

THE SENATE



Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2019

- Present: The Vice-Chancellor (Professor D.J. Richardson) (in the Chair), Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor F. Lettice and Professor N. Ward), the Faculty Pro-Vice-Executive (Professor F. Bowen, Professor D. Edwards and Professor M. Searcey), Heads of Schools (Professor L. Camfield, Professor K. Hiscock, and Professor L. Marsden), Academic Representatives (Dr H. Adcock, Dr A. Anka, Professor N. Boodhoo, Mrs K. Emerson, Dr J. Kirby, Dr M. Neumann, Dr H. Pallett, Professor G. Parr, Professor A. Stephan, Professor S. Watts, Professor A. Welch and Professor K. Yeoman), The Librarian (Mr N. Lewis), Ms C. Peasgood (CCN Representative) and the Student Representatives (Mr C. Perry, Mr M. Marko and Ms A. Perez).
- With: The Academic Director of Taught Programmes (Professor E. Sutton), Academic Director of UEA Doctoral College (Professor A. Grant), Academic Director of Partnerships (Professor I. Dewing), Academic Director of Employability (Dr M. Aldrich), Director of IT (Mr M. Barry), Director of Student and Academic Services (Dr A Blanchflower), Mr Stephen Blease (Independent member of Council) Dr Garrick Fincham (Head of Planning) for items 5,6 and 9 and Alix Delany (Head of Admissions) for item 5.

1. MINUTES

Confirmed

the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2019.

(Senate asked for more detail on how Minute 40: Employability would be taken forward. It was reported that the Academic Director of Employability would be leading on this. As part of the development of the UEA Plan a "Big Shift" day was planned for 9 December – Student success: Preparing students for the world of work.)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

3. CONFIRMATION OF CHAIR'S ACTION

Reported

- (1) that there were two meetings of the Learning and Teaching Committee that took place during 2018/19 and after Senate met on the 5th June 2019. At these meetings, LTC made a number of recommendations to Senate for implementation in 2019/2020
- (2) that the Vice Chancellor as Chair of Senate, and on behalf of Senate, approved the recommendations made in each case:
 - a) A new international partner – LTC 18D150
 - b) Minor updates to Postgraduate Research Regulations – LTC 18D153
 - c) Submission of Work For Higher Degrees And Rules For The Form Of Theses Regulation -LTC18D185
 - d) Updates to Partner institute regulations – LTC 18D154

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- e) Minor revisions to University Disciplinary and Investigative Procedures and Powers - LTC 18D172
 - f) Membership of LTC SEC and WPC – LTC 18D176
 - g) Revisions to the University's Extenuating Circumstances (Taught Programmes) Policy and Regulations – LTC 18D175
 - h) Revisions To The Plagiarism And Collusion Policy - LTC18D184
 - i) Amendments To Regulations Relating To Attendance, Engagement And Progress And Fitness For Study - LTC18D174
- A document summarising each recommendation is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D001.

- (3) that the Vice Chancellor as Chair of Senate, and on behalf of Senate, approved a further change to the membership of LTC to include a fifth SU sabbatical officer on the request of the Chair of LTC, Professor Neil Ward.

4. STATEMENTS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Vice Chancellor

- (a) welcomed new members to their first meeting of Senate
- (b) reported that the University's Access and Participation Plan had been accepted by the Office for Students (OfS) for a five year period. The team involved were congratulated as due to their diligence and attention to detail the plan had been accepted with very little iteration and was to be subject to light touch monitoring. The Vice Chancellor proposed that the plan feature as an agenda item at the next meeting.
- (c) reported on an OfS focus on governance and the role Senate and Council play in securing quality and standards. An independent member of Council would be in attendance at Senate meetings in future.
- (d) reported on the success of the NRP DTP which had been awarded £12 million over the next five years in recognition of the excellent training environment provided across the whole NRP.
- (e) reported on the opening of the New Science Building by Dr Jane Goodall on the 24th October.
- (f) informed Senate of his role as chair of the UUK Advisory group convened to support work to produce guidance tailored to preventing and responding to racial harassment and responding to the Equality and Human Rights Commission's report on racial harassment in higher education.
- (g) updated Senate on the work of the VC Taskforce on mental health which would feature as an agenda item at a future meeting.

