

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

Held on 13 October 2021
Virtually via Microsoft Teams

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION	WHO
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies The Vice-Chancellor welcomed members to the meeting and invited Senate to approve the election results, deferred from the June meeting.</p> <p>Senate resolved that: The results of the election, set out in the Secretary's report be approved.</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor welcomed new members to the meeting, including the newly elected Senators from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.</p>		
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest None.</p>		
3.	<p>Minutes and Actions The minutes of the meetings held on 23 June 2021 and 16 July 2021 were approved as an accurate record. The minutes of the meeting of 17 August were also approved, subject to a check of the exit award for the final student listed on page 4 which may have been recorded incorrectly. <i>[Secretary's Note – The minute was checked and confirmed to be correct.]</i></p>		
4.	<p>Matters Arising The closure of the action in relation to adding additional categories to record gender identity on eVision was queried and it was confirmed that a solution had been explored, however, implementation of a solution required detailed consideration of wide-ranging implications. It was noted that this action would continue to be explored outside of the Senate agenda, alongside wider EDI projects.</p>		
5A	<p>Degree Algorithm Senate received the paper outlining proposed changes to Keele's degree algorithm, noting that the review had been undertaken in response to both internal and external circumstances. Proposals 1 to 4 were recommended for implementation from 2022 entry, affecting awards for those cohorts as they graduated.</p>		

	<p>Proposal 5 was specific to Postgraduate Taught students and recommended that the limitation to classification based on dissertation mark be removed, this measure had also been part of the safety-net policy on 2020/21 and it was recommended it should be implemented for 2021/22.</p> <p>Senate discussed the possible impact of the proposals on the BAME attainment gap, noting that there had been progress made in closing the gap over the last two years. It was queried whether the implementation may have a detrimental effect. It was highlighted that current projects were underway on assessment design and specific research was being undertaken to explore the factors that had contributed to the closure of the gap in 2019/20 and 2020/21. This work was intended to consolidate the progress made.</p> <p>Senate resolved that: The proposals presented in the paper be approved.</p>		
<p>5B</p>	<p>Education Report Professor Spelman-Miller introduced her first report to Senate as Pro Vice-Chancellor Education and thanked members for the welcome she had received since joining the University in July. Senate received a summary of the Education Priorities set out in the paper which set the strategic themes for Education Committees work in the coming year, covering Curriculum, Assessment, Scholarship/Leadership, Student Success and Student Partnership. It was highlighted that the University was at a crucial point in terms of education delivery in the post pandemic climate and it was important to ensure that Keele's offer was articulated in a way that was accessible for students.</p>		
	<p>Global Challenge Pathways The Education report provided an update on the implementation of Global Challenge Pathways (GCPs). As context, it was noted that routes to embed employability had become increasingly commonplace in the sector, however, the proposals set out in GCP's provided a distinctive interdisciplinary offer. Thanks were noted to academic and professional services colleagues who had supported development of the GCPs to date. It was confirmed that 62 programmes had opted in to GCPs and it was possible the number may grow in future years following the initial roll out. It was noted that new innovations are not without risk and the University was committed to reviewing the approach. It was highlighted that input on the proposed evaluation criteria was welcome.</p> <p>Senate discussed the initiative in depth with some members requesting more detail, particularly around provision for languages. It was noted that there had been some complexity around the language offer but</p>		

