to final approval)

Introduction of new courses: 'Skills and Techniques in Geography', 'Volcanic Hazards' and 'Applied Geomorphology'.

Withdrawal of courses GG2505, GG2506, GG3018, GG3520, GG4012 and GG4524.

### Geology & Petroleum Geology

Introduction of new level 4 Advanced Study Elective, GL459V.

Withdrawal of GL459T.

### Gender Studies (formerly Women's Studies)

Introduction of amended level 4 course: 'Studying Gender' (formerly WS4002).

Withdrawal of course: WS4002.



## Hispanic Studies

Introduction of new level 3 courses: 'Urban Traditions in the Hispanic World A', 'La Movida Madrileña A' and 'Aspects of Twentieth-Century Cuban Literature and Culture A' (with effect from 2004/2005).

Introduction of new level 4 course: 'Urban Traditions in the Hispanic World B', 'La Movida Madrileña B' and 'Aspects of Twentieth-Century Cuban Literature and Culture B' (with effect from 2004/2005).

Withdrawal of courses: SP3585 and SP4585.

## History

Introduction of amended level 1 courses: 'Scotland c1690-1850: Union, Revolution and Empire' (replacing HI1012) and 'Scotland c1850-2000: From Empire to Devolution' (replacing HI1511).

Introduction of amended level 2 courses: 'Europe and Scotland, c1200–1500': Christendom to Crisis' (replacing HI2009) and 'Europe and Scotland c1500-1800: From Reformation to Revolution' (replacing HI2510).

Introduction of new level 3 course: 'World War Two: International Perspectives'.

Withdrawal of courses: HI1012, HI1511, HI2009, HI2510, HI3079 and HI3579.

## History of Art

Introduction of amended level 1 course: 'Modern Art' (replacing HA1502).

Introduction of new level 1 course: Introduction to Art History: Case Studies in Western Art'.

Withdrawal of courses: HA1002 and HA1502.

## Land Economy

Withdrawal of courses: LE1010, LE1511, LE2025 and LE2526.

## Law

Introduction of new level 4 courses: 'Peoples, Indigenous Peoples and Minorities in International Law', 'International Economic Law: The World Trade Organization', 'Tax Law (Honours)' and 'European Economic Law'.

## Lifelong Learning

Introduction of new level 3 course: 'Working with Children, Young People and their Families 3' (with effect from 2004/2005) and 'Wider Professional Role in Further Education (Online)' (with effect from 2004/2005).

## Management Studies

Introduction of new level 4 courses: 'Business Research Methods' and 'Business Dissertations'.

Withdrawal of courses: MS3528, MS4001 and MS4029.

## Marine Resource Management

Withdrawal of course: MR2005.

## Medicine

Introduction of new level 4 courses: 'The Second Sex'? Women in Culture and Society', 'Europe and Scotland c1200-1500: Themes and Variations' and 'A Dissection Course in Human Anatomy'.

## Music

Introduction of new level 3 courses: 'Aesthetics of Music' and 'Introduction to Analysis of Music'.

Withdrawal of course: CR3509.

## Philosophy

Introduction of new level 3 courses: 'The Meaning of Life', 'Ethical-Religious Themes in Wittgenstein, Levinas and Derrida', 'Truth' and 'Philosophy and "Ordinary Life"'

## Politics and International Relations

Introduction of amended level 3 course: 'Political Parties in Britain' (replacing PI4536).

Introduction of new level 3 course: Political Communication (with effect from 2004/2005).

Introduction of amended level 4 courses: 'Comparative Electoral Systems' (replacing PI3026), 'Beyond the State in World Politics' (replacing PI4547), and 'French Party Systems' (replacing PI3545).

Introduction of new level 4 courses: 'Origins of Foreign Policy', '-International Peace' (with effect from 2004/2005) and 'Terrorism: History, Definitions and Perspectives' (with effect from 2004/2005).

Withdrawal of courses: PI3026, PI3545, PI4035, PI4041, PI4042, PI4536, PI4544, PI4545 and PI4547.

## Property

Introduction of new level 1 course: 'Understanding Statistics', 'Introduction to Investment and Finance'.

Introduction of new level 2 course: 'Land and Property Economics',

Introduction of new level 4 course: 'Housing Economics'

## (B) UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE AND DEGREE PROGRAMMES

### Arts

Introduction of new designated programmes 'Gaelic Studies'; 'Gender Studies'.

