

**Senate – Minutes**  
**10 February 2021**

**PRESENT:** Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair); Professor P. Ashwin; Professor P. M. Atkinson; Professor P. Barker; Professor A. Belton; Ms J. Bennett; Professor Dame S. Black; Dr C. Boyko; Professor S. Bradley; Mr T. Buckley; Professor K. Cain; Dr P. Chakraborty; Professor P. Connolly; Mr S. Davis; Professor N. A. Davies; Dr C. Easton; Professor A. Friday; Professor M. George; Mr A. Ghosh; Dr K. Grant; Professor I. Gregory; Ms C. Gupta; Professor S. C. Guy; Professor L. Harding (*for Professor U. Papen*); Dr C. Hardy; Professor N. Hayes; Professor L. Hendry; Dr D. Hird; Dr W. Hollmann; Dr G. Hopkinson; Dr A. Jarvis; Professor R. Jones; Professor A. Laing; Professor C. Leitch; Dr J. Logue; Mr S. Maesschalck; Ms A. Makareva; Dr J. McDowell; Dr P. McKean; Professor J. Mottram; Professor C. Paoloni; Professor E. Pavlidis; Professor G. Pawlina; Ms P. Pickles; Mr O. Robinson; Professor S. Ruston; Professor J. Rycroft-Malone; Professor J. Sweeney; Professor J. E. Taylor; Dr W. Tych; Professor Catherine Walshe; Professor N. Watson; Professor J. Wild; Dr K. Wright.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr A. Barker; Mr P. T. Boustead; Mr J. S. W. Dickinson; Mr S. J. Jennings; Ms A. Mullan; Ms N. C. Owen; Mrs S. J. Randall-Paley.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Dr M. Anderson; Mr A. Burgess; Mr S. Franklin; Professor A. L. Heathwaite; Ms H. Knight; Ms V. Mathews; Professor U. Papen; Professor M. Piacentini; Professor I. Tyler.

**INTRODUCTION**

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

- 1.1 Senate noted the apologies.
- 1.2 Senate welcomed Mr S. Davies, Dr C. Easton, Mr A. Ghosh, Ms C. Gupta, Dr J. Logue and Ms A. Makareva to their first meeting.
- 1.3 Senate noted that this was the last meeting for Professor J. Mottram and recorded its thanks to her contributions.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 2.1 No new declarations of interest were made.

**3. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

There were no questions for this agenda.

**4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: 4 NOVEMBER 2020**

**PAPER A**

- 4.1 Senate approved the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2020.

## **5. REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

5.1 The Vice-Chancellor provided an oral report, including the following.

- (i) In relation to the wider sector: home tuition fees had been frozen for a year; the government response to the Augar report was expected shortly; modifications to the TEF had been announced with new arrangements due to be implemented from September 2022; and the OfS had appointed a new Chair, Lord Wharton.
- (ii) In relation to the national emergency engendered by the Covid-19 pandemic: the University had updated its teaching arrangements in line with government expectations; the OfS required institutions to audit teaching provision – this work had already started at Lancaster and results were currently being analysed; students and staff on campus were being offered two Covid-19 tests per week; two goodwill payments had been made to students in University accommodation; and the University was taking further actions to support student welfare and student mental health.
- (ii) In relation to internal matters: 2021 admission numbers were down on those from 2020, largely due to a negative impact from the change in tuition fees for EU-based students; uncertainty remained in relation to A-level arrangements for this admissions cycle; and a new University Executive Board had replaced the University Management Advisory Group.

5.2 The Vice-Chancellor drew Senate's attention to the work of the Joint Faculty Teaching Committee, reminding members that the body had been established to ensure consistency and effectiveness in approving curriculum changes brought about by the national emergency. Senate was reminded that the body had been approved for 2020/21, however, it was now expected that its functionality would need to extend into 2021/22 owing to the continuation of the national emergency. Senate concurred that this would be reasonable and noted that a paper providing details and expected timeframes would come to a later meeting.

5.3 Senate noted the report.

## **6. SUMMARY OF UMAG BUSINESS RELEVANT TO SENATE SUMMARY OF UEB BUSINESS RELEVANT TO SENATE**

**PAPER B  
PAPER C**

6.1 Senate noted the reports.

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

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|------------|---|----------------|
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>STRATEGIC PLAN 2025: INITIAL DRAFT</b><br><i>Restricted and Commercial in Confidence</i>   | <b>PAPER D</b> |
| <b>8.</b>  | <b>KPIs PERFORMANCE: YEAR-END REPORT FOR 2019-20</b><br><i>Restricted and Commercial in Confidence</i>  | <b>PAPER E</b> |
| <b>9.</b>  | <b>EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION: ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20</b>   | <b>PAPER F</b> |
| 9.1        | Senate received the EDI Annual Report 2019-20, noting that it detailed the key activity undertaken under six strategic aims during 2019-20 to deliver the EDI Strategic Vision 2020. It further provided an update on additional developments during 2019-20, including Research Excellence Framework preparations and how EDI-related issues had been considered in Lancaster's response to the Covid-19 national emergency.       |                |
| 9.2        | In discussion it was noted that this was an external-facing document. Additional and more refined data was available internally and was used to inform decision-making and policy development.  |                |
| 9.3        | The Students' Union noted their particular interest and it was noted that the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development would follow this up outside the meeting.  |                |
| 9.4        | Senate <u>noted</u> the report and its onward journey to Council.   |                |
| <b>10.</b> | <b>QAA ACADEMIC INTEGRITY CHARTER</b>   | <b>PAPER G</b> |
| 10.1       | Senate noted that the QAA had launched an Academic Integrity Charter. The Charter responded to what the QAA characterised as the growing problem of academic misconduct in universities, and represented a collective commitment from the UK higher education sector to promote academic integrity and take action against academic misconduct informed by seven principles. Senate <u>received</u> the Academic Integrity Charter. |                |
| 10.2       | The Dean for Academic Quality noted that the University had been conducting an internal review on the same topic. That review would be able to identify implications of adoption and make recommendations as required.  |                |
| 10.3       | It was noted that any changes to current regulation or expectation would need to be effectively communicated and support provided to both staff and students to ensure compliance. The key role of the Students' Union in this process was noted.   |                |
| 10.4       | Senate noted its full support for the principles underpinning the Charter and <u>approved</u> the proposal that Lancaster University become a signatory to the QAA Academic Integrity Charter.  |                |

**11. APPOINTMENT OF A NEW PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (EDUCATION) PAPER H**

11.1 The Vice-Chancellor set out the appointment arrangements for a new Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education and reported the transfer of the EDI portfolio to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor. He noted that this had been done to ensure that EDI considerations would inform those cross-institutional activities, such as planning and promotion, which rested with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

11.2 Senate noted the report.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**12. REPORT ON COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS (UK AND OVERSEAS) PAPER I**

12.1 Senate noted the report.

**13. SENATE CHAIR'S ACTIONS PAPER J**

13.1 Senate noted the Chair's actions made on its behalf since the last meeting.

**14. WRITTEN REPORTS OF MEETINGS PAPER K**

14.1 Senate noted the reports.

**15. NEW AND REVISED PROGRAMMES PAPER L**

15.1 Senate noted the report.

**16. FORWARD SCHEDULE OF SENATE BUSINESS PAPER M**

16.1 Senate noted the Forward Schedule.

**17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

17.1 The next meeting will be held at 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday 21 April 2021.