

Senate – Minutes **27 September 2023**

PRESENT: Professor Andy J. Schofield, Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair); Professor Peter M. Atkinson; Professor Gordon Blower; Professor Steve Bradley; Dr Casey Cross; Professor Jonathan Culpeper; Professor Lola Dada; Professor Nigel A. J. Davies; Professor Catherine Easton; Professor Stephen Eldridge; Dr Nicholas Evans; Rachel Fligelstone; Dr Bingbing Ge; Professor Robert Geyer; Professor Alisdair A. Gillespie; Professor Sarah Green; Professor Chris Grover; Professor Simon C. Guy; Professor A. Louise Heathwaite; Dr Derek Hird; Dr Allison Hui; Professor Hilary Ingham; Professor Roger W. L. Jones; Sarah Kemp; Professor Claire Leitch; Professor Alan Marsden; Dr James Mawdesley; Dr Jan McArthur; Dr James McDowell; Dr Tom Mills; Dr Sandra Nolte; Professor Nicholas Race; Professor Wendy Robinson; Dr Yakubu Salifu; Professor Ed Simpson; Leanne Taher-Bates; Dr Nadia Von Benzon; Professor Gert Westermann; Professor Stephen Wilkinson; Dr Karen Wright; Professor Steve Young.

IN ATTENDANCE: Andrew Barker; John S. W. Dickinson; Stuart Franklin; Simon J. Jennings; Paul Morris; Alison M. Mullan; Nicola C. Owen; Sarah J. Randall-Paley.

OBSERVER: Andrea Chalk.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Professor Marina Anderson; Professor Sarah Brearley; Sherry Currington; Sarah Fox; Dr Mark Limmer; Professor Jo Rycroft-Malone; Professor Kirk Semple.

INTRODUCTION

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1.1 Senate noted the apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 No declarations of interest were made.

3. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

3.1 The following question to the Vice-Chancellor was received from Dylan Bahia (student representative).

Is there a concern about influence by foreign governments and organisations on taught content and research output and, if so, is the University taking measures to mitigate any current and potential future influence?

3.2 It was noted that the University takes academic freedom seriously and has controls in place to monitor for and reject accepting resources that would contravene this. It was recognised that there was interest, via the media, in the direct or indirect influence of foreign states, but it was confirmed that nothing had been identified within the University to suggest this has been an issue.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: 26 April 2023 **PAPER A**

4.1 Senate approved the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2023.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 There were no matters arising.

6. REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR **ORAL UPDATE**
Some Restricted and Commercial in Confidence content

7. SUMMARY OF UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE BOARD (UEB) BUSINESS **PAPER B**
RELEVANT TO SENATE (25 APRIL 2023 TO 5 SEPTEMBER 2023
INCLUDING JOINT MEETINGS WITH PSEG)

7.1 Senate noted the report.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

8. NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY (NSS) UPDATE **PRESENTATION**
Restricted and Commercial in Confidence

9. CURRICULUM TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME (CTP): **PAPER C**
FOUNDATION PRINCIPLES
Restricted and Confidential

10. APPROVAL OF NEW AWARDS: INTERNATIONAL PATHWAY **PAPER D**
PROGRAMMES DELIVERED BY INTO

10.1 The Academic Dean introduced a proposal for Senate to approve two new awards, both relating to the international pathway programmes to be delivered by the University's new partner INTO. He reported that the provision of foundation programmes was now being delivered via INTO who had identified that providing students with a University award as critical for success.

10.2 The Academic Dean outlined how these would be part of the diet of awards over which the University would maintain control of content. Two pathways were being proposed for development, a pre-undergraduate foundation path and a pre-masters path. The foundation pathway, it was reported, would be first time that Lancaster University would offer an award at level 3; the pre-masters would be level 6.

10.3 In addition to approving the new awards, the paper proposed using the existing International Partnership Joint Faculty Teaching Committee to approve specific programmes of study as this would provide a consistent and effective approach for what would be cross-faculty programmes.

10.4 Senate approved the establishment of a Level 3 award entitled International Foundation Certificate, approved the establishment of a Level 6 award entitled International Graduate Diploma, and approved the use of the International Partnership Joint Faculty Teaching Committee to approve these programmes for INTO.

11. LIBRARY REPORT FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023 PAPER E

11.1 Senate received the Library's annual report for 2022/23. It noted how work had been undertaken to make visible the role of the library as partner rather than transactional service. This continued to be successful, as notable via the NSS score. The Library had worked with N8 partners and this had been positive in creating impact and influence within the national environment. Continuing to grow creative response to enhance open access online, Library physical space continued to be used effectively, including a new archive space, and it was noted that work with the community continued, including the sanctuary collection.

11.2 Senate concurred that the Library was an aspect of the University in which it could take significant pride, an identifiable in its impact on external metrics. The Students' Union noted how students recognised the library as a central hub of their experience, where the ability to use the space for a wide range of student activities was particularly appreciated.

12. SENIOR OFFICER APPOINTMENTS PAPER F

12.1 Senate received proposals for approaches to appointment and reappointment for several Senior Officer roles. It was noted that the final decision was a matter for Council but that it sought the recommendation and advice of Senate.

12.2 Senate recommended to the Council: the renewal of Professor Louise Heathwaite as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) for a second four year-term ending 31 July 2027, the renewal of Professor Simon Guy as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global) for a second four-year term ending 31 July 2027; and the renewal of Professor Jo Rycroft-Malone as the Executive Dean of Faculty of Health and Medicine for a second five-year term ending 31 May 2029.

12.3 Senate received and noted the Vice-Chancellor's approach for recruiting a new Deputy Vice-Chancellor to succeed Professor Steve Bradley.

13. BOARD OF DISCIPLINE: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS PAPER G

13.1 Senate approved the appointment of new members to the Board of Discipline.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 14. PROFESSOR EMERITUS APPOINTMENTS: ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23** **PAPER H**
- 14.1 Senate noted the report.
- 15. FACULTY ASSOCIATE DEANS AND HEADSHIPS OF DEPARTMENTS: APPOINTMENTS** **PAPER I**
- 15.1 Senate noted the report.
- 16. SENATE CHAIR'S ACTIONS** **PAPER J**
- 16.1 Senate noted the report of Chair's actions since the last meeting.
- 17. WRITTEN REPORTS OF MEETINGS** **PAPER K**
- 17.1 Senate noted the following written reports of meetings:
- Council, meeting of 18 May 2023
 - Council, meeting of 7 July 2023
 - Education Committee, meeting of 25 January 2023 (extraordinary meeting)
 - Education Committee, meeting of 22 May 2023
 - Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, meeting of 19 January 2023
 - Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, meeting of 22 May 2023
 - Research Committee, meeting of 24 May 2023
 - Student Experience Committee, meeting of 17 May 2023
- 18. NEW AND REVISED PROGRAMMES** **PAPER L**
- 18.1 Senate noted the report of new and revised programmes.
- 19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- 19.1 There was no other business.
- 20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
- 20.1 The next Senate meeting will be held 1 November 2023 13:00-16:00 in Management School Lecture Theatre 3.