

SENATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of 18 February 2021

Present: Karl Leydecker (Chair), Tracey Slaven, Ruth Taylor, Kath Shennan, Marion Campbell, Abbe Brown, Graeme Nixon, Cheryl Dowie, Ondrej Kucerak, Kirsty Kiezebrink, Georgios Leontidis, Iain McEwan, Amy Bryzgel, Javier González Cuervos, Scott Styles and Rachael Bernard (Clerk)

Apologies for absence were received from: Allan Sim

495. Minutes

495.1 The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2021.

496. Matters Arising

496.1 The Committee noted that an initial meeting with Advance HE had been set up to discuss possible timelines for the effectiveness review.

496.2 It was agreed that there should be an election for the vacancy created on the Review Group following one member's decision to stand down.

496.3 The Committee noted that no nominations had been received for the Rectorial Election. It was likely that the lack of engagement with the process was a result of the disruption caused by the pandemic. It was agreed that rescheduling the election until the next academic year should provide a better opportunity for engagement.

497. Draft Agenda for the meeting of the Senate on 3 March 2021

497.1 In approving the draft agenda for Senate, the Committee noted that the meeting would have a single item for discussion and hence the agenda would not have any of the usual standing items.

497.2 The meeting would discuss a proposed policy for protecting students from disadvantage. The current version of the paper had already been circulated to Senate and would be considered by the appropriate committees before Senate on 3 March.

497.3 The Policy would be returned to Senate for final discussion and approval on 17 March. The Committee agreed that it would be helpful for the final version to give an indication of the changes arising from discussions at the various committees and with students.

498. Draft Agenda for the meeting of the Senate on 18 March 2021

498.1 It was noted that the meeting on 17 March follow the usual format for meetings.

498.2 The meeting would receive the final version of the REF submission. This would not be an opportunity to amend the submission as this would be the final version, but it was important that Senate had an awareness of the submission.

498.3 The expectation was that the draft agenda would include the final version of the Policy on procedure to protect students from disadvantage (minute 497 refers) would be included for approval.

498.4 The Committee noted that there would be a presentation and an opportunity for discussion around Research Culture.

498.4 In approving the draft agenda for Senate, the Committee noted the usual opportunities for questions etc would be included on the agenda.

499. Dates of meetings in 2020/21

499.1 The Committee noted the date of the next meeting to be held in 2020/21:

- Tuesday 13 April 2021 at 10.05 a.m.

499.2 The Committee noted that there would be a significant gap in the scheduled meetings of Senate between the meeting in May and the first meeting of the new academic year and that additional meetings would be scheduled over the summer if emergency items arose.