

The University of Edinburgh

Electronic Senate

January 2018

**Agenda**

Electronic Senate will commence on Tuesday 16 January 2018 and close at noon on Wednesday 24 January 2018

**FORMAL BUSINESS**

1. Minutes from the Senate Meeting on 4 October 2017 **e-S 17/18 2 A**
- a) Special Meetings and Graduation Ceremonials on 27, 28, 29, and 30 November and 1 December 2017
2. Membership of the Senatus **e-S 17/18 2 B**
3. Conferment of the title Emeritus Professor  
Professor D Hume, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies  
Professor S Howie, Deanery of Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences  
Professor E Klein, School of Informatics  
Professor M Northcott, School of Divinity
4. Clarifying the eligibility for Senate membership **e-S 17/18 2 C**

**ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

5. Special Minutes **e-S 17/18 2 D**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

6. Senate Assessor Vacancies – Call for nominations **e-S 17/18 2 E**
7. Communications from the University Court **e-S 17/18 2 F**
8. Resolutions – Chairs **e-S 17/18 2 G**
9. Knowledge Strategy Committee Report **e-S 17/18 2 H**

**CLOSED**

10. Report of the Senate Exception Committee **e-S 17/18 2 I**

The University of Edinburgh

Electronic Senate

16 – 24 January 2018

Minutes of Senate meeting held on 4 October 2017

Executive Summary

The paper provides the minutes of the Senate meeting held on 4 October 2017.

How does this align with the University/College School/Committee's strategic plans and priorities?

Not Applicable

Action requested

The Senatus is invited to approve the minutes.

How will any action agreed be implemented and communicated?

Decisions were communicated via the Senate Committees' Newsletter to stakeholders on the distribution list:

[www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/committees/newsletter](http://www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/committees/newsletter)

Resource/Risk/Compliance

1. Resource implications  
This paper does not have resource implications.
2. Risk assessment  
This paper does not include a risk assessment.
3. Equality and Diversity  
Not relevant.
4. Freedom of Information  
Open paper

Any other relevant information, including keywords

A comment need only be submitted to raise an objection/suggest corrections. If no comments are received the minutes will be deemed approved. In this context any comments on this paper should be e-mailed to [Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk) quoting "comment on e-S 17/18 2 A." These comments will be added verbatim at <http://edin.ac/18tbekG>

Originator of the paper

Senate Secretariat  
January 2018

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SENATUS  
ACADEMICUS** held in St Cecilia's Hall, Wednesday 4 October 2017

Present: The Principal, Professors T Bates, S Bayne, M Brennan, C Breward, E Cameron, M Chrisman, S Cooper, J Crook, G Crow, S Cunningham-Burley, J Danbolt, A Djikeng, M Evans, D Finkelstein, B Fisher, P Foster, C Jeffery, J Garden, J Gentz, I Gordon, T Harrison, J Hillston, J Kallestrup, R King, J Lee, W Loretto, J Love, C Lyall, L McKie, L March, A Meredith, J Moore, A Newman, J Ouenniche, D Robertson, C Sangwin, M Schwannauer, J Silvertown, J Sproule, A Thompson, C Weir, T Worrall; M Highton, C Aftab, A Convery, R Baxstrom, S Benjamin, S Boyd, G Duursma, L Hamilton, T Kaminer, S Kheria, F O'Hanlon, S MacPherson, A Meredith, C Moran, C Phillips, J Quenniche, J Quaia, S Riley, S Rolle, P Smith, P Sheail, E Stevenson, N Treanor, S Trill, R Valsan, S Woodman, M Carson, S Clough, C da Costa Filho, A Hennessy, L Kendall, S Samaras

Associate Members: E Dominy, P Kilduff, K O'Doherty,

In Attendance: B Barreto, C Black, G Blair, J Broadhurst, F Brown, L Buchanan, A Bunni, A Burford, G Campagnolo, A Carter, N Chisholm, V Christie, L Connelly, M Corey, D Coxon, L Dobson, M Dozier, L Dutnell, R Ewins, A Farrall, L de Ferrari, G Ferris, W Filingier, S Fokt, J Fyfe, C Gallagher, N Goddard, S Graham, H Gray, A Greig, L Halliday, D Hampton, M Hart, D Henty, Y Hu, A Hughes, E Hunter, T Ironside, A Isaac, S Iskander, D Jackson, L Johnston-Smith, D Jones, P Kelly, C Keltie, N Kett, M Khattar, Y Kim, J Knox, A Laidlaw, S Laing, P Larkman, I Lavers, O Lawrie, M Lawson, A Lindsay, K Lingstadt, K Lyszkiewicz, G MacDonald, S McEwan, C Matthews, S McAllister, L McCreath, L Dobson-McKittrick, C McLaughlin, P Melone, C Merrick, L Middlemass, B Morse, B Munro, S Nicol, S Ogle, S Orr, M O'Toole, S Pearson, D Petrova, S Porter, F Puller, C Pusceddu-Gangarosa, A Rebotto, J Roberts, E Rowson, D Ruddy, A Scott, E Serafin, I Seiferheld, A Shanks, T Sheppard, F Shields, , S Smith, H Stocks, G Thompson, Y Tsai, U Tufail-Hanif, K Urquhart, T Valtin, B Verdon, N J Vielma, T Ward, R Watson, E Welsh, S Williams, M Wright

The moment of reflection was delivered by Professor Appolinaire Djikeng, Director of the Centre for Tropical Livestock Genetics and Health, who offered reflections on the University from an international perspective.

**PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION: The Future of Distance Learning**

Non-Senate members who were in attendance for the presentation and discussion section of the meeting were welcomed.

The focus of the session was the University's current position and future objectives for expanding its distance learning provision, exploring the opportunities and implications in terms of pedagogy, assessment and student experience.

*Introduction – Distance Learning: where we are now*

Ms Melissa Highton, Assistant Principal Online Learning and Director of Learning, Teaching and Web Services, Information Services Group

Ms Highton introduced the session by highlighting key statistics on the current provision of online programmes, which included the following:

- There are 2,920 online students on 65 programmes with CMVM operating the largest number of online programmes.

- Online students comprise an older demographic than on-campus students, with 88 per cent being over 25
- 60 per cent of students reside outside the UK, which is not very different from the domicile of on-campus students
- Over 90 per cent of MOOC learners are domiciled outside the UK. While there are over 2 million MOOC learners, only 80 applied for Edinburgh's online Master's programmes for 2017 entry
- 1.4 per cent of online students are Edinburgh University alumni.
- The landscape of online learning is competitive, and, despite having a wide range of online programmes, the University is only twelfth in the UK in terms of online student numbers.
- The number of applications to online programmes has risen exponentially, but the number of entrants has not increased at the same rate. While data on this is scarce, the possible reasons might include the cost of programmes, the capping of student numbers in some cases, and lack of promotional activity.

Work to increase the number of online students will focus on the promotion of programmes and on improving the ability of prospective students to search for courses online. Enhancing the online student experience, from matriculation onwards, will also be a priority.

The University would be building on its successful MOOC strategy to promote entry to online programmes, the ultimate aim being to produce an ecosystem of digital learning opportunities which is self-supporting and mutually enhancing.

#### *Designing for high quality distance teaching*

Professor Siân Bayne, Assistant Principal, Digital Education

Professor Bayne provided an overview of the components which constitute high quality online teaching, demonstrating that these had a strong basis in research. She indicated that literature on the subject has shown that quality teaching may be defined by visibly engaged teachers who are experts in their fields, and students who feel part of the learning community.

Professor Bayne emphasised that the 'distance' element of distance learning does not only relate to geography and time but also communication and the level of contact between teachers and students. For distance learning at scale, the University should plan to front-load teacher engagement in order to build a sense of 'nearness' among students early in their studies, allowing this to drop off as students' confidence and sense of autonomy grows.

Students should also have a sense of being 'at' the University and within a strong learning community. To achieve this, the University will need to commit resource to meaningful staff moderation and participation in course discussion, as well as to providing real-time community events. Proactive support is important and learning analytics can help identify students at risk of disengaging.