Withdrawal of designated programme 'Women's Studies'.

Introduction of new honours programmes: 'Accountancy-Economics'; 'Anthropology-Economics'; 'Anthropology-Gaelic Studies'; 'Anthropology-Gender Studies'; 'Anthropology with Women's Studies'; 'Cultural History-Gender Studies'; 'Divinity-Gender Studies'; 'Economics'; 'Economics-English'; 'Economics-Entrepreneurship'; 'Economics-Finance'; 'Economics-French'; 'Economics-Geography'; 'Economics-German'; 'Economics-Hispanic Studies'; 'Economics-History'; 'Economics-International Relations'; 'Economics-Management Studies'; 'Economics –Mathematics'; 'Economics-Philosophy'; 'Economics-Politics'; 'Economics-Property'; 'Economics-Social Research'; 'Economics-Sociology'; 'English-Gender Studies'; 'Finance-Gender Studies'; 'French-Gender Studies'; 'Gaelic Studies-Cultural History'; 'Gaelic Studies-Divinity'; 'Gaelic Studies-Economics'; 'Gaelic Studies-English'; 'Gaelic Studies-Film Studies'; 'Gaelic Studies-French'; 'Gaelic Studies-Geography'; 'Gaelic Studies-German'; 'Gaelic Studies-Hispanic Studies'; 'Gaelic Studies-History'; 'Gaelic Studies-History of Art'; 'Gaelic Studies-Language and Linguistics'; 'Gaelic Studies-Management Studies'; 'Gaelic Studies-Mathematics'; 'Gaelic Studies with Music Studies'; 'Gaelic Studies-Religious Studies'; 'Gaelic Studies-Social Research'; 'Gaelic Studies-Sociology'; 'Geography-Gender Studies'; 'German-Gender Studies'; 'Hispanic Studies-Gender Studies'; 'History-Gender Studies'; 'History of Art-Gender Studies'; 'International Relations-Gender Studies'; 'Philosophy-Gender Studies'; 'Politics-Gender Studies'; 'Religious Studies-Gender Studies'; 'Sociology-Gender Studies'.

Withdrawal of honours programmes: 'Accountancy-Economics (Economic Science)'; 'Accountancy-Economics (Political Economy)'; 'Anthropology-Economics (Economic Science)'; 'Anthropology-Economics (Political Economy)'; 'Anthropology-Celtic'; 'Anthropology with Women's Studies'; 'Celtic-Cultural History'; 'Celtic-Divinity'; 'Celtic-Economics (Economic Science)'; 'Celtic-Economics (Political Economy)'; 'Celtic-English'; 'Celtic-Film Studies'; 'Celtic-French'; 'Celtic-Geography'; 'Celtic-German'; 'Celtic-Hispanic Studies'; 'Celtic-History'; 'Celtic-History of Art'; 'Celtic-Language and Linguistics'; 'Celtic-Management Studies'; 'Celtic-Mathematics'; 'Celtic-Religious Studies'; 'Celtic-Social Research'; 'Celtic-Sociology'; 'Celtic with Music Studies'; 'Cultural History with Women's Studies'; 'Divinity with Women's Studies'; 'Economics (Economic Science)'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-English'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Entrepreneurship'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Finance'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-French'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Geography'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-German'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Hispanic Studies'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-History'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-International Relations'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Management Studies'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Mathematics'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Philosophy'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Politics'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Property'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Social Research'; 'Economics (Economic Science)-Sociology'; 'Economics (Political Economy)'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-English'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Entrepreneurship'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Finance'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-French'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Geography'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-German'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Hispanic Studies'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-History'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-International Relations'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Management Studies'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Mathematics'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Philosophy'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Politics'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Property'; 'Economics (Political Economy)-Sociology'; 'English with Women's Studies'; 'Finance with Women's Studies'; 'French with Women's Studies'; 'Geography with Women's Studies'; 'German with Women's Studies'; 'Hispanic Studies with Women's Studies'; 'History with Women's Studies'; 'History of Art with Women's Studies'; 'International Relations with Women's Studies'; 'Philosophy with Women's Studies'; 'Politics with Women's Studies'; 'Religious Studies with Women's Studies'; 'Sociology with Women's Studies'.

