|  |
| --- |
| **SENATE** |
| **09.30am 10 March 2021** |

|  |
| --- |
| **MINUTES** |
| **Venue:** | MS Teams Meeting |
| **Author:** | Mrs Diane Evans, Registry Officer |
| **Present:**  | Professor R Cryan (Chair), Professor M Adkins, Professor A Ball, Dr S Bastow, Professor H Bryan, Dr S Burns, Dr B Canavan, Professor N Clear, Professor A Crampton, Professor S Donnelly, Professor P Goswami, Professor J Johnes, Dr M Littler, Professor J Malay, Mr M Mills, Ms N Mushahar, Mr A Opakunle, Mr K Pilicudale, Mr T Rolls, Professor A Sambell, Mr K Singh, Professor D Taylor, Professor T Thornton, Professor R Ward, Dr L Waters, Ms K White  |
| **In attendance:** | Dr R Birds, Ms D Evans, Dr J Grainger, Mr T Hosker, Ms A Jones, Mr A Mandebura, Ms S Moss |
| **Apologies:** | Professor P Bissell, Mrs C Goodliff, Mrs G Firth, Mrs N Firth, Professor M Ginger, Mrs T. Mallinson, Professor J Owen-Lynch, Dr A Pettican, Professor T Schmidt, Professor P Thomas, Professor B Tolchard, Mr A Thompson, Mrs T Turner |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **PAPER REFERENCE** |
|  | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**There were no declarations of interest. |  |
|  | **ESTATES BRIEFING**Members were advised that all work on all projects below has been delivered in a Covid-19 safe manner:* The UKRRIN project has been delayed due to current travel restrictions.
* The ERDF-funded smart rolling stock maintenance and research facility will start next month.
* Work on Percy Shaw house is now completed.
* Work on the Technology Building, an £8 million research facility, has begun and will include installing a total of 519 photovoltaic cells on the roof.
* Plans for the new Faith Centre are going ahead and the University will be tendering for contracts in summer 2021/22.
* Work on the façade of Joseph Priestly and Ramsden Buildings will be completed in September/October 2021.
* Work to the Harold Wilson and Richard Steinitz buildings is underway.
* The Firth Street Depot is being refurbished to house the new Film School.
* A planning application has been submitted to develop the Southgate site.
 |  |
|  | **MINUTES****Resolved**: that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2020 be accepted as a correct record. | SEN\_2020\_11\_04\_M |
|  | **MATTERS ARISING**There were no matters arising which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda. |  |
|  | **CHAIR’S BUSINESS**5.1 **Grade Safety Policy**Members noted that Chair’s Action had been taken to approve the Grade Safety Policy.5.2 **Schools of Art, Design and Architecture and Music Humanities and Media**Members noted that the two Schools were merging. A name for the new School would be proposed at the next Senate. |  |
|  | **UNIVERSITY NEWS**Members were briefed on a range of news from around the University including the following items:* Professor Paul Thomas had been involved in Research for UK work to identify early signs of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism.
* The University, working with Portugal’s University of Minho had conducted research to map the dispersal of the SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus. Europe was found to have played a central role in the spread of the current pandemic.
* Dr Matheus Tunes from the School of Computing and Engineering, in partnership with Austria’s Montanuniversitaet Leoben (MUL), had collaborated on a new alloy that will harden aluminium without increasing its weight.
* Over 500 solar panels were being installed on the roof of the Technology Building as part of the University’s 10 point plan to achieve carbon neutral status by 2030.
* The University had celebrated National Care Leavers’ Week and commended the achievements of incredible young people.
* Dr Mahmoud Dhimish had been selected by the new Mendeley 2020 science-wide author database list of standardised citation indicators as one of the top 15 science academics in the UK who had started to publish since 2015.
* Lizzie Osborne had become the first Huddersfield student to be awarded the President’s Medal by the Royal Institute of British Architects(RIBA). Lizzie's fanzine-style dissertation studied the history of The Gemini nightclub before it was shut down in 1983.
* Tyra Kozlow, a product design graduate, had been named as a finalist in the 2020 Global Grad Show exhibition with her design of the ‘Sense Glucose Earring’; a non-invasive blood glucose monitor that could revolutionise how patients manage Type 1 diabetes.
* The 100th anniversary of the Cottingley Fairy hoax exhibition at the Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery in Leeds would be curated by the University’s Dr Merrick Burrow.
* Professor Adele Jones, Director of the None in Three (Ni3) global research centre, was to receive an OBE in recognition of her work to improve the lives of vulnerable women and children from around the world.
* Microsoft had funded a University project worth £135,000 to move to a cloud-based solution to enhance the security of its data centre.
* Huddersfield Nursing academics had been helping to speed up the UK’s Coronavirus vaccination drive. The volunteers, including emergency service staff and retired teachers, were being shown how to administer the vaccine.
 |  |
| **TO CONSIDER:** |
|  | **MEMBERSHIP OF SENATE****Resolved:** to approve the membership of Senate and to note that an election for a new academic member would be held. | SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P7 |
|  | **HONORARY AWARDS**Members were updated on the Honorary Award proposals for 2020 and were reminded that the names of those nominated were to be kept strictly confidential until formally announced by the University. Members noted that to date, all but one nominee had accepted their Honorary Award.  |  |
| **TO NOTE:** |
|  | **ENROLMENTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021**Members were briefed on enrolments and applications for 2020 by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor as follows:* The current environment was challenging and the deadline for applications had been delayed because of the impact of covid-19 lockdown;
* The University was marginally ahead overall on its position at the same time last year, due to colleagues’ innovative approach to recruitment;
* It was hoped that the position would improve further, but ingenuity and hard work would be required to boost applications;
* Staff were thanked for their continuing hard work.
 |  |
|  | **REPORTS FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR (TEACHING AND LEARNING)**The Deputy Vice-Chancellor briefed members on this item. Members noted:* Around 40,000 online MS Teams sessions had now been delivered.
* Staff had shown professionalism in ensuring teaching and learning operated in a Covid-secure environment.
	1. **National Student Survey (NSS)**