#### *Action Plan for Distance Learning in CMVM*

Professor Anna Meredith, Director of Postgraduate Taught Programmes

CMVM operates the largest portfolio of online programmes at the University: 35 of its 62 postgraduate taught programmes are online. The College has an action plan to grow its online learning provision, in line with the University Strategic Plan and the Learning and Teaching Strategy.

The plan includes the following:

- Growing student numbers from 1504 to 2730
- Doubling postgraduate taught income
- Launching at least four new programmes in the next session
- Creating CPD and blended learning opportunities (programmes which incorporate a mixture of online and on-campus learning)
- Increasing scholarships for online learning.

To reach these targets, the College will invest in infrastructure and ensure that the options for online learning are flexible.

*Plans for expanding distance learning in the Business School*

Professor Wendy Loretto, Dean of the Business School & Professor of Organisational Behaviour, University of Edinburgh Business School

Professor Loretto reported that the Business School had developed its online provision significantly, and its current activity was as follows:

- Building on existing offering, including a MOOC on the topic of marketing which was launched in September 2016 and had had over 26,000 registrations
- Building engagement with business stakeholder communities, including the provision of an online MSc in Accounting and Society
- Developing interdisciplinary collaboration in line with the Business School strategy, including online courses linked to CMVM
- Conducting market research to establish the demand in the area of online learning and developing provision to meet demand.

The School is currently investigating several areas for growth. Professor Loretto advised that provision should be flexible and agile, that market research was extremely useful in understanding the competition, and that all those involved in distance learning should take advantage of the significant amount of expertise across the University.

*Distance Learning for Data Science*

Professor Dave Robertson, Professor of Applied Logic, Head of College of Science & Engineering

Professor Robertson focused on the potential to develop online programmes for Data Science. He indicated that there is an increasing demand for these programmes for several reasons: the data science industry is very large and growing; and there is widespread interest in the governance of data, and also in the future of Artificial Intelligence and its implications for employment.

The University's existing Data Science Master's is extremely varied and involves courses from across all three colleges. Students are attracted to the eclectic nature of the programme and the amount of choice on offer. In view of the cross-college structure, Professor Robertson emphasised the importance of the strong cross-University administrative support which the programme received.

The College is at an early stage in establishing its distance learning provision, and distance learning at scale is included in its development plan, to enable more extensive provision in the future.

## Discussion

In discussion, the following points and questions were raised:

- With regard to admissions, it is valuable for the University to offer scholarships, since this not only provides support for the successful students but can also generate applications from other students who may find alternate sources of funding. It is important, however, that, where students have applied unsuccessfully for scholarships, the University make it clear to them that they will be unable to participate in the programme unless they are in a position to pay their fees. When considering investment into attracting students globally, consideration should be given to access to internet costs in some countries.
- Consideration should be given to English Language requirements for online distance learning programmes; these currently mirror the requirements for on-campus programmes, but could potentially be more flexible for online learners. The Centre for Open Learning is in the process of developing a pilot English Language testing programme to enable online students to meet English Language requirements without taking IELTS or equivalent.
- Fees for online distance learning programmes should be competitive and reviewed regularly by Fees Strategy Group in conjunction with the offering in the rest of the market.
- Investment in infrastructure is vital in promoting innovation for online programmes, and this should take account of the diversity of the online student population and the creation of learning opportunities which do not simply cater for the traditional student.
- Thought should be given to ways to engage alumni who might be instrumental in promoting distance learning programmes.
- With regard to students with disabilities, while many aspects of using digital materials make programmes more accessible, a strategic commitment to growing the numbers of online learners should be accompanied by a commitment to ensuring an appropriate level of availability of support services across the institution.

The Principal thanked those present for their contributions to the discussion.

## **PRESIDENT'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Senior Vice-Principal reported that the National Student Survey (NSS) results had improved on the previous year in terms of overall satisfaction and the University's relative position, although it remains important to make further progress. Reflection and discussion would take place in the coming year, in consultation with the Students' Association, on areas where the University had received lower scores. He also noted that it had been a record year for research funding, alongside growing student numbers, and also highlighted the City Deal, announced in July, which would bring a large tranche of investment to the University.

## **FORMAL BUSINESS**

### **1. Report of E-Business conducted 12 – 20 September 2017 (S 17/18 1 A)**

The report of e-business conducted between 12 and 20 September 2017 was noted.

### **2. Student Partnership Agreement (S 17/18 1 B)**

Professor Tina Harrison and Ms Esther Dominy introduced the item. The paper proposed the first ever Student Partnership Agreement for the University. The document was an agreement between the University and the Students' Association to work in partnership

towards enhancing the student experience and the key priorities were the student voice, academic support, and mental health and well-being.

In discussion, Senate members responded enthusiastically to the agreement, noting that it would enrich and strengthen the relationship between staff and students. Specific comments included the following:

- While the partnership agreement was about working with students, it was important to reflect on the implications for staff members' workload and how it would be possible for them to engage with students more fully. The Senior Vice-Principal agreed to raise some specific issues with the Head of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, while noting that other issues would be considered within individual Schools, and that the issue of academic staff workload was also being addressed via the Service Excellence programme.
- Changes in class representation arrangements should acknowledge the differing requirements for large courses, while acknowledging that processes should be streamlined as much as possible.

Senate approved the Student Partnership Agreement.

### **3. Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Act**

The Director of Academic Services noted that, at its last meeting, Senate had agreed that the University should consult on a proposed new model for its future composition in order to align with the requirements of the Act, and noted that a consultation would be held shortly with the wider University. Senate members were asked to encourage academic colleagues to engage with the consultation.

The University Secretary updated members on the proposed changes to the composition of Court, in light of the requirements of the Act. Changes will include four new positions on Court: a Senior Lay Member elected by all staff and students; two trade union nominees, one of whom will be an academic member of staff; and a Court member elected by all academic staff, including those who are not members of Senate.

Court had agreed its new composition in principle at its meeting on 25 September 2017. Under this composition, four elected academic staff members will be maintained on Court through three Senate assessors and one academic Trade Union assessor. The Senior Lay Member will be elected by staff and students, including academic staff, and one of the Senate Assessors will be elected by all academic staff for the first time, both of which appointments will strengthen the democratic participation by academic staff in the membership of the University's governing body.

A paper will be presented to the February meeting of Senate, setting out proposed changes for initial comment. There will be a formal consultation with Senate at a later date, once the formal Ordinance has been drafted.

### **4. Membership of Senate**

Senate noted the updated membership of Senate.

### **5. Conferment of the title of Professor Emeritus**

Senate agreed to confer the title of Professor Emeritus on those professors listed who had recently retired, or whose retirement was imminent.

## **6. Special Minutes (S 17/18 1 C)**

Senate adopted the Special Minutes for Professors J Dawson, K Fearon, M Fransman, S Frith, J Hopkins, N Hunter, T O'Shea, and L Yellowlees.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **7. Edinburgh University Students' Association Priorities for 2017/18 (S 17/18 1 D)**

The Students' Association Vice-President, Activities and Services introduced the paper. With regard to Education, the priorities focused on reducing the pressures of Semester 1, improving support for those undertaking joint degrees, and establishing coherent representative structures and transparency in communications to amplify the student voice within the University and the Students' Association.

### **8. Resolutions (S 17/18 1 E)**

Court presented to Senatus draft Resolutions in accordance with procedures for the creation of new chairs, renaming of existing chairs and the process for personal chairs. The Senatus, having considered the draft Resolutions below, offered no observations.

Draft Resolution No. 76/2017: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Fire and Structures

Draft Resolution No. 77/2017: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Medicine

### **9. Rectorial Election 2018 Date (S 17/18 1 F)**

Senate noted the approved date of 26-27 February 2018 for on-line voting in the Rectorial election.

## **CLOSED**

### **10. Report of the Senate Exception Committee (S 17/18 1 G)**

Senate noted the content of the report.

The University of Edinburgh

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**Membership of the Senatus**

Executive Summary

The paper lists the new professorial and student members of Senate.