### Divinity

Introduction of new honours programmes 'BTh with French'; 'BTh with Gaelic'; 'BTh with German'; 'BTh with Spanish'.

## Law

Introduction of new honours programme: 'LLB with Options in Gaelic Language'.

## Science

Introduction of new designated programmes: 'Computing Science (Biomedical Computing)'; 'Engineering-Physics'; 'Health Sciences'; 'Neuroscience with Psychology'.

Withdrawal of designated programmes: 'Computing Science-Statistics'; 'Food Production, Quality and Utilisation'; 'Mathematics-Statistics'; 'Neuroscience'; 'Psychology-Statistics'.

Introduction of new honours programmes: 'Agricultural Sciences'; 'Biomedical Materials Chemistry'; 'Biotechnology (Applied Molecular Biology) with Industrial Placement'; 'Chemistry for the Offshore Industry'; 'Chemistry with E-Chemistry'; 'Computing Science (Biomedical Computing)'; 'Forestry'; 'Health Sciences'; 'Health Sciences (Health Services Research)'; 'Health Sciences (Health Promotion)'; 'Health Sciences (Health and Society)'; 'Health Sciences (Health and Nutrition)'; 'Health Sciences (Health and Sport)'; 'Health Sciences (Health and Women's Studies)'; 'Mathematics and Engineering Mathematics'; 'Molecular Microbiology'; 'Molecular Microbiology with Industrial Placement'.

Withdrawal of honours programmes 'Biomedical Computing Science (subject to Court approval)'; 'Chemistry in the Life Sciences'; 'Chemistry with New Materials Chemistry'; 'Food Quality and Utilisation'; 'Neuroscience'; 'Organic Agriculture'.

Introduction of new joint honours programme: 'Engineering Physics'.

Withdrawal of joint honours programmes: 'Computing Science-Statistics'; 'Mathematics-Statistics'; 'Mathematics-Zoology'; 'Psychology-Statistics'.

Introduction of new combined honours programmes: 'Neuroscience with Psychology'.

## (C) POSTGRADUATE COURSES

### Law

Withdrawal of courses LS5030, LS5509 and LS5529.

## (D) POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

### Law

Introduction of new programme 'LLM in International Business Law (Distance Learning)'.  
Amendment to programme 'LLM in Criminal Justice and Human Rights'.

## **ENHANCEMENT-LED INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW: REFLECTIVE ANALYSIS**

- 914.1 The Senate noted that the University must submit a Reflective Analysis document to the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education by 31 January 2005 as part of the Enhancement-Led Institutional Review (ELIR) process that the University would undergo in March and April 2005. The Senate received a summary of the Reflective Analysis for information (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes).

- 914.2 The Senate approved the Reflective Analysis, which was available on the University's intranet at the following address: <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/elir>, and which had been prepared after wide consultation within the University.

### **SENATE POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC APPEALS COMMITTEE**

- 915.1 The Senate noted that the Senate Postgraduate Academic Appeals Committee was currently responsible for considering (a) academic appeals from postgraduate students and (b) representations from postgraduate students in regard to the University's policy on non-progression, discontinuation of attendance on courses and on termination of studies or candidature for an award for which a student was currently registered. At the undergraduate level, representations considered under the latter policy were considered by Students' Progress Committees and not by the Senate Undergraduate Academic Appeals Committee.
- 915.2 The Senate approved a recommendation from the Senate Postgraduate Academic Appeals Committee that it should be titled the Senate Postgraduate Students' Progress Committee when it was considering representations against non-progression, discontinuation or termination, so that it was clear to all concerned, and in particular to students, the role of the Committee in regard to a particular student case. It was proposed that the membership of these two postgraduate committees should be identical.
- 915.3 The Senate also noted that the policy on non-progression, discontinuation of attendance on courses and on termination of studies or candidature for an award would be amended to reflect the above change.

### **ADMISSIONS POLICY**

- 916.1 The Senate approved, for its part, and agreed to forward to the University Court, the Admissions Policy (copy filed with the principal copy of the minutes), on the recommendation of the Student Recruitment and Admissions Committee.
- 916.2 The Senate also noted that Guidance Notes were being prepared in relation to the Admissions Policy.

