

# Web Update from Senate

Meeting on 8 June 2022

The following issues were discussed at the meeting of Senate on 8 June 2022:

## Institutional update

The Vice-Chancellor presented a report on key issues facing the University.

## Research Excellence Framework

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) gave a short analysis of the University's performance in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021. Senate noted plans for the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) to meet with Departments to discuss their results in detail over the coming weeks. Faculties had also been asked to reflect on the REF results in their Research Strategies, currently under development.

## Framework for Research Entities

Senate agreed to recommend to Council a new Framework for Research Entities. The framework has been designed to support the establishment of coordinated collaborative research structures – namely Institutes, Beacons, Centres and Groups – which are key to supporting the University's aspirations for increasing the scale and enhancing the excellence of its research and innovation as well as to achieving its strategic goals and values.

## Statement on Research Integrity

Senate agreed to recommend to Council a Statement on Research Integrity.

## Sabbaticals

Senate agreed to recommend to Council amendments to Ordinance 17 and the Terms of Reference of the Research Sabbatical Committee to facilitate implementation of the Research Sabbatical Scheme. An update would be provided to Senate in the next academic year on plans to reintroduce the Teaching Sabbatical Scheme.

## Curriculum Transformation

Senate noted an update on Curriculum Transformation (CT). It also approved a complete set of Postgraduate Assessment Regulations for introduction for CT courses within the Faculty of Engineering and Design in 2022/23.

## Assessment

Senate noted six action points for assessment and feedback in 2022/23 and noted that further work was underway to simplify arrangements for the delivery of summative assessments.

## Courses of Study

Senate approved the merger of Curriculum Transformation Committee (CTC) functions into Courses and Partnerships Approval Committee (CPAC), including relevant revisions to CPAC

and S/FLTQC Terms of Reference. Senate also approved a number of changes proposed in line with the agreed approach for 2022/23 to adopt the minimum change required to unify CT practice with existing processes and practice outlined in the code of practice (QA3 and QA4).

#### Student complaints and dignity and respect

Senate approved amendments to the Student Complaints Procedure and Regulations 7 and 8 and agreed to recommend to Council amendments to the Dignity & Respect policy and procedure. This suite of changes is designed to address a number of concerns that have arisen when a student complaint engages both the Student Complaints and the Dignity & Respect procedures.

#### Senate matters

Senate agreed a new set of Senate Standing Orders and agreed to recommend to Council associated changes to Ordinances in relation to Senate membership. In particular it agreed to end the practice of co-option, relying instead on regular attendance to gain access to the additional expertise it requires. It also approved a proposal for handling parental leave and discontinued the practice of treating casual vacancies differently from full terms.

#### Ordinances and Regulations

Senate agreed to recommend to Council a number of changes to Ordinances for the start of the 2022/23 academic year and approved a new set of Regulations for Students, both of which will be published on the website by 1 August 2022.