EPD and HHS response rates to NSS were in line with last year but other schools would need to encourage more responses.* 1. **Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF)**

The TEF-related KPIs were risk-rated red and there was still uncertainty concerning the future development of the TEF.* 1. **Teaching and Learning Strategy and Enabling Projects/Progress on KPIs**

Non-TEF-related KPIs were showing good progress, for example in reducing the attainment gaps associated with ethnicity and entry qualifications.* 1. **CABs Summer 2021 Planning for September 2021**

Exam and results release dates had been finalised and the Grade Safety Policy was in place. Student opinion had been sought to determine good practice in the digital offer which they would like to retain for the future. Examples included online PAT meetings and direct access to student support online. Staff were reminded to encourage students to continue to wear masks on campus, particularly in the library.10.5 **University Teaching and Learning Committee**Summaries of the meetings held on:10.5.124 November 202010.5.227 January 2021 | [SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P10.5.1and2](https://unifunctions.hud.ac.uk/COM/University-Committees/Senate/SEN_2021_03_10_P10.5.1and2.pdf?Web=1) |
|  | **REPORTS FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR (INTERNATIONAL)**Members noted:* 1. **Update on international enrolments & recruitment**

International applications were ahead of last year by a significant amount, and there had been a shift in markets from China to countries such as India and Nigeria. This reflected a wider trend across the sector and was thought to be linked to the recent changes in the post-study visa regulations.* 1. **Update on World University Rankings (KPI)**

The University was making steady progress towards achieving a position in the top 300 of the THE World University Rankings. Top ranked subjects included Law in the top 200 and in particular, Performing Arts which ranked in the top 30 in the world. In terms of the QS World Rankings the University Remained in the 700-750 range.* 1. **Update on international research partnerships**

The University had 140 research collaborations with 300 institutions but a number of projects had been impacted by Covid travel restrictions. There were currently 39 projects with joint outputs delivering joint PhDs or joint grant applications. Projects were being reviewed to see where they could be joined together at an institutional level.* 1. **Update on international student experience**