### **ELECTION OF SENATE ASSESSORS TO THE UNIVERSITY COURT AND THE JOINT PLANNING, FINANCE AND ESTATES COMMITTEE**

- 917.1 The Senate approved the following arrangements for the election of Assessors to the University Court *vice* Professor Cairns Smith and Mr WTC Brotherstone, and to the Joint Planning, Finance and Estates Committee *vice* Professor Cairns Smith.

#### Election of Assessors to Court

Issue of call for nominations	Friday 22 April 2005
Close of call for nominations	Wednesday 4 May 2005 at 5.00 p.m.
Issue of Ballot papers	Friday 6 May 2005
Close of Ballot	Wednesday 18 May 2005 at 5.00 p.m.

#### Election of Assessor to the Joint Planning, Finance and Estates Committee

Issue of Ballot papers	Friday 20 May 2005
Close of Ballot	Wednesday 1 June 2005 at 5.00 p.m.

## **GRADUATION CEREMONIES: JULY 2005**

918.1 The Senate approved the arrangements for the July 2005 Graduation Ceremonies as shown below.

### **Ceremony 1 (Monday 4 July 2005 at 3.00 p.m.)**

Degrees of PhD, MPhil, MRes and MLitt: Anthropology, Politics and International Relations, Sociology

Designated and Honours Degrees of MA: Anthropology (Single and Joint), Economics (Economic Science)-International Relations, Economics (Economic Science)-Politics, Economics (Economic Science)-Social Research, Economics (Political Economy)-International Relations, Finance-International Relations, International Relations (Joint), Legal Studies-Politics, Management Studies-Politics, Management Studies-Sociology, Politics and International Relations, Politics-Sociology, Sociology, Sociology with Women Studies

### **Ceremony 2 (Monday 4 July 2005 at 6.30 p.m.)**

Degrees of PhD, MPhil and MLitt: Accountancy and Finance, Economics, Management Studies, Property

Degrees of MBA

Degrees of MSc Econ

Designated and Honours Degrees of MA: Accountancy (Single and Joint with Economics, Finance or Management Studies), Economics [Economic Science] (Single and Joint with Accountancy, Finance, Management Studies, Mathematics, Property), Economics [Political Economy] (Single and Joint with Finance or Management Studies), Entrepreneurship (Single and Joint), European Management Studies, Finance, Finance-Management Studies, Management Studies (Single and Joint with Mathematics, Psychology), Sports & Leisure Management

### **Ceremony 3 (Tuesday 5 July 2005 at 11.00 a.m.)**

Degrees of PhD, MPhil and MLitt: Celtic, English and Film Studies, French, German, Hispanic Studies

Designated and Honours Degrees of MA: Accountancy-German, Celtic Civilisation (Single and Joint), Economic (Economic Science)-German, English (Single and Joint), European Studies, Film Studies (Joint), French Studies (Single and Joint), Gaelic Studies, German Studies (Single and Joint), Hispanic Studies (Single and Joint), Three European Languages with 20<sup>th</sup> Century Culture, Women's Studies (Single and Joint)

### **Ceremony 4 (Tuesday 5 July 2005 at 3.00 p.m.)**

Degrees of PhD, MPhil and MSc: Biochemistry, Biomedical Sciences, Genetics, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Neuroscience, Physiology, Pharmacology,

Designated and Honours Degrees of BSc: Biochemistry (Single and Joint), Biotechnology (Single and Joint), Genetics (Single and Joint), Human Life Sciences, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Molecular Microbiology, Neuroscience with Psychology, Pharmacology, Physiology, Sports and Exercise Science, Sports Studies (Sport and Society)

Designated and Honours Degrees of BSc Biomedical Sciences

Higher Degrees in Medicine

Designated and Honours Degrees of BSc Medical Sciences\*

Designated and Honours Degrees of BSc Health Sciences

### **Ceremony 5 (Tuesday 5 July 2005 at 6.30 p.m.)**

Designated and Honours Degrees of MA: Accountancy-Geography, Countryside and Environmental Management, Environmental Geography, Geography (Single and Joint). Rural Development, Rural Land and Business Management, Rural Planning and Economic Development

Degrees and Honours Degrees of BLE

Degrees and Honours Degrees of BScMRM

Degrees of PhD, MPhil, MRes and MSc: Agriculture Economics, Chemistry, Geography, Geology, Land Economy

