

SENATE – 20 NOVEMBER 2019**SENATE EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW STEERING GROUP****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to update Senate on the work of the Effectiveness Review Steering Group.

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Pages 1-2: Report

Recommendation:

Senate is recommended to note the report.

REPORT**1. BACKGROUND**

The scope and arrangements for the full effectiveness review of Senate were agreed by Senate on 21 November 2018 (S18/19-058). An update was made to Senate on 16 October 2019 (S19/20-007).

2. MEETINGS

2.1 Meetings of the Review Group took place on:

- 26 July, 6 September, 16 October and 1 November 2019.

Further meetings have been scheduled for:

- 29 November 2019, 17 January 2020 and 19 February 2020 (TBC).

2.2 Focus group dates are being organised on:

- Focus group for SU Academic representatives - 22 November;
- Focus group for Heads of Dept/ ADs/ DoSs / DoTs etc - 22 November (TBC);
- Focus group for Academic Assembly members - 22 November;
- Focus group for Council members - 28 November;
- Focus group for Senate Committee Chairs - 29 November;
- Focus group for Senate members - 29 November.

2.3 The review members in pairs are undertaking committee reviews and are also setting up meetings with relevant staff and students:

- Staffing and Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (D Bird and A Heath);
- Teaching, Curriculum Transformation, Course approval & QA (K Robinson and R Joiner);
- Research and Ethics (J Barnett and R Kelsh);
- Student Experience (R Osman and J White);
- Boards of Studies (Faculty/School/Doctoral) (R Branston and M McManus).

2.4 I and Prof Kelsh from the review group attended Senate on 16 October to observe the meeting.

3. SURVEYS

Several online surveys for the effectiveness of Senate and for its committees have been launched, with a closing date of 11 November.

4. ISSUES BEING DISCUSSED

Topics which have been under consideration by the Group so far, in addition to its own working arrangements, are:

- Composition of Senate and whether its elected members are 'representative' of any constituency; this to be considered in focus groups and surveys;
- Flow of information from Committees to and from Senate;
- Actions from previous Senate Effectiveness Reviews;
- How Senate provides assurance to Council on quality and standards of teaching;
- Senate's functions/Terms of reference as set out in Statutes;
- The Scheme of Delegation.

5. WEB UPDATES AND COMMUNICATIONS

The review web page shows updates at:

<https://www.bath.ac.uk/teams/senate-effectiveness-review-2019-20/>

The generic email address for comments is: SenateEffectivenessReview@bath.ac.uk

6. TIMELINE

It is anticipated that the final report will be made to Senate in April 2020.

Recommendation:

Senate is recommended to consider and note the report.

Prof Rebecca Lingwood
(Provost of Brunel University London)
Chair of Senate Effectiveness Review Group
November 2019

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