The University hoped to retain its position in the top 10% of the International Student Barometer (ISB), aspiring to be in the top 25 for integration measures. The four priority themes (employability, mobility, classroom activity and campus events) had been impacted by Covid-19 but it was hoped that activity would pick up again in these areas in the coming months.* 1. **University International Committee**

A summary of the meeting held on **2 December 2020**. | SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P11.5 |
|  | **REPORTS FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE)** Members noted:* 1. **An update on Preparations for the REF**

Preparations for the REF were on target and that 66% of academic staff were identified for submission from 19 Units of Assessment. Final preparations were underway for the submission of more than 1400 outputs, 60 impact case studies and 20 environment statements. The submission deadline was noon on 31 March and Equality Impact Assessments would be submitted by 20 July 2021. Assessment and audit would take place from May 2021 to March 2022 with results expected in April 2022.* 1. **University Research Committee**

The summary of the meeting held on 01 December 2020.* 1. **Update on R&E KPI performance**

The R&E KPI update presentation had been submitted with papers for information. | SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P12.2 |
|  | **SCHOOL BOARD SUMMARIES** The summaries of the School Boards were noted.* 1. AS – 22 February 2021
	2. ADA – 23 February 2021
	3. CE – 10 February 2021
	4. EPD – 21 October 2020
	5. EPD - 10 February 2021
	6. HBS – 10 February 2021
	7. HHS – 10 February 2021
	8. MHM – 27 January 2021
 | SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P13.1SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P13.2SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P13.3SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P13.4SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P13.5SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P13.6SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P13.7SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P13.8 |
|  | **GRADUATE BOARD SUMMARY**Members noted the summary of the meeting held on 2 February 2021. | SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P14 |
|  | **STUDENT MATTERS*** 1. **Academic Reps’ use of MS Teams**

Members were updated on work completed to create 140 MS Teams channels for course representatives meaning that all students in each cohort were able to communicate, share resources and build an online community. Academic Reps were able to collect feedback, carry out polls hold discussions and advertise events. SU staff could also respond to student concerns efficiently.* 1. **Election Update**

Members were informed that elections had taken place online this year owing to Covid-19. A total of 1824 voters had cast 9227 votes electing the following officers:Nat Stuart – PresidentMillie Avery – Education OfficerChidochemoyo Joyline Nyakonda – Equalities OfficerMeg Morley – Activities OfficerSadaf Eslamian – Community Officer* 1. **Student Networks Update**

Members were updated about Student Network discussions concerning accessibility in teaching and learning, specifically around the design of lecture slides and use of the captioning function. The University’s EDI Committee would monitor progress towards a solution.Senate recorded its thanks to the Students’ Union officers, staff and volunteers for their hard work maintaining an excellent service despite the challenges posed by the pandemic. |  |
|  | **SCHOOL ACADEMIC PLAN SUMMARIES**The School Academic Plan Summaries were noted:* 1. Applied Sciences
	2. Art Design and Architecture
	3. Computing and Engineering
	4. Education and Professional Development
	5. Huddersfield Business School
	6. Human and Health Sciences
	7. Music Humanities and Media
 | SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P16.1SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P16.2SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P16.3SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P16.4SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P16.5SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P16.6SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P16.7 |
|  | **UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MINUTES**The University Council minutes of 25 November 2020 were noted. | SEN\_2021\_03\_10\_P17 |
| **OTHER BUSINESS** |
|  | **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**Senate noted that UTLC chair’s action had been taken to incorporate the Enterprise and Employability Group into the academic governance structure. Henceforth it would be a formal sub-committee of UTLC and the change would ensure that employability was anchored firmly in wider teaching and learning considerations. |  |
|  | **AVAILABILITY OF AGENDA, PAPERS AND MINUTES****Resolved:** to exclude the following papers or minutes from the public version under Standing Order 11.8:Item 5.2 – Update on University KPIsItem 8 – Honorary AwardsItem 9 – Applications and EnrolmentsItem 12.3 – Update on R&E KPI Performance  |  |
|  | **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**23 June 2021 9.30am venue TBC |  |