How does this align with the University/College School/Committee's strategic plans and priorities?

Not applicable.

Action requested

The Senate is invited to note the membership.

How will any action agreed be implemented and communicated?

All Senate members are invited to attend a Senate induction event which takes place at the start of the academic session. Senate members are also emailed a copy of the Senate handbook.

Resource implications

1. Resource implications  
None.
2. Risk Assessment  
This paper does not include a risk assessment.
3. Equality and Diversity  
Professorial members of staff who hold a Substantive or Personal Chair are automatically members of Senate. There will be equality and diversity issues in the appointment to Chairs which will be taken into account in accordance with HR processes. Eligible staff are invited to put themselves forward for election to vacancies. *Ex officio* vacancies are filled with equality and diversity issues taken into account.
4. Freedom of Information  
Open paper.

Any Other Relevant Information, including keywords

A comment need only be submitted to raise an objection/suggest corrections. If no comments are received the paper will be deemed approved. In this context any comments on this paper should be e-mailed to [Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk) quoting "comment on e-S 17/18 2 B." These comments will be added verbatim at <http://edin.ac/18tbekG>.

Originator of the paper

Senate Secretariat  
Academic Services  
January 2018

## Senatus

16 – 24 January 2018

### Membership of the Senate

#### **Professorial**

Professor F O’Gorman	Saintsbury Chair of English Literature	1 August 2016
Professor J Steiner	Chair of Economics	1 August 2016
Professor G Simm	Personal Chair of Global Agriculture and Food Security	3 October 2016
Professor L McKie	Personal Chair of Sociology and Social Policy	1 August 2017
Professor A Lang	Personal Chair of International Law and Global Governance	1 August 2017
Professor J Norrie	Chair of Medical Statistics and Trial Methodology	3 October 2016
Professor M Roberts	Chair of Applied Marine Biology and Ecology	3 October 2016
Professor A Holloway	Chair of Nursing Studies	1 January 2017
Professor F Greene	Chair of Entrepreneurship	1 February 2017
Professor A Braun	Lord President Reid Chair of Law	1 August 2017
Professor D Fox	Personal Chair of Common Law	1 August 2017
Professor R Kao	Chair of Veterinary Epidemiology and Data Science	1 August 2017
Professor E Grant	Personal Chair of Global Health and Development	1 August 2017
Professor A Moore	Handa Chair of Japanese-Chinese Relations	1 September 2017
Professor D Coyle	Chair of Languages and Classroom Education	4 September 2017
Professor J Hagendorff	Chair of Finance	4 September 2017
Professor M Terras	Personal Chair of Digital Cultural Heritage	23 October 2017

#### **Student Membership 2017-18**

##### Sabbatical Officer Members

President	Patrick Kilduff
Vice President Activities & Services	Kai O’Doherty
Vice President Education	Bobi Archer
Vice President Welfare	Esther Dominy
Vice President Community	Oliver Glick

##### Student Council Members

PGR Officer	Fabio Battaglia
PGT Officer	Elle Glenny

School Members

CAHSS – PG School Representative  
CAHSS – UG School Representative  
CAHSS – UG School Representative  
CSE – PG School Representative  
CSE – UG School Representative  
CMVM – Medical Student Council Convenor  
CMVM – Vet Student Council President

Candice D. Mathers  
Tanya Mittal  
Katharine Liu  
Kristi Knudson  
Luke Green  
Jordan Fitzpatrick  
Faolain Barrett

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**Clarifying the eligibility for Senate membership**

**Executive Summary**

Senate is asked to note that all those with academic related contracts are eligible for Senate membership, and that this will be advertised for the purposes of the 2018 nominations for vacancies for non-Professorial members of Senate.

**How does this align with the University / Committee's strategic plans and priorities?**

N/A

**Action requested**

Senate is asked to note that Ordinance 204 should be clarified for the forthcoming election of non-Professorial members and to endorse the interpretation of the Ordinance outlined in the paper.

**How will any action agreed be implemented and communicated?**

Senate Support will highlight eligibility for standing for Senate membership in communications regarding the election and nomination process for Researchers and Demonstrators in March 2018, and will also highlight this to colleges for the elections they run for Lecturers, Senior Lecturers and Readers.

**Resource / Risk / Compliance**

**1 Resource implications (including staffing)**

This paper does not have any resource implications.

**2 Risk assessment**

This paper does not include a risk assessment.

**3 Equality and Diversity**

This paper seeks to promote equality and diversity by ensuring that eligibility to stand for Senate membership is widely understood and publicised, and by clarifying how to interpret Ordinance 204 so that particular categories of academic staff are not inadvertently prevented from standing for membership of Senate.

**4 Freedom of information**

Open

**Originator of the paper**

Theresa Sheppard, Senate Clerk

## **Clarifying the eligibility for Senate membership**

### Background

Elections for Senate are held on an annual basis to fill vacancies in two categories of non-professorial members:

- Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and Reader category
- Researcher and Demonstrator category

These categories are set out in University Ordinance 204 (approved in 2002), which uses job titles to define those who are eligible for Senate membership.

'Readers and Lecturers' were originally introduced to the Senate membership following the 1966 Universities Scotland Act. Senate then agreed in 1977 to introduce a new Ordinance determining that the electorate for Senate elections, and eligibility to stand in these elections, should be extended to certain research staff and University Demonstrators, which were described as those full-time research staff and Demonstrators on academically-related salary scales who held a current contract of employment from the University Court.

Since the 1966 Act, and the decision to include demonstrators and research staff in the Senate membership in 1977, academic roles and associated job titles have become much more varied, and are not restricted to those set out above. For example, teaching fellow roles have been introduced, and postgraduate tutors are more widespread.

### Current Position

During the 2017 elections for Senate, the Senate Support Team received several queries from academic staff members who wanted to stand for Senate membership, but were unclear as to whether they were eligible or into which category they fell. Since Ordinance 204 refers only to eligible members by the job titles given above, some members of the academic staff, such as postgraduate tutors, are unclear as to whether they are eligible for Senate membership.

In order to make the Senate inclusive and relevant, it would be reasonable to interpret Ordinance 204 as extending Senate membership to all academic staff, and including, for example, teaching fellows in the Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and Reader category, and postgraduate tutors in the Researcher and Demonstrator category.

There are around 350 places available on Senate for non-professorial academic staff members, but a significant number of the places is vacant (particularly those available for Researchers and Demonstrators), and it is likely that the uncertainty around eligibility contributes to the number of vacancies.

### Calls for nominations in 2018

Calls will be made in March 2018 for nominations for Senate membership in these two categories, with membership to commencing in the 2018/19 session. The nomination processes for the first category will be managed by colleges, and the second category will be run centrally by Academic Services. It has not recently been necessary to hold elections for these categories of Senate membership (since the number of spaces has exceeded the number of nominations), but members should note that, if elections are necessary, they will be conducted by colleges/Academic Services under equivalent regulations used to elect Senate Assessors onto the University Court (see paper e-S 17/18 2 E).

### Recommendation

Since it is reasonable to interpret the current Ordinance as extending Senate membership to all categories of academic staff, recognising that the scope of those on 'academically-related salary scales' is broader than those who come under the heading 'reader, lecturer, senior lecturer, researcher or demonstrator,' Senate Support would like to clarify during the election process that all those who hold an academic contract are eligible to stand for election, regardless of their job title. Senate Support will then advise on the appropriate membership category for members of staff with different job titles from those set out in Ordinance 204.

Senate is therefore asked to note that Ordinance 204 should be clarified for the forthcoming election of members and to endorse the interpretation of the Ordinance outlined above.

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**Special Minutes**

Executive Summary

The paper provides the Special Minutes for Professors F Bray, P Rosa and B Whyte.

How does this align with the University/College School/Committee's strategic plans and priorities?

Not applicable.

Action requested

The Senatus is invited to adopt the Special Minutes.

How will any action agreed be implemented and communicated?

Emeritus Professor procedures for communication will be followed.

