

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
SENATE
PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 14.00, WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2021
VIA MS TEAMS

Present	Professor Stuart Croft	SC	Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
	Professor Katherine Astbury	KA	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Paul Botley	PB	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Daniel Branch	DB	Academic Director (Graduate Studies)
	Dr Jane Bryan	JB	Representative of the Assembly
	Professor Robin Clark	RC	Representative of the Faculty Board (Science, Engineering & Medicine (SEM))
	Professor Matthew Clayton	MC	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor David Davies	DD	Representative of the Faculty Board (Science, Engineering & Medicine (SEM))
	Shingai Dzumbira	SD	President of the Students' Union
	Professor Chris Ennew	CE	Provost (until item 013)
	Professor Rebecca Freeman	RF	Dean of Students
	Professor Lorenzo Frigerio	LF	Chair, Faculty of Science, Engineering & Medicine
	Robin Green	RG	Librarian
	Professor John Greenlees	JG	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM) (from item 012)
	Professor Stuart Hampton-Reeves	SHR	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Ruth Hewston	RH	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Chris Hughes	CH	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)
	Professor Saul Jacka	SJ	Representative of the Assembly
	Professor Sudhesh Kumar	SK	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)
	Professor David Leadley	DL	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)
	Professor Andrew Lockett	AL	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Tim Lockley	TL	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Gabrielle Lynch	GL	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Noortje Marres	NM	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Emma Mason	EM	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts) (until item 014)
	Professor Caroline Meyer	CM	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)
	Professor Rachel Moseley	RM	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Stéphanie Panichelli-Batalla	SPB	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Fabienne Peter	FP	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences) (from item 008)
	Professor Penny Roberts	PR	Chair, Faculty of Arts
	Professor Mike Shipman	MS	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International)
	Professor Simon Swain	SS	Vice-President (Regional and National Engagement)
	Professor David Towers	DT	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)
Professor Ema Ushioda	EU	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)	
Professor Nick Vaughan-Williams	NVW	Chair, Faculty of Social Sciences	
Professor Azrini Wahidin	AW	Representative of the Assembly	
Dr Naomi Waltham-Smith	NWS	Representative of the Assembly	
Professor Mike Ward	MW	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)	
Professor Derrick Watson	DW	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)	
Clare Watters	CW	Representative of the Assembly	
Jenny Wheeler	JW	Representative of the Assembly	
Attending	Jemma Ansell	JA	Student Liaison Officer (for items 013 and 014)
	Sophie Black	SB	Assistant Registrar (Governance) (minute taker)

	Lauren Botham	LB	Assistant Registrar (Education Policy and Quality) (for item 008)
	Professor Andy Clark	AC	Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education and Policy) (for item 010)
	Professor Will Curtis	WC	Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education Quality & Standards) (for item 010)
	Dan Derricott	DD	Director of Education Policy & Quality (Assistant Secretary)
	Rosie Drinkwater	RD	Group Finance Director
	Helen Hotten	HH	Clerical Officer (Academic Governance) (tech support)
	Dr Elizabeth Hough	EH	Assistant Director (Head of Admissions) (for item 009)
	Helen Knee	HK	Director of Student Discipline and Resolution (for items 013 and 014)
	Rachel Sandby-Thomas	RST	Registrar (Secretary)
	Sharon Tuersley	ST	Secretary to Council
	Dr Chris Twine	CT	Academic Registrar

NOTE: Some items are noted as “Exempt information not included” as they contain information that would be withheld from release to the public because an exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

Ref	Item
001	<p>Welcome and Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Isabelle Atkins, Professor Jon Forster, Professor Rebecca Kearney and Nathan Parsons.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed all, and the following to their first meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Paul Botley, English and Comparative Literary Studies • Professor Robin Clark, WMG • Professor Matthew Clayton, Politics and International Studies • Professor Stuart Hampton-Reeves, Creative Arts, Performance and Visual Cultures • Professor Ruth Hewston, Centre for Lifelong Learning • Professor Tim Lockley, History • Professor Gabrielle Lynch, Politics and International Studies • Professor Nick Vaughan-Williams, Politics and International Studies • Professor Mike Ward, Chemistry • Clare Watters, Centre for Lifelong Learning <p>The Chair welcomed Shingai Dzumbira, President of the Students’ Union.</p> <p>The Chair also welcomed Dan Derricott, Director of Education Policy & Quality and Senate Assistant Secretary.</p> <p>Congratulations were extended to Professor Saul Jacka who was confirmed as the Chair of the Academic Freedom Review Committee for the 2021-22 academic year.</p>
002	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>No new declarations were made.</p>
003	<p>Minutes of last meeting on 7 July 2021</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting (003-S061021, Protected) held on 7 July 2021 were approved, subject to the revision to item 118 Inclusive Education Model discussed at the meeting.</p>
004	<p>Matters arising from last meeting on 7 July 2021</p> <p>a) Update on inclusivity and diversity of membership of academic governance committees</p>