	<p>that a workable plan to deliver these had now been developed.</p> <p>The importance of ensuring the design phase included input on Decolonising the Curriculum was highlighted.</p>		
	<p>Support to Study Policy and Procedure Senate received the updated policy and procedure presented in the paper and noted that the new documents had been subject to significant consultation prior to submission to Senate. There were a number of specific questions raised about the operational aspects of the procedure, it was agreed these would be responded to outside of the meeting and it was also agreed that guidance would be produced to sit alongside the new policy and procedure.</p> <p>Senate resolved that: The new policy and procedure be approved.</p>		
6	<p>Research Report Senate received the report from the new PVC for Research and Enterprise, Professor Eran Edirisinghe. Professor Edirisinghe confirmed that his main focus since arriving at Keele in August 2021 had been to meet with key staff and teams to inform his priorities as PVC.</p> <p>Senate received an update on recent grant successes and noted that more grant successes had been confirmed since the report was finalised. The revised date for publication of the REF outcome was noted as 12 May 2022.</p> <p>Senate discussed the aim of improving PhD recruitment and the number of Graduate Traineeships and International Partnerships. Discussion also took place around Decolonisation of research and the alignment of research projects with Faculty Strategies. All of these topics were noted for follow-up discussions outside the Senate meeting.</p> <p>Senate noted the revised Costing and Pricing Policy that had been approved by UEC. Senate received and approved the Approvals and Submissions policy which had been subject to a scheduled review, resulting in minor amendments to correct structures and titles.</p> <p>Senate resolved that: The Approvals and Submissions policy be approved.</p>		
7	<p>Secretary's Report Senate received the Secretary's report, including the following items for approval: Student Awards Establishment of the Race Equality Citizenship Prize Senate Standing Orders</p>		

	<p>Senate resolved that: The above items be approved.</p> <p>The report presented two items for recommendation to Council for approval:</p> <p>Senior Appointments Ordinance Change – School name change for the School of Computing and Mathematics.</p> <p>Senate resolved that: The above items be recommended to Council for approval.</p> <p>The amendments to Regulation B5 presented in the report were not approved as further consideration of the wording in relation to the link with Regulation B1 was required.</p> <p>Disappointment was expressed by some members of Senate that the papers for the meeting had been circulated later than usual and the impact of this was highlighted. Apologies were noted for the delay.</p>		
8	<p>Recruitment Update Robbie Pickles attended the meeting to present this item.</p> <p>The report was taken as read and Senate noted that whilst the University had performed well in recruitment terms, there had been an impact on recruitment in some subjects due to larger Universities increasing their intakes, this had been a particular issue for Humanities and Social Sciences. Senate also noted the additional difficulties for international students due to ongoing travel restrictions in light of the pandemic. Finally, Senate noted that there were more intakes in 2020/21 than in previous years, so the full picture was yet to be seen</p>		
9	<p>Student Officer Reports (a) KeeleSU Report</p> <p>Senate received the report and noted updates on the reconfiguration of the Student Union building in relation to the reception area and the zero-waste shop. It was also noted that the SU were continuing to support the Stop the Stink campaign. It was also reported that Welcome Week had gone well. Finally it was highlighted that work was ongoing to relaunch the Be Better / Do Better campaign for the new academic year.</p>		
	<p>(b) KPA Report</p> <p>Senate received the report and noted that a new election process was needed following the resignation of the KPA President. Work was ongoing to develop the</p>		

	<p>KPA Constitution and a number of activities were planned for Black History Month. It was highlighted that the increase in recruitment of international students had led to an increase in casework for the KPA and the need to ensure availability of support increased with recruitment was emphasised.</p>		
10	<p>Vice-Chancellor's Report Senate received an update from the Vice-Chancellor covering the COVID-19 response, providing an update on new facilities on campus and other developments that had occurred over the summer period, including awards and rankings and the positive OFSTED inspection outcome. The report also included responses to the questions received from members of Senate on OneKeele implementation and in relation to Academic Promotions. Follow up questions covered OneKeele implementation and transition arrangements. The Vice-Chancellor confirmed that the OneKeele online issues log was due to go live imminently and would provide updates and agreed actions in relation to reported operational issues relating to implementation of OneKeele. Discussion followed on the wearing of masks indoors, with a request to consider firmer mandating. It was highlighted that Keele's operating procedures had to align with government guidelines and currently the use of masks was not compulsory.</p>		
11.	<p>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Considerations No further items raised.</p>		
12.	<p>Any Other Business None</p>		

(a) ***The Vice-Chancellor***

Professor Trevor McMillan

(b) ***Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost; and the Pro Vice-Chancellors and the Deans (including the Chairs of the Boards of Studies and Faculties)***