Resource/Risk/Compliance

1. Resource Implications  
None
2. Risk Assessment  
This paper does not include a risk assessment.
3. Equality and Diversity  
Not applicable.
4. Freedom of Information  
Open paper.

Any Other Relevant Information, including keywords

A comment need only be submitted to raise an objection/suggest corrections. If no comments are received the minutes will be deemed approved. In this context any comments on this paper should be e-mailed to [Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk) quoting "comment on e-S 17/18 2 D." These comments will be added verbatim at <http://edin.ac/18tbekG>

Originator of the paper

Senate Secretariat  
January 2018

**Special Minute**  
**Professor Francesca Bray, BA, MA, PhD**  
**Emerita Professor of Social Anthropology**

Francesca Bray is one of the world's most distinguished anthropologists and historians of technology, science and gender. Her ground-breaking work on the history of technology and gender in imperial China and on the technology of rice farming has won numerous international accolades and prizes and has made her a leading figure in her field. She holds Honorary Professorships at the University of Hong Kong and Beijing Normal University, and is a long-term research associate at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. She is currently engaged in three collaborative research projects on the global history of technology: one at the Max Planck Institute in Berlin, one at Hong Kong University, and one at the University of Twente. Among many markers of international esteem, Francesca is President of the US-based Society for the History of Technology. She has supervised some 70 PhD students in anthropology, history, STS and Chinese studies, including over 25 since arriving in Edinburgh, and as Emerita will continue supervising her current students.

Francesca's outstanding publication record includes the volume on *Agriculture* in Joseph Needham's series *Science and Civilisation in China* (Cambridge University Press, 1984; Chinese translation 1994, Japanese translation 2007; History Prize, Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, 1985); *The Rice Economies: Technology and Development in Asian Societies* (Blackwell, Oxford, 1986, revised edition California University Press, 1994); *Technology and Gender: Fabrics of Power in Late Imperial China* (University of California Press, 1997, Chinese translation 2006; Dexter Prize, Society for the History of Technology, 1999); *Graphics and Text in the Production of Technical Knowledge in China* (Brill, 2007); *Technology, Gender and History* (Routledge, 2013, Chinese translation 2017); *Rice: Global Histories and New Networks* (Cambridge University Press, 2015; Choice Outstanding Academic Title 2015). She is currently working on a volume on *Moving Crops and the Scales of History*.

Francesca gained her PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Cambridge. After several years (1973-83) as Research Fellow at the Needham Research Institute in Cambridge, she took up the post of *Chargée de recherche* at the CNRS in Paris (1984-87). In 1987 she was appointed Professor of Anthropology at UCLA, transferring to UC Santa Barbara in 1993. In 2005 she took up the position of Professor of Social Anthropology here in Edinburgh.

As this synopsis makes clear, Francesca is a truly international scholar. In addition to the above positions, she has previously spent a year as Visiting Professor at Yeongnam University in South Korea, and two years as Wellcome Research Fellow at the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine at the University of Manchester. These strong international connections have supported the School in its joint PhD programme with the National University of Singapore, and in bringing a succession of China Research Council fellows and other East Asian visitors to Edinburgh University.

In her retirement, Francesca is really looking forward to spending more time exploring Scotland's landscapes and artscapes, and colleagues in the School wish her well to do so.

**Special Minute**  
**Professor Peter Rosa, BA, PhD (Dunelm)**  
**George David Emeritus Professor of Entrepreneurship and**  
**Family Business**

Peter Rosa retired as the George David Professor of Entrepreneurship and Family Business on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2017, a position he held within the Business School since November 2004. He received his BA in anthropology at the University of Durham in 1972 and his PhD in 1981. His appointment to the George David Chair enabled him to specialise in the entrepreneurship and family business interface, a rapidly developing research area. The George David endowment gave him the opportunity not only to progress his specific research interests in the role of portfolio entrepreneurship in intergenerational family businesses longevity, but also to participate prominently in the development of a global research community, the Global STEP (Successful Transgenerational Entrepreneurship Practices) family business consortium, which now has teams from over forty countries. Linked with this research has been the establishment of entrepreneurship new venture creation and family business courses within the Business School at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Peter has also served as Head of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Group for eight years and as the Director of the Centre Entrepreneurship for Entrepreneurship Research. Over his academic career he has supervised twenty one PhD students, twelve of whom have become international entrepreneurship researchers and teachers.

Peter's appointment at Edinburgh followed seventeen years at the University of Stirling where he started in 1987 as a Senior Research Fellow in the Scottish Enterprise Foundation, Scotland's leading entrepreneurship development centre at that time. Subsequently he transferred as Senior Lecturer to the Department of Management and Organization, where he became MBA Director and Head of Department. He directed a number of large funded research projects including research on graduate entrepreneurial career aspirations, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, and gender and small business management, funded by the ESRC. His pioneering research on portfolio entrepreneurship in the late 1990s, funded by Scottish Enterprise, established portfolio entrepreneurship as a new research area within the entrepreneurship field.

Peter has been a Visiting Professor at Makerere University Business School (MUBS), Uganda since 2001, and has played a prominent role in establishing its Entrepreneurship Centre (with EU funding), and designing their undergraduate, postgraduate entrepreneurship and PhD programmes. He led the participation of Uganda in the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, a fifty-country research consortium, from 2003 to 2012 and was the first to introduce a programme of family business research in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2010 he established a new entrepreneurship centre at the University of Swaziland Faculty of Commerce with funding from the Commonwealth Secretariat.

He now lives with his wife, Alison, in Alva, Clackmannanshire, and looks forward to having more time to spend with his grandchildren, Simon and Alice.

Friends and colleagues across the University, but particularly from the Business School, wish him a very happy and well-deserved retirement.

**Special Minute**  
**Professor Bill Whyte MA, PG Dip Social Work, CBE**  
**Emeritus Professor of Social Work Studies**  
**in Criminal and Youth Justice**

Bill Whyte retires from his Personal Chair of Social Work Studies in Criminal and Youth Justice on August 30, 2017. By this time he will have completed 34 years as lecturer, senior lecturer and professor at the university. Bill has been an international figure in the field of probation studies and social work in criminal justice, making important contributions both to research and to the education and training of social workers and social work managers in this practice specialism. In the last decade he has focused his work mainly on social work and youth crime and as such has been one of the key figures drawing links between youth crime, victimisation, upbringing and disadvantage in childhood.

Bill studied as an undergraduate and post graduate at the University of Edinburgh and after periods as a practitioner and social work manager, was appointed as a Lecturer in Social Work in 1983. He was subsequently appointed senior lecturer and to a personal chair in 2007. Bill has taught at all undergraduate levels on social work in criminal and youth justice and has successfully supervised many doctoral students and countless numbers of MSc and MSW students as well as examining in all the jurisdictions of the UK.

Bill's work has been geared to research impact and to bridging the world of academia and social work practice as an externally facing academic. Bill's post was funded by government from 1992 until 2012, and he led a successful 20 year partnership between the University of Edinburgh and Scottish Government which saw the re-establishment of specialist probation (criminal justice social work) provision across the country following the disbandment of the national probation service in the 1970s. Most social work managers and practitioners in the newly established specialism completed the university's part time MSc in Advanced Social Work Studies in Criminal Justice funded by the state between 1992 and 2007. In 2000 Bill became Director of the national Criminal Justice Social Work Development Centre based in Social Work at the University of Edinburgh, which was also funded by government. The Centre ran until 2012. The orientation of the Centre was focused on research impact and service development. In addition to providing extensive continuing professional development and knowledge exchange work for the social work profession, the centre's staff, under Bill's direction, produced national practice guidance, research briefing papers and carried out practice relevant research on topics which included domestic violence, sexually harmful behaviour, community reparation and restorative justice, prison resettlement and routes out of prison, children in trouble with the law, persistent youth crime, and effective practice in reducing re-offending.

