

SENATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of 24 January 2024

Present: Karl Leydecker (Chair), Scott Alan, Chantal Den Daas, Nick Forsyth, Richard Hepworth-Young, Rhiannon Ledwell, Tracey Slaven, Ruth Taylor, Neil Vargesson, and Rachael Bernard (Clerk)

Apologies were received from: Mary Stephen, Diane Skatun, Zeray Yihdego

578 The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and reminded the Committee that the main function of the Senate Business Committee was to set the agenda for meetings of Senate.

579 Approval of previous meeting's minutes **SBC2324:09**

579.1 The draft minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 18 October were approved subject to a typographical correction. **Action: RB**

580 Draft Agenda for the meeting of the Senate on 14 February **SBC2324:10**

580.1 The Committee discussed the draft agenda for the meeting of Senate on 14 February.

580.2 The Committee noted that a change was proposed in terms of the agenda item for Senate regarding confirmation of proposals for returning Graduations to campus.

580.3 Due to the need to confirm arrangements with external suppliers for the events in the summer of 2024 as soon as possible, the Committee approved a request that the paper on the draft agenda for the meeting on 14 February should be considered by Senate by circulation.

580.4 Noting that the Senate Standing Orders did not provide the option for the consideration of items by circulation. The Committee agreed, exceptionally, that Senate should be sent the paper and provided with a voting form with responses required by Friday 2 February, in order to permit commitments to be made as soon as possible rather than being delayed until after the meeting on 14 February. **Action: TS/RB**

580.5 The Committee discussed reordering the agenda following the decision to consider the graduation paper by circulation. It was agreed to group the research items together.

580.6 The Committee noted that the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) had recently considered an urgent request from the Student Recruitment Committee (SRAC) by circulation, for an amendment to the published admissions criteria. It was agreed that this change should be reported to Senate as a distinct item for discussion rather than in the routine report from QAC. The Committee noted that approval of entrance requirements was

delegated from Senate to QAC, but agreed it was important that Senate understood fully the reasoning behind the decision. **Action: RB**

581 Students' Association representation at Senate

581.1 The Committee noted that the Vice-President for Communities had replaced the Vice-President for Welfare in attendance at Senate meetings.

582 Dates of meetings in 2023/24

582.1 The Committee noted the dates of meetings to be held in 2023/24:

- 6 March 2024
- 13 May 2024

583 In drawing the meeting to a close, the Chair highlighted that the meeting had been Ruth Taylor's last meeting of SBC before she retired. The Committee recorded formally its appreciation of her work with it, and in general with the University.