*5. UNIVERSITY PERFORMANCE

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

6. UEA PLAN

Considered

- (1) a presentation from the Chief Resource Officer on the University's performance with the current UEA Plan 2016-2020. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D016)
- (2) a presentation from the Chief Operating Officer on the development of the new UEA Plan (A copy is filed in the Minute Book as SEN19D018)

(Senate noted that the Big Conversation had now concluded and was being analysed. There was discussion as to how to best engage external stakeholders. The focus was now on the delivery of some Big Shift Days designed to bring a focus and new insights into how areas might be tackled in the new UEA Plan. The following events were planned:

- Tuesday 5 November - 'Success for ALL our students'.
- Friday 15 November – Global success: Increasing our role as a global educator; widening our global outlook
- Wednesday 20 November – Research success: Achieving research success
- Friday 29 November – Staff Success: A strong and stimulating community; opportunities for talent to grow and thrive
- Friday 6 December – Student success: Innovating in learning and teaching
- Monday 9 December – Student success: Preparing students for the world of work

RESOLVED

to organise a civic event in the Spring designed to engage external stakeholders in the development of the new UEA Plan.

7. SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Noted

Ordinance 1 (26) which says that the number, titles and discipline coverage of Schools of Study and distribution of Schools of Study between Faculties will be determined from time to time by the Vice-Chancellor, having consulted with Senate.

Considered

the creation of a new School of Engineering within the Faculty of Science with effect from 1 August 2021. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D006)

Recommended

the creation of a new School of Engineering within the Faculty of Science with effect from 1 August 2021.

8. AURORA EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY NETWORK

Noted

that the European Commission had invited bids from alliances of universities who aspired to develop bottom-up networks of universities across the EU to promote student mobility, a challenge-based approach to education, and to contribute to the international competitiveness of European universities.

Considered

a proposal for the UEA to join the Aurora EUN bid, and approve in principle the proposed mission statement and primary areas of focus for the application to be submitted in early 2020 (and commencing later in 2020, if funded) (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D007)

(Senate noted that the Aurora network had been initially established by UEA and the Vrije University, Amsterdam about 3-4 years ago and has had biennial meetings each year with a focus on social inclusion, societal relevance and the enemata of staff and students. The EU Macron Initiative provides an opportunity to formalise the network.

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However, due to the rules of funding, there have been some changes with some original partners leaving Aurora being involved in more than one network, and some new ones joining. There has been one round of funding so far and the intention is for Aurora to bid in Round 2.

Senate were supportive of participating in the bid and of the mission statement. Members asked if the content of the bid could give more detail about the aspiration in relation to the involvement of students and the student experience, and also culture and languages. A paper setting out the shape, look and feel for Aurora in 3-5 years time and some examples of how it might be working was considered desirable.)

RESOLVED

*9. CHANGES IN GRADE ATTAINMENT

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

10. UNIVERSITY ANNUAL RESEARCH INTEGRITY REPORT 2018/19

Considered

a report from the University Research Ethics Committee and University Research Executive summarising activities undertaken to support and strengthen understanding and application of research integrity issues 1.8.18 – 31.7.19. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book as Document SEN19D008)

RESOLVED

- (a) that assurances be given to Council on the activities undertaken to support and strengthen understanding and application of research integrity issues across the University
- (b) that processes in place for dealing with allegations of misconduct in research are transparent, robust and fair and appropriate for the University's needs
- (c) that the small number of formal investigations of research misconduct undertaken with the University mean that it is not possible to identify any trends and that further analysis is not warranted.

*11. INCLUSIVE EDUCATION POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

*12. ANNUAL REPORT FROM SENATE TO COUNCIL

This minute is confidential and attached as a separate sheet.

13. THE SENATE 2019/20

Received

- (1) the Senate – Membership. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D011)
- (2) the Senate - Standing Orders (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D012)

14. RESERVED AREAS OF BUSINESS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Received

statements of the University's policies on reserved areas of business and confidentiality. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D013)

15. LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE

Received

(1) a round up report from the Learning and Teaching Committee from meetings on 8 May 2019, 19 June 2019 and 3 July 2019. (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D014)

(2) the LTC Plan of Work (A copy is filed in the Minute Book, ref. SEN19D015)

16. DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2019-2020

Reported

that the remaining dates for meetings in 2019-2020 are:

Wednesday 26 February 2020

Wednesday 3 June 2020

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Reported

that the next meetings of the Senate was scheduled for Wednesday 26 February 2020.