From 2004 the focus of the Bill's work was increasingly on youth crime, contributing to the establishment and development of specialist youth justice social work practice as part of childcare provision across Scotland. Bill made a major contribution to helping Scottish practice fulfil the requirements of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989). Such was his impact that Bill was awarded a CBE in 2015 for his academic contribution and service to social work in youth justice. The citation noted that he was viewed as an 'architect of the Scottish Government's whole system approach to youth justice'. This whole systems approach to youth crime remains in place and recorded data suggests that the numbers of children (under 18) referred to Children's Hearings on offence grounds has reduced by 83% and the number of under eighteens in custody has reduced by 70% in the last decade (Scottish Government 2015).

Throughout his career, Bill has maintained a prodigious publication record of high quality and has produced over 100 publications including books, journal articles, research publications and briefing papers. His international contacts and collaborations have been extensive, and his invitations to provide consultancy and papers includes South America, USA, Canada, India, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Hong Kong as well as across Europe, particularly in Scandinavia. In 2012 Bill returned to his original post in Social Work in the School of Social and Political Science where he carried responsibility for academic misconduct for the School until May 2017.

In his retirement, Bill will continue to do some PhD supervision and guest lectures, some writing on youth justice, and some consultancy in Scotland and in India. He plans to continue as vice chair of Edinburgh University Association Football Club (EU AFC) and contribute to the work of colleagues in the club in maintaining the University's presence in the newly established professional Lowland League, taking advantage of a major investment by the University in providing a new ground for the club. In between he hopes to find time to travel in his newly purchased motorhome, to continue to cycle and to walk his dog along the coastline of East Lothian.

The University of Edinburgh

Electronic Senate

16 – 24 January 2018

**Senate Assessor Vacancies – Call for nominations**

**Executive Summary**

The Senatus elects from its membership four Senatus Assessors to serve on the University Court, of whom at least one must be a professor and at least one a non-professorial member of the teaching staff.

There are two vacancies arising for Senate Assessor, at least one of which must be for a non-professorial member of the academic staff.

The term of office for both members is 1 August 2018 – 31 July 2022.

**How does this align with the University/College/School/Committee's strategic plans and priorities?**

Not applicable.

**Action requested**

Senate members are invited to do the following:

- approve the Regulations for the Conduct of the Senate Assessor Elections to be held on 21 and 22 March 2018
- to approve the constitution of the Scrutinising Committee
- to consider and make nominations for the vacancies arising for Senate Assessors

**How will any action agreed be implemented and communicated?**

Key dates will be communicated in the Senate Committees' Newsletter. Senate will be formally advised of the outcome of the process at the meeting of e-Senate to be held from 8 May - 16 May 2018

**Resource/Risk/Compliance**

1. Resource implications

Does the paper have resource implications? No

2. Risk assessment

Does the paper include a risk analysis? No

3. Equality and Diversity

Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? Continuing Senate Assessors will be Professor Elizabeth Bomberg and Professor Alexander Tudhope. The University Court has an Equality & Diversity Policy that strongly recognises the benefits that a diverse University Court can bring. In addition to normal Senate communications, the call for nominations will be communicated in Staff News in order encourage a diverse range of candidates.

4. Freedom of Information

This is an open paper.

**Any other relevant information, including keywords**

A comment need only be submitted to raise an objection/suggest corrections. If no comments are received the minutes will be deemed approved. In this context any comments on this paper should be e-mailed to [Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk) quoting "comment on e-S 17/18 2 E." These comments will be added verbatim at <http://edin.ac/18tbekG>

**Originator of the paper**

Theresa Sheppard, Senate Clerk

## Senate Assessor Election

### Action requested

Senate members are invited to do the following:

- approve the Regulations for the Conduct of the Senate Assessor Elections to be held on 21 and 22 March 2018.
- approve the constitution of the Scrutinising Committee.
- consider and make nominations for the vacancies arising for Senate Assessors.

### Background

The Senatus elects from its membership four Senatus Assessors to serve on the University Court, of whom at least one must be a Professor and at least one a non-professorial member of the teaching staff. There are now two vacancies arising for Senate Assessors:

#### ***Two ordinary term vacancies: 1 August 2018 – 31 July 2022***

The Senate must elect from its membership two Assessors to fill these two vacancies, at least one of which must be a non-professorial member of the academic staff.

### The University Court

The present powers of the Court are defined in the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, and include among others: the administration and management of the whole revenue and property of the University; the regulation of the salaries of all members of staff; and the establishment of Committees of its own members or others and the determination of the membership and the quorum of such committees. As a corporate body it owns all the University's property and other assets and employs all the University's staff as well as being responsible for the effectiveness of its internal management arrangements.

The membership of the Court, which totals 22, is drawn from a range of internal and external sources. In addition to the Rector (elected by staff and students) and the Principal, members (known as 'Assessors') are elected by the Senatus Academicus (four) and the General Council (three). Assessors are also elected by the Chancellor, the City of Edinburgh Council and by the non-teaching staff of the University (one of each). The Students' Representative Council nominates two student members and Court itself can co-opt up to eight other members, at least seven of whom must be from outwith the University.

### The Role of the Senate Assessor

It is fundamental to the successful operation of the Court and discharge of its responsibilities that members nominated by particular constituencies should act independently as members of a corporate body, and not as if delegated by the group they represent. Members need to recognise and understand the distinction between executive management of the University (responsibility for which rests with the University's senior managers) and the role of Court in providing high-level strategic oversight and ensuring that adequate control and monitoring arrangements exist to ensure that management is exercising proper stewardship and working towards agreed strategic objectives.

The Court currently meets five times a year. The Court's committees normally meet between three and six times a year on various days of the week. It is assumed that members will attend the majority if not all, meetings of Court, but the University does recognise that on occasion for health or other reasons this will not be possible. The University does, however, expect all

members to be committed and willing to engage with the work of Court and the University. Court members are invited to attend a number of University ceremonial events and some social events throughout the year. They are very welcome at these events, but the University recognises that other commitments may limit members' ability to accept all such invitations.

Members will be expected to serve on a number of Court Committees (normally around two committees at any one time). Members' particular expertise and experience are taken into account by the University in deciding on which committees they are asked to join.

Prospective candidates should further note that as a member of Court, on election, they will require to acknowledge that they are familiar with the University's approved Code of Conduct and understand their obligations under it specifically including the requirements: to declare areas of potential conflicts of interest; confirm that they are able to comply with the general duties of a Trustee of a charity in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and that they are not disqualified from acting as a Trustee by virtue of a disqualification listed within the Act.

Please contact Dr Lewis Allan, Head of Court Services, for further details about University Court and the role of the Senate Assessor: [Lewis.Allan@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Lewis.Allan@ed.ac.uk)

For an informal discussion about their experience of the role, you may contact the continuing Senate Assessors, Professor Elizabeth Bomberg and Professor Sandy Tudhope, details at the following link: [www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/governance-strategic-planning/governance/university-court/membership](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/governance-strategic-planning/governance/university-court/membership)

### **Nomination Process**

Nominations for the two vacancies for Senatus Assessors, proposed and seconded by members of the Senatus, must be received by the Deputy Returning Officer, Theresa Sheppard, by noon on Wednesday 28 February 2018.

Those nominated must be members of the Senatus. If more than two valid candidates are nominated for the two ordinary term vacancies, they will be invited to supply brief biographical details for consideration by members of the Senatus as part of the election process.

### **Election Date and method of delivery**

In the event of there being only one valid candidate for each vacancy and therefore an uncontested election, the Deputy Returning Officer shall declare and publicise as soon as practicable and no later than 48 hours after the meeting of the Scrutinising Committee the names of the valid candidate or candidates elected.

If more than two valid candidates are nominated for the two vacancies, an electronic election will take place for that membership category, and Senate will be advised as such. If an election or elections are required, they will be held from 9.00 am on Wednesday 21 March to 7.00 pm on Thursday 22 March 2018. Since a non-professorial member of the academic staff must be elected to at least one of the vacancies, election arrangements will vary according to the nominations received (see paragraph 27 of the regulations).

The Deputy Returning Officer would ensure that a notice of the result of the elections is posted on the Old College Notice Board, communicated to Senate members via email, and posted to the Senate webpages as soon as is practicable after the result or results have been declared. Senate will be formally advised of the outcome of the election or elections via the e-Senate meeting to be held from 8 to 16 May 2018.