Honours Degrees of MChem

Designated and Honours Degrees of BSc: Chemistry, Geography (Single and Joint), Geology-Petroleum Geology, Geoscience, Medicinal Chemistry, Physical Geography

### **Ceremony 6 (Wednesday 6 July 2005 at 11.00 a.m.)**

Degrees of PhD, MPhil, MRes and MSc: Agriculture and Forestry, Plant and Soil Science, Zoology

Degrees of BSc

Designated and Honours Degrees of BSc: Animal Care, Animal Ecology, Animal Health and Welfare, Animal Science, Biology, Conservation Biology, Ecology, Environmental Science, Environmental Science (Pollution and Reclamation), Equine Science, Marine Biology, Organic Agriculture, Parasitology, Plant and Soil Sciences, Tropical Environmental Science, Zoology,

Designated and Honours Degrees of BScAgr

Designated and Honours Degrees of BScFor

### **Ceremony 7 (Wednesday 6 July 2005 at 3.00 p.m.)**

Degrees of PhD, MPhil and MLitt: History, History of Art, Philosophy

Degrees of MA (Combined Studies Programme)

Designated and Honours Degrees of MA: Cultural History (Single and Joint), Divinity (Single and Joint), Economics (Economic Science)-Philosophy, Economics (Political Economy)-Philosophy, History (Single and Joint), History of Art, Mental Philosophy, Philosophy (Single and Joint), Religious Studies, Scottish Archaeology

Higher Degrees in Divinity

Degrees and Honours Degrees of BD, BTh

### **Ceremony 8 (Thursday 7 July 2005 at 11.00 a.m.)**

Designated and Honours Degrees of MA: Computing (Single and Joint), Mathematics (Single and Joint)

Degrees of PhD, MPhil and MSc: Computing Science, Mathematics, Physics

Designated and Honours Degrees of BSc: Computing Science (Single and Joint), Internet Information Systems, Mathematics (Single and Joint), Physics

Higher Degrees in Engineering

Degrees of MEng, BEng and BSc Eng

### **Ceremony 9 (Thursday 7 July 2005 at 3.00 p.m.)**

Higher Degrees in Law

Degrees and Honours Degrees of LLB

### **Ceremony 10 (Thursday 7 July 2005 at 6.30 p.m.)**

Degree of PhD, MPhil, MRes, MLitt and MSc: Psychology  
Designated and Honours Degrees of MA: Psychology (Single and Joint)  
Designated and Honours Degrees of BSc: Psychology (Single and Joint)  
Higher Degrees in Education  
Degrees of BEd and BA (Education)

### **Ceremony 11 (Friday 8 July 2005 at 11.00 a.m.)**

Degrees of MBChB  
Honours Degrees of BSc Medical Sciences\*

- \* The size of the graduating Medical class means that the BSc Med Sci degree can only be conferred at Ceremony 11 on those who are graduating MBChB at Ceremony 11. In all other cases, the BSc Med Sci degree will be conferred at Ceremony 4.

### **UNIVERSITY ACCOUNTS AND STATEMENT OF ENDOWMENTS**

- 919.1 The Senate noted that the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2004, which were approved by the University Court on 14 December 2004, could be accessed at <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/finance/accounts2004.hti>
- 919.2 Members who wished to discuss any matter arising from the Accounts were asked to contact the Director of Finance by 17 February 2005 and, after such discussions, to indicate if they wished any issue to be discussed at the next meeting of the Senate.
- 919.3 It was noted that copies of the Statement of Endowments for the year ended 31 July 2004 could be obtained on request from the Secretary to the Director of Finance (r.davis@abdn.ac.uk or telephone extension 2115).

### **ELECTION OF RECTOR**

- 920.1 The Senate noted that no nominations had been received for the post of Rector by the due date, and that the office was therefore currently vacant.

### **GRADUATIONS *IN ABSENTIA***

- 920.2 The Senate noted that details of those qualified to receive degrees, diplomas and other awards who had applied to have them conferred *in absentia* could be viewed in the Senate Office of the Registry (see Appendix to Minutes of June 2005).
- 920.3 The Senate agreed to confer the degrees on, and award the diplomas and other qualifications to, the persons stated.