

## Summary of Senate meeting on 19 April 2023

### Institutional update

As part of its institutional update, Senate discussed plans to assure student assessments in the context of potential forthcoming industrial action.

### PGR completion rates

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor Research (Doctoral) led a strategic discussion on postgraduate research completion rates, considering how best to foster a culture of timely completion for both supervisors and students, and what supportive measures, such as supervisory training, might help with this.

### Curriculum Transformation

Senate approved new Undergraduate Assessment Regulations for both transformed and untransformed courses to be put in place by the start of the academic year in 2023/24. If any corrections are needed before that time, they will be considered by either the Education, Quality and Standards Committee (EQSC) or Senate, as appropriate. It also noted a curriculum transformation project update.

### Postgraduate degree outcomes

On the recommendation of EQSC, Senate considered a report on postgraduate degree outcomes and agreed to provide assurance to Council on this matter. Council will consider a report at its meeting on 4 May 2023.

### Educational blend

Senate noted course expectations for blended teaching delivery in the digital environment, as approved by EQSC. This would be applied to new curriculum transformation courses launching from academic year 2023/24 onwards. Educational blend had been the subject of a strategic discussion at Senate earlier in the year.

### Course and partnership approvals

Senate approved a new full-time and part-time MSc Criminology course; and approved a new exit award for the MSc in Forensic Psychology. It also considered a report from the Curriculum Management Academic Working Group, noting the high-level conclusions and principles to be adopted for the next phase of work.

### Research

Senate considered a report on the three key performance indicators in research. It also noted a report from the Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee (RKEC); and considered annual reports from the Institute for Policy Research and the Institute for Mathematical Innovation.

### Research integrity

Senate approved a Code of Good Practice in Research Integrity on the recommendation of the Academic Ethics and Integrity Committee (AEIC), from which it also noted a report.

### Award ceremonies

Senate approved moving Winter Award Ceremony dates from December to January; approved 16 – 18 January 2024 as the dates for the next set of Winter Award Ceremonies and approved a change in venue to Bath Abbey. It agreed to give further thought to proposals to adjust the criteria for those included in processions at Award Ceremonies.

### Senate matters

Senate agreed a Senate Parental Leave Policy. It also approved a sabbatical year for Jura Neverauskaite and congratulated Jura and all the other newly elected officers of the Students' Union. It approved amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Godfrey and Sue Hall Prize Committee and the Peter Troughton Prize Committee, delegating authority to the Vice-Chancellor to make decisions on the membership of those committees in future. It received updates on the Review of Senate Business and Operations and the Governance Framework Review.

### Other matters

Senate noted a report from the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (EDIC); considered an update from Council; approved the award of two honorary degrees; and conferred a number of honorary titles.