UEC Digest

This digest provides a short summary of the outcome of the meetings of the meetings of the University Education Committee (UEC) held on 18 January and 24 February 2022. Staff can access the full agenda and papers on the University website.

Presentation on Postgraduate Research

The UEC received as presentation, delivered by Professor Graeme Nixon, Dean of Postgraduate Research, outlining the complexities of the Postgraduate Research (PGR) experience and the ways in which the PGR student journey aligned with the remit of the UEC.

Risk Register

Members of the UEC received and discussed the updated Risk Register for Education.

Second Half Session Update

Members of the UEC received and discussed a paper on the format of the second half-session of academic year 2021/22. Members of the Committee acknowledged the information provided was a reminder of the previously agreed approach to delivery.

Institutional NSS Action Plan

Members of the UEC received updates from the Deans of Educational Innovation and Student Support on the institutional NSS action plan, in respect of two of the identified institutional priorities: Assessment and Feedback and Student Voice.

Academic Discipline Update

Members of the Committee received the paper, providing an update on academic misconduct cases, which detailed the last five years of misconduct cases grouped using various criteria.

Student Mobility Update

Members of the Committee received an update on activity in regard to student mobility.

Policy Mapping to the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Quality Code

Members of the UEC noted a finalised mapping of University Education Policy to the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Quality Code.

Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment (Blended Learning)

Members of the Committee noted the Blended Learning Equality and Diversity Impact Assessments of August 2021 and January 2022.

Inclusivity and Accessibility Framework

Members of the Committee noted the University's Inclusivity and Accessibility Framework and may disseminate to colleagues, as appropriate.

Update on Blackboard Ultra

Members of the Committee noted an update provided by the Centre for Academic Development on Blackboard Ultra.

QAA Scotland's Interim Quality Arrangements for 2021/22

Members of the Committee noted the paper which provided an outline of the Quality Assurance Agency's interim quality arrangements.

Senate Effectiveness Review Actions Relating to Education Committees

Members of the UEC received and discussed a paper providing an update on the outcomes of the Senate Effectiveness Review (SER) and the associated actions specifically relating to the Education Committee structure.

Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Institutional Visit Update

The UEC received an update on the first of two visits to the University during the academic year by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)

Aberdeen 2040 Implementation Plan

Members of the UEC received a paper, providing an update on the Aberdeen 2040 implementation plan.

Timing of the 2023/24 Academic Year

Members of the UEC received the paper on the timing of the 2023/24 academic year, noting the proposal that the University's interim approach to the structure of its academic year, as in use in 2022/23, continue for an additional year.

Return of Feedback on Assessment

The UEC received a paper providing an update on the return of feedback on assessment during the first half session of 2021/22.

Generic Postgraduate Taught Awards

The UEC received a paper on Generic Postgraduate Taught Awards and the preparation of regulations governing them.

Changes in Regulations for Various Degrees (Omnibus Resolution)

The UEC approved, for its part, the draft Resolution 'Changes in Regulations for Various Degrees'.

Badging within the Catalogue of Courses

Members of the UEC received a paper on Badging Courses within the Catalogue of Courses. The Committee approved the proposal, as part of the ongoing implementation of Aberdeen 2040, that taught courses within the University which align with the four commitments within the 2040 strategy are identified as such in the Catalogue of Courses.

Making Course Reading Lists Open Access

Members of the UEC received and approved a proposal that course reading lists be made publicly available.

AdvanceHE Annual Review of Continuing Professional Development

Members of the Committee noted the AdvanceHE Annual Review of the University's Accredited CPD Framework Learning & Teaching (link tbc).

Work Based Learning Guidance

Members of the Committee noted the revised Work Based Learning Guidance Note, approved by way of circulation.

Graduation Allocations (2022) & Graduation Dates (2023)

Members of the Committee noted the graduation allocations for summer 2022, approved by way of circulation. In addition, members of the Committee noted, following consideration and approval by way of circulation, that graduations in summer 2023 will take place during the week of 26 June.

Update Reports from the UEC Sub-committees

Members of the UEC noted update reports from each of the UEC's sub-committees: The Quality Assurance Committee (QAC), the Employability and Entrepreneurship Committee (EEC) and the Student Support Committee (SSC).

Any questions regarding the UEC digest, should be sent to academicservices@abdn.ac.uk.