**Election of Senatus Assessor on the University Court  
Nomination form for ordinary term vacancies**

This form is valid only in respect of the election taking place by electronic ballot to be held by the Senate from 21 to 22 March 2018 for two vacancies for Senatus Assessors on the University Court (term runs 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2022). Only members of the Senate are eligible to nominate and be nominated.

We (please print),

.....

and

.....

nominate

.....

as a candidate for election as an Assessor on the University Court.

**Signature of proposer**.....

**Signature of seconder**.....

**Declaration by candidate**

I declare that I am a member of the Senatus and that I consent to the above nomination.

**Signature of candidate**.....

**Nominations must be received by the Deputy Returning Officer, Theresa Sheppard, by noon on Wednesday 28 February 2018.**

**Address:** Theresa Sheppard, Academic Policy Officer, Academic Services, The University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge, Edinburgh EH8 9YL

*The persons elected will serve from 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2022.*

## University of Edinburgh

### **Regulations for the Conduct of the election of an Assessor from amongst their own number of the Members of Senate to the University Court to be held from 21 to 22 March 2018, governed by Ordinance of the University Court No. 187 (Composition of the University Court)**

1. The Senate Assessor Election/Elections shall be held from 9.00 am on 21 March 2018 until 7.00pm on 22 March 2018.

#### *Role of the Returning and Deputy Returning Officers*

2. Gavin Douglas, Deputy Secretary, Student Experience, shall be the Returning Officer. The Senate Clerk has been designated Deputy Returning Officer and shall be responsible for the management of the election and the declaration of the result of the election.
3. The Deputy Returning Officer shall publicise the election/elections and voting procedure to Senate members and make arrangements as appropriate to secure the good conduct of the election.
4. The Deputy Returning Officer shall provide nomination forms calling for nominations and draw attention to the correct form of procedure for making nominations. The call for nominations shall be published by the Deputy Returning Officer via Senate members' email, on the University website and the Senate webpages.

#### *Electoral Roll*

5. The compilation of the electoral roll for the Senate Assessor Elections shall be 12 noon on 24 January 2018.
6. The Electoral Roll will consist of all members of Senate, as of 24 January 2018. The electoral roll shall be available for inspection in the Deputy Returning Officer's office, Reid Room, Old College from 24 January 2018 during normal working hours.

#### *Nominations and Validation of Candidates*

7. The call for nominations shall commence at 12 noon on 24 January 2018. No nominations shall be accepted before this date and time.
8. The Deputy Returning Officer shall provide nomination forms and call for nominations by email and on the University website. The Deputy Returning Officer will draw attention to the correct form of procedure for making nominations as well as advising that failure to comply with the procedure shall invalidate a nomination.
9. The call for nominations shall also be published in appropriate issues of the Staff News and on the University website.
10. All nominations must be submitted on the approved form and lodged with the Deputy Returning Officer by 12 noon on Wednesday 28 February 2018. No nominations shall be accepted after this date and time.
11. Only members of the electorate, as defined in paragraph 6, shall be eligible for nominations and nominations may be made only by members of the electorate.

12. Each nomination must be subscribed by no fewer than two members of the electorate. Members of the electorate must only make one nomination each. Reciprocal nominations are not permitted.
13. Nominations must be received in hard copy by the Deputy Returning Officer. Nominations received by any other means including electronic mail, by proxy, or orally shall be not be valid. In exceptional circumstance and with the prior consent of the Deputy Returning Officer, an emailed nomination form shall be accepted but only if an original written document is presented within a reasonable timescale as agreed by the Deputy Returning Officer.
14. If the Deputy Returning Officer believes there is any cause for concern regarding the validity of a nomination, this matter shall be drawn to the attention of the nominee/candidate, who shall be given the opportunity to address the cause for concern, if practicable, prior to the meeting of the Scrutinising Committee.
15. The Deputy Returning Officer shall acknowledge receipt of the nomination to each nominee indicating the date and time the nomination was received.
16. The Senate Assessor is eligible to stand for no more than two consecutive terms of office.
17. The following Committee, to be known as the Scrutinising Committee, shall be appointed by the Senate to scrutinise nominations and confirm the validation of the nominations and hear any appeal against disqualification by the Returning Officer:
  - Sheriff Principal Edward Bowen - representative of the University Court
  - Dr Paul Norris – Representative of Senatus Academicus
  - Dr Lewis Allan - representative of the University Secretary
 The decision of the Scrutinising Committee is final.
18. As soon as practicable, each nominee shall be notified of the outcome of the Scrutinising Committee's deliberations and the list of candidates for the election shall then be confirmed and published.
19. If more than two valid candidates are nominated for the two ordinary term vacancies, the Deputy Returning Officer will invite all candidates to supply brief biographical details for consideration by members of the Senatus as part of the election process.
20. In the event of there being only one valid candidate for each vacancy and therefore an uncontested election, the Deputy Returning Officer shall declare and publicise as soon as practicable and no later than 48 hours after the meeting of the Scrutinising Committee the name of the valid candidate elected for each vacancy.

#### *Conduct of election process*

21. Each candidate shall receive from the Deputy Returning Officer a copy of these Regulations. In order to assist in the interpretation of these Regulations a meeting with candidates may also be held if required.
22. Canvassing in the form of poster campaigns is not allowed. Candidates should not seek to influence their colleagues by behaviour that may be perceived to be bullying, harassment or intimidation. If these prohibitions are breached, it may lead to disqualification.

23. If the Deputy Returning Officer has reason to believe that a breach of these Regulations may have occurred the Deputy Returning Officer shall request a written explanation or clarification from the candidate. If the Deputy Returning Officer concludes that a material breach has occurred the Deputy Returning Officer shall inform the Returning Officer. The Returning Officer has the authority to disqualify a candidate subject to the right of appeal by the candidate to the Scrutinising Committee within 48 hours of receiving written notification of the disqualification. The decision of the Scrutinising Committee shall be final.
24. The validity of the election shall not be affected in the event that a candidate is unavailable to continue for any reason prior to the results of the election being announced and where there are more than two candidates remaining the election shall proceed as planned. In the event of there being only one remaining candidate for each vacancy and therefore an uncontested election, the Deputy Returning Officer shall declare and publicise as soon as practicable and no later than 48 hours after confirmation of the uncontested election status the name of the valid candidate(s) elected.
25. After the declaration of the elected candidate(s), arrangements to hold a new election shall be undertaken only in the event of that declared elected candidate being unable for whatever reason to continue to hold the position of Senate Assessor.
26. The Deputy Returning Officer shall distribute to each member of the electorate via email a link to the voting system along with a link to the relevant web page to view the candidates' biographies for information. The emails shall be required to comply with the University's computing regulations and the Deputy Returning Officer shall reserve the right to require amendments to be made to the content particularly if the text contains inappropriate comments about other candidates.

#### *Voting arrangements*

27. Since a non-professorial member of the academic staff must be elected to at least one of the vacancies, election arrangements will vary according to the nominations received. If multiple nominations are received both for professorial and non-professorial candidates, or a single professorial and multiple non-professorial nominations are received, the election will be conducted by means of the Single Transferrable Vote, Weighted Inclusive Gregory Method (STV WIGM). In both these instances, the non-professorial candidate with the greatest share of the vote will automatically be elected. If a single nomination for a non-professorial candidate and multiple nominations for professorial candidates are received, the non-professorial candidate will be automatically elected, and the election of the professorial candidate will be conducted by means of the Alternative Vote (AV).
28. Voting shall be conducted by staff on-line using a secure University portal. All those on the electoral roll for the Senate Assessor Election shall be permitted access and shall be able to vote on the on-line voting system from 9.00 am on 21 March 2018 until 7.00 pm on 22 March 2018.

#### *Counting*

29. All votes cast on-line shall be counted together using an electronic counting system.
30. In the event of a draw, the successful candidate shall be determined by the toss of a coin. As the Returning Officer tosses the coin into the air the candidates shall be invited

to choose either 'heads' or 'tails', the candidate choosing the upper side when the coin lands shall be declared the winner.