Professor Mark Ormerod	Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost
Professor Kristyan Spelman-Miller	Pro Vice-Chancellor Education
Professor Eran Edirisinghe	Pro Vice-Chancellor Research & Enterprise
Professor Pauline Walsh	Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences and Pro Vice-Chancellor
Professor Tim Lustig	Interim Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Professor Jonathan Wastling	Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate Studies)

(c) ***Academic Registrar***

Ms Victoria Macfarlane

(d) ***Librarian***

Mr Daniel Perry

(e) ***Heads of Departments and Schools***

Academic Schools:

School of Humanities: Dr Nick Seager

Keele Business School: Professor Elaine Ferneley

School of Law: Professor Alison Brammer

School of Social, Political and Global Studies: Professor Robert Ladrech

School of Allied Health Professionals: Ms Anne O'Brien

School of Medicine: Professor Christian Mallen

School of Nursing and Midwifery: Dr Julie Green

A School of Pharmacy and Bioengineering: Dr Katie Maddock

School of Chemical and Physical Sciences: Professor Mike Watkinson

School of Computing and Mathematics: Professor Fiona Polack

School of Geography Geology and Environment: Professor Clare Holdsworth

A School of Life Sciences: Professor Dawn Scott

School of Psychology: Professor Abigail Locke

Deans of Research

A Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences- Professor Derek McGhee

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences- Professor Nick Forsyth

A Faculty of Natural Sciences- Professor Clifford Stott

Deans of Education

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences – Vacancy

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences – Dr Heidi Fuller

Faculty of Natural Sciences – Dr Katie Szkornik

Keele Institute for Innovation and Teaching Excellence (KIITE)

Director of KIITE: Dr Rafe Hallett

(g) ***Members of the Electoral Roll elected by the Electoral Roll***

Elected by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Dr Shalini Sharma (History)	2018-2021
Dr Rebecca Richards (International Relations)	2019-2022
Dr Samantha Weston (Criminology)	2019-2022
Mrs Catherine Edwards (Law)	2019-2022
Dr Mariangela Palladino (Humanities)	2020-2023
Dr Laura Pritchard-Jones (Law)	2020-2023
Dr Xuebing (Jack) Cao (KBS)	2020-2023

Elected by the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Dr Abigail Rutter (Pharmacy & Biomedical Engineering)	2019-2022
A Dr Emma Healey (Medicine)	2019-2022
Mrs Cath Hill (Nursing and Midwifery)	2020-2023
A Professor Saeed Farooq, School of Medicine	2021-2024
A Miss Marie Doherty, School of Nursing and Midwifery	2021-2024
Dr Simon White, School of Pharmacy and Bioengineering	2021-2024
Dr Desiree O'Leary, School of Allied Health Professions	2021-2024

Elected by the Faculty of Natural Sciences

Dr Masi Noor (Psychology)	2019-2022
Dr David Mazzocchi-Jones (Life Sciences)	2019-2022
Dr Laura Hibberts (Foundation Year)	2019-2022
Dr Adam Stanton (Computing and Mathematics)	2019-2022
Dr Jacco van Loon (Chemical and Physical Sciences)	2020-2023
Dr Anja Winter (Chemical and Physical Sciences)	2020-2023
Dr Dierdre McKay (Geography, Geology and Environment)	2020-2023
Mr Glenn Hussey (Life Sciences)	2020-2023

(h) Student Representatives: Elected Officers

KeeleSU

Ms Holly Brooks- <i>Union Development and Democracy Officer</i>	2021-2022
Mr Jack Medlin- <i>Education Officer</i>	2021-2022
Mr Dan Lay- <i>Welfare and Internationalisation Officer</i>	2021-2022
Mr Tom Guildbert-Newell - <i>Activities and Community Officer</i>	2021-2022
Ms Lucy Whiehouse- <i>Athletic Union and Sport Officer</i>	2021-2022

Keele Postgraduate Association

Vacancy	2021-2022
Atieme Obolosinghe- <i>Vice-President</i>	2021-2022

In-Attendance at Senate

Chief Operating Officer: Dr Mark Bacon

Director of Foundation Year: Simon Rimmington

Head of Academic Quality and Student Conduct: Dorothea Ross-Simpson

Secretary: Laura Norcop, Governance Officer