e-Business Meeting of the Senatus Academic Policy and Regulations Committee (APRC) Tuesday 20 – Wednesday 21 December 2022

CONFIRMED MINUTE

For approval	
1.	Activating 2020/21 Covid Academic mitigation: ZJE programmes - APRC 22/23 3A: CLOSED
	For approval
	This item is closed business.
2.	Non-standard academic year dates: Online MBA - APRC 22/23 3B For approval
	Members raised concerns with the paper and a majority of the Committee reluctantly approved a delay for the January 2023 intake to be delayed to March 2023 on the condition that the School attend the January meeting of APRC to allow members to clarify how the revised timescale will work in practice. APRC raised concern that the sequence of action taken indicates that the School made arrangements to notify students of the later start date prior to receiving formal approval from
	APRC. APRC should receive proposals at an earlier stage and prior to students being notified, to allow due consideration and approval prior to arrangements being confirmed to students and/or offer holders.
	The Committee understand that the immediate concern relating to January is addressed with this approval, however the School intends to request a permanent change to the academic dates for this programme. APRC requires the Business School to submit a paper requesting a permanent change to the programme and permission for non-standard academic dates to the January meeting of APRC to allow the programme changes to be considered in full.
	 Members raised concerns with elements of the proposal and the School are asked to ensure these are considered and covered in the January paper to APRC: Clarification of the alternative semester structure and the implications of an alternative structure on access to institutional student support services. Specific concern was raised regarding student access to support services and extracurricular activities.
	 Detail on the knock-on implications of a delayed start on the timing of courses later in the programme.
	 Greater detail on the Learn Ultra issues being experienced and the requirement for permanent non-standard semester dates if the issues are resolved for the March 2023 intake and beyond.
	 Greater detail on the implications of the non-standard dates for staff resourcing and workload. In particular, a detailed programme structure including dates for semester breaks, assessments and with consideration of the University publication deadlines and requirement for support from central University services such as ESC. A query was raised regarding support and resourcing for the anticipated marking workload for staff assessing final capstone projects in December.
	• The Committee raised concern regarding the feasibility of a delay to March 2023. The Committee queried whether delaying the first intake to September 2023 would

be more appropriate to allow these issues to be adequately addressed and to enable
the cohort to commence on standard academic timescales.