*Declaration*

31. The Deputy Returning Officer shall ensure that a notice of the result of the election is posted on the Old College Notice Board, communicated to Senate members via email and posted to the Senate webpages as soon as is practicable after the result has been declared.
32. The successful candidate shall be required to confirm in writing that they are not disqualified under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from acting as a Trustee of a charity.

The University of Edinburgh

Electronic Senate

16 – 24 January 2018

Communications from the University Court

**Executive Summary**

To update Senate on certain matters considered by the University Court at its meetings on 25 September and 4 December 2017.

**How does this align with the University / Committee's strategic plans and priorities?**

Not applicable.

**Action requested**

Senate is invited to note the report.

**How will any action agreed be implemented and communicated?**

Not applicable.

**Resource / Risk / Compliance**

**1. Resource implications (including staffing)**

Where applicable, as covered in the report.

**2. Risk assessment**

Where applicable, as covered in the report.

**3. Equality and Diversity**

Where applicable, as covered in the report.

**4. Freedom of information**

This paper is open.

**Any other relevant information, including keywords**

A comment need only be submitted to raise an objection/suggest corrections. If no comments are received the minutes will be deemed approved. In this context any comments on this paper should be e-mailed to [Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk) quoting "comment on e-S 17/18 2 F." These comments will be added verbatim at <http://edin.ac/18tbekG>

**Originator of the paper**

Dr Lewis Allan, Head of Court Services, January 2018

## COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY COURT

25 September 2017

### 1 National Student Survey 2017 and Annual Scottish Funding Council Quality Assurance Report

The results of the National Student Survey 2017, analysis, proposed actions and further issues for consideration were reviewed alongside the University's annual report to the Scottish Funding Council on institution-led review and enhancement activity.

The improvement in the National Student Survey overall satisfaction measure, from 80% in 2016 to 83% in 2017 and relative improvement in the University's position relative to peer institutions was welcomed but it was noted that results remain significantly below those the University aspires towards.

The Heads of College commented on variations in results at School and degree course level, disseminating best practice and improving student spaces across the University's campuses.

The National Student Survey follow-up actions proposed were endorsed. The annual quality assurance report was endorsed and the Vice-Convenor authorised to sign the accompanying statement.

### 2 City Deal

Following a Court Seminar briefing and discussion, Court welcomed the University's involvement as a key partner in the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Deal, announced in July.

### 3 Rectorial Election 2018

Proposed arrangements for the Rectorial Election 2018 were considered. Court agreed an election date of 26-27 February 2018 and the appointment of Sheriff Principal Edward Bowen as the Returning Officer and Ms Tracey Slaven as the Deputy Returning Officer. It was agreed that the draft election regulations would be subject to further consultation with student and staff representatives with a final draft to be submitted to Exception Committee for approval.

### 4 Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Act 2016

Proposals developed by Nominations Committee to revise the composition of Court to enable compliance with the Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Act 2016 were considered and approved in principle. This will include a small increase in the size of Court from 22 to 23 members, transitional arrangements prior to full implementation, and an expected full implementation date of 1 August 2020.

### 5 Annual Review Completion Rates

The 96.5% completion rate for staff annual reviews in 2016/17 was welcomed.

### 6 Resolutions

The following resolutions were approved:

Resolution No. 69/2017: Foundation of a Personal Chair of International Law and Global Governance

Resolution No. 70/2017:	Foundation of a Personal Chair of Sociology and Social Policy
Resolution No. 71/2017:	Alteration of the title of the Chair of Social Work
Resolution No. 72/2017:	Alteration of the title of the Chair of Innovation in the Life Sciences
Resolution No. 73/2017:	Foundation of a Chair of Tropical Agriculture and Sustainable Development
Resolution No. 74/2017:	Foundation of a Chair of Africa and International Development
Resolution No. 75/2017:	Foundation of a Personal Chair of Digital Cultural Heritage

**4 December 2017**

**1 City of Edinburgh Award**

The Rector and the Vice-Convener congratulated the Principal on his receipt of the 2017 City of Edinburgh Award and noting that this is the Principal's final Court meeting before demitting office in January, formally recorded Court's thanks for his exceptional service to the University and wider community.

**2 Student Experience Update**

The Deputy Secretary, Student Experience, presented the first iteration of a new metrics-based report and accompanying commentary.

Members discussed: assistance for selected Schools; the potential for new technology to assist oversight of individual student progress and offer targeted support, with a Learning Analytics Policy in development in consultation with student representatives; regular communication with students on actions taken; and enhancing recreational sport opportunities.

It was noted that future reports would continue to include broader updates beyond metric-based measures and include College-specific reports on a rotating basis.

**3 Strategic Planning**

- **Strategic Plan 2012-16: Final Progress Report**

Targets and key performance indicators which did not have final data available in December 2016 were reviewed alongside a summary of all Strategic Plan 2012-16 measures. It was agreed that the University has broadly achieved the targets and key performance indicators set out in the Strategic Plan 2012-16.

- **Strategic Plan 2016: Performance Measurement Framework**

The first annual progress report using the Performance Measurement Framework for the Strategic Plan 2016 was reviewed. Gender balance at staff grades 9 and 10, staff age profiles, including ethnicity/race measures, the proportion of academic staff from other EU member states and growth in staff numbers relative to student numbers were discussed. It was agreed that the University is broadly on track to deliver against the Strategic Plan 2016.

**4 Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17**

Following scrutiny by the Audit & Risk Committee and the Policy & Resources Committee, the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2017 were presented for approval. The sector-leading integrated reporting method used was discussed and welcomed. Court thanked all staff for their contribution towards the financial performance of the University and

those involved in producing the Annual Report and Accounts. Court approved the Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17.

## **5 Edinburgh College of Art (ECA) Masterplan**

A masterplan envisaging an expanded single site campus for the Edinburgh College of Art at Lauriston Place was reviewed. The following points were discussed:

- ECA's strong performance since joining the University in 2011 and future ambitions in teaching and research;
- The importance of maintaining and improving student facilities as part of the Masterplan;
- Expected future growth in the creative arts in Scotland; and,
- Providing an overview of planned major estates projects at a future Court Seminar.

The ECA Masterplan was approved.

## **6 Low Carbon College**

Following a progress update considered at the April 2017 meeting, a further update on the partnership with Shanghai JiaoTong University to establish a Low Carbon College in Shanghai Lingang, China, was reviewed. The plans in the context of the University's 'Zero by 2040' carbon neutral ambition was discussed, with data driven innovation to be incorporated into teaching methods.

The signing of a Memorandum of Agreement by the Senior Vice-Principal was approved subject to confirmation that the project team and Legal Services are content with the finalised document. The development of a Firm Proposal was supported.

## **7 Distance Learning at Scale**

Plans to establish a small number of large scale distance learning programmes to meet the University's ambition of 10,000 distance learners on credit bearing courses within the next five years were outlined. Building on the University's success in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and involving the Students' Association at the appropriate stage in development was discussed. The update and strategic direction proposed was noted.

## **8 Annual Review 2016/17**

Eight feature articles for publication in the Annual Review 2016/17 were approved.

## **9 Laigh Year Regulations**

An amendment to allow – subject to various academic checks and final approval from Senate – student sabbatical officers to serve for a second one-year term of office if re-elected was approved.

## **10 UK Quality Code for Higher Education – Consultation**

The University's draft response to a UK Quality Code for Higher Education consultation was reviewed, with the Assistant Principal Academic Standards & Quality Assurance to finalise the response following comment from the Senate Quality Assurance Committee.

## **11 Exception Committee Report**

The following matters approved by the Exception Committee on behalf of Court were noted:

- Rectorial Election 2018 Regulations – approved following consultation with student and staff union representatives. It was agreed that the election should take place based on previous years' regulations. It is proposed that an independent review of the election process engaging the Electoral Reform Society is undertaken after the 2018 election.
- Purchase of Ion Microprobe – approval for the purchase at an approximate cost of £2.9M, funded by a UK Research Council grant, and delegation of signing authority to the Head of the College of Science & Engineering.

## **12 Nominations Committee Report**

The report was noted and the following appointments to the Scrutinising Committee for the Rectorial Election 2018 were approved: Dr Claire Phillips (Court representative); Janet Philp (Trade Union representative); and Patrick Kilduff (President of Students' Association).

## **13 Resolutions**

The following draft resolution was referred to the General Council and to Senate for observations:

Draft Resolution No. 1/2018: Degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVetMed).

The following resolutions were approved:

Resolution No. 76/2017: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Fire and Structures

Resolution No. 77/2017: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Medicine

The University of Edinburgh

Electronic Senate

16 – 24 January 2018

**Resolutions**

Executive Summary

This report is presented to Senate in accordance with the procedures for consultation on Resolutions.

How does this align with the University / Committee's strategic plans and priorities?

Not applicable.

Action requested

Senate is invited to make observations on the attached draft Resolutions.

How will any action agreed be implemented and communicated?

Via Senate's report to University Court.

Resource / Risk / Compliance

1. Resource implications (including staffing)  
There are no resource implications. Part of the approval process involved confirmation of the funding in place to support new Chairs.
2. Risk assessment  
The paper does not include a risk analysis. There are reputational considerations in establishing and renaming Chairs and updating regulations, which are considered as part of the University's approval processes.
3. Equality and Diversity  
There are no specific equality and diversity issues associated with this paper. However equality and diversity best practice and agreed procedures are adopted in appointing individuals to chairs.
4. Freedom of information  
Open paper.

Any Other Relevant Information including key words

A comment need only be submitted to raise an objection/suggest corrections. If no comments are received the minutes will be deemed approved. In this context any comments on this paper should be e-mailed to [Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk) quoting "comment on e-S 17/18 2 G." These comments will be added verbatim at <http://edin.ac/18tbekG>

Originator of the paper

Ms K Graham  
Deputy Head of Court Services  
December 2018

## **Senate**

### **Resolutions**

Draft Resolution No. 1/2018: Degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVetMed)

Draft Resolution No. 2/2018: Alteration of the title of the Chair of Languages and Classroom  
Education

Draft Resolution No. 3/2018: Foundation of a Chair of Biochemical Engineering

**UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**

**Draft Resolution of the University Court No. 1/2018**

**Degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVetMed)**

At Edinburgh, Fifth day of February, Two thousand and eighteen.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to institute a postgraduate degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine:

THEREFORE the University Court, on the recommendation of the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraph 2 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. The University of Edinburgh may confer the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and those engaged in postgraduate studies by coursework and research in the University of Edinburgh shall include candidates for the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.
2. The Senatus Academicus has the power to make Regulations under this Resolution governing the studies undertaken for the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, and in particular to register candidates for the degree and ensure their satisfactory supervision and to discontinue registration of unsatisfactory candidates.
3. The degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine shall not be conferred honoris causa.
4. All candidates for the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine must be registered postgraduate students of the University of Edinburgh. The Regulations made by the Senatus governing registered postgraduate students apply to all candidates.
5. A candidate who has satisfied the conditions prescribed by or under this Resolution shall be entitled to receive the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.
6. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from 5 February 2018.

For and on behalf of the University Court

SARAH SMITH

University Secretary

**UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**

**Draft Resolution of the University Court No. 2/2018**

**Alteration of the title of the Chair of Languages and Classroom Education**

At Edinburgh, the Fifth day of September, Two thousand and eighteen.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to alter the title of the Chair of Languages and Classroom Education founded by Resolution 37/1999 and amended by Resolution 15/2017;

AND WHEREAS paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, provides that the University Court may, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and with the consent of the incumbent and patrons, if any, alter the title of existing professorships;

AND WHEREAS the Chair dealt with in this Resolution is in the patronage of the University Court itself:

THEREFORE the University Court, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act, 1966, with special reference to paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. The Chair of Languages and Classroom Education shall hereafter be designated the Chair of Languages Education & Classroom Pedagogies
2. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from 1 September Two thousand and seventeen.

For and on behalf of the University Court

SARAH SMITH

University Secretary

**UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**

**Resolution of the University Court No. 3/2018**

**Foundation of a Chair of Biochemical Engineering**

At Edinburgh, the Fifth day of February, Two thousand and eighteen.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to found a Chair of Biochemical Engineering.

THEREFORE the University Court, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act, 1966, with special reference to paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. There shall be a Chair of Biochemical Engineering in the University of Edinburgh.
2. The patronage of the Chair shall be vested in and exercised by the University Court of the University of Edinburgh.
3. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from 1 January Two thousand and eighteen.

For and on behalf of the University Court

SARAH SMITH

University Secretary

The University of Edinburgh

Electronic Senate

16 – 24 January 2018

## Report from the Knowledge Strategy Committee

### **Executive Summary**

To update Senate on certain matters considered by the Knowledge Strategy Committee at its meeting on 13 October 2017.

### **How does this align with the University / Committee's strategic plans and priorities?**

Not applicable.

### **Action requested**

Senate is invited to note the report.

### **How will any action agreed be implemented and communicated?**

Not applicable.

### **Resource / Risk / Compliance**

#### **1. Resource implications (including staffing)**

Where applicable, as covered in the report.

#### **2. Risk assessment**

Where applicable, as covered in the report.

#### **3. Equality and Diversity**

Where applicable, as covered in the report.

#### **4. Freedom of information**

This paper is open.

### **Any other relevant information, including keywords**

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### **Originator of the paper**

Dr Lewis Allan, Head of Court Services, January 2018

# REPORT FROM THE KNOWLEDGE STRATEGY COMMITTEE

13 October 2017

## 1 Digital Transformation

The Deputy Chief Information Officer delivered a presentation on the University's digital transformation activities – the application of digital technology in all aspects of the University. Updates on underpinning digital transformation projects were noted and student focused projects and communications to Schools and Colleges discussed.

## 2 Distance Learning at Scale

The Senior Vice-Principal presented an update on the current status of the Distance Learning at Scale project, with 13 potential pilot courses identified and business cases in development. The following points were discussed:

- Courses will be research-led and distinctive to the University of Edinburgh;
- 'Unbundling' – opportunities for students to progress at varying rates according to their own preference without the constraint of the standard academic year model;
- Providing appropriate student support tailored to large-scale distance learning courses.

## 3 Bulk Email Investigation

The Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning presented a report on the investigation into a graduation email error in June 2017. Future actions and lessons learned were noted, including a review of email templates, the timing of potentially sensitive emails and considering which emails require human review before issuing. Members discussed avoiding issuing emails on Fridays and examples at other organisations such as secondary education exam boards.

## 4 Information Security Policy & Framework

A revised Information Security Policy and a proposed Information Security Framework with supporting standards and procedures were reviewed. Improving communication to staff and students, mandatory awareness training for all staff and replacing an existing code of practice were discussed. The revised Information Security Policy was endorsed, with approval of underlying standards for the Information Security Framework delegated to IT Committee.

## 5 Digital Research Services

The Director of IT Infrastructure presented the proposed 2017/18 Digital Research Services project programme. The programme's intention to develop and maintain a comprehensive and integrated suite of digital services for University researchers was noted and avoiding duplication of long term research data storage was discussed. The programme of work and expenditure was approved as set out in the paper.

## 6 Learning Analytics Update

Linkages between the development of a new learning analytics policy with the new General Data Protection Regulation and distance learning at scale programme were considered. It was agreed to delay developing a detailed learning analytics policy until later in 2017-18 and to introduce interim governance arrangements as proposed in the paper with immediate effect. Developing case studies or examples to assist Schools with interpretation of a new policy was requested.

## **7 Data Stewards**

The Committee endorsed the:

- Catalogue of golden copy data sources, including data steward appointments for the core golden copy data sources;
- Formal definition of the data steward role;
- Proposal that Heads of Colleges and Support Groups should be accountable for appointing Data Stewards in their locales, in line with their overall accountability for information security.