	The Senate noted that work was ongoing in relation to inclusivity and diversity of membership of academic governance committees. The incoming Director of Education Policy & Quality would take this forward and engage with members. A report would then be brought back to a future Senate meeting.
Governance I	
005	<p>Membership of the Senate 2021-22</p> <p>The report (005-S061021, Public) setting out the Senate membership for 2021-22 was noted.</p> <p>Note: The terms of reference of the Senate were as set out in Statute 8 (Powers of the Senate) and Ordinance 5 (The Senate: Powers of the Senate).</p>
006	<p>Standing Orders of the Senate</p> <p>The Standing Orders of the Senate (006-S061021, Public) were received and noted, with no amendments being proposed.</p> <p>DECISION: The Senate approved its Standing Orders for 2021-22.</p>
Chair's Update	
007	<p>Chair's Business</p> <p>The Senate received and noted the report (007-S061021, Protected) providing updates from the Chair under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid-19 Update – return to campus • Institutional News • Awards and Promotions <p>a) Campus Working During 2021-22</p> <p>The Provost reported that a moderately cautious approach was being taken during Term 1 for the return to campus working, given uncertainty around levels of vaccination and infection and reflecting the diverse campus community, with a critical mass of face-to-face teaching as steered by the Education Executive.</p> <p>Plans for Term 2 were being developed, in consultation with relevant Trades Unions.</p> <p>The Chair encouraged ongoing conversations around the importance of vaccinations, regular testing, social distancing and mask wearing where required.</p> <p>The need was highlighted for continued and clear communications on rules and restrictions for the range of spaces on campus, including on ways of disseminating this information to staff without access to a computer.</p>
Substantive Items	
008	<p>Results of the National Student Survey 2021</p> <p>The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) and Assistant Registrar (Education Policy and Quality) presented the report (008-S061021, Protected) summarising student feedback received through NSS 2021, sector comparisons and how the feedback would be used to enhance the student learning experience for future cohorts. The following key points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response rate of 70% demonstrated positive levels of student engagement, despite lower levels of promotion due to the pandemic. • The results were positive overall, with improvements or stability in ranking compared to the Russell Group for a number of headline results. RG ranking was noted to have stabilised in recent years. • There had been improvements in “Teaching” and “Organisation and Management”, although the latter required unpacking in the context of Covid. • An impact of the pandemic on students’ responses on “Learning Resources” had been seen, which was expected and in line with sector trends. Other decreases in satisfaction were noted around “Student Voice” and “Students’ Union”.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been varied results to all questions across departments. Ten departments had improved on pre-pandemic level of overall satisfaction. Two out of the four departments highlighted for concern in 2020 had increased overall satisfaction in 2021. • The positive outcome, relative to the sector, could be attributed to the dedication and professionalism of staff, and the tenacity of students. In addition to the joined-up approach to driving enhancement in recent years and the coordinated response to the pandemic in the most recent period. • Areas of focus for the upcoming year included re-engaging and rebuilding the Warwick student community, developing learning resources and re-engaging the student voice. Work with departments would continue through Teaching Excellence Group meetings, mindful of the approach of TEF (Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework). <p>The Senate welcomed the overall positive results and encouraging level of student engagement.</p> <p>It was further noted that the NSS did capture data on protected characteristics, and this was being analysed currently.</p> <p>The President of the Students' Union (SU) reported on actions underway to seek to improve SU NSS results and engagement with students and their views more broadly. The Senate noted its support for the SU's response and planned further action.</p> <p>The Senate thanked students and staff for their hard work and dedication during the past, extraordinary year.</p>
009	<p>Emerging Outcomes of the 2021 Admissions Cycle</p> <p>The Provost and Assistant Director (Head of Admissions) presented the report (009-S061021, Protected) on the emerging outcomes of the 2020-21 admissions cycle, with the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It had been another interesting and busy year for admissions, with changes in behaviour from Undergraduate (UG) applicants as well as volatility in A-Level results. Current figures were 865 over target for UG, albeit not consistently across all departments. • Widening participation outcomes were currently encouraging and above target for POLAR Quintile 1 candidates. • Although EU recruitment was down, this had held up well against the sector. <p>While the potential impacts of limits on Clearing targets and duration of opening, in the context of expected overshoots and the resulting demand on space on campus, were highlighted, Clearing was noted as having been particularly quiet at Warwick and across the sector. [Exempt information not included].</p> <p>A return to a 2020 grade distribution was expected for 2022. [Exempt information not included].</p>
010	<p>Update on Partnership with University College Birmingham</p> <p>The Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education Policy) and Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education Quality & Standards) presented the report (010-S061021, Protected) providing an update on recent developments in respect of the Academic Partnership with University College Birmingham (UCB), with key activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inaugural meeting of the Joint Accreditation Board (JAB) had been held on 7 September 2021, co-chaired by the Vice-Chancellors of both institutions. The JAB and UoW Partnerships Committee would oversee operation of the partnership. JAB would report to Senate at the end of 2021-22. • JAB had appointed Professor Will Curtis and Professor Andy Clark to act jointly as Accreditation Visitor. • Productive discussions had been held with Warwick Business School and UCB to resolve concerns around potential confusion between WBS and UCB programmes. • The next phase of development would seek to design and implement an appropriate process for the approval of new courses, as well as overarching monitoring and review of all accredited UCB provision. <p>Thanks were extended to Maureen McLaughlin, former Director of Education Policy & Quality for work in driving this work forward to date.</p>

	<p>It was noted that the opportunity now existed for colleagues in subject areas to build connections across institutions.</p>
011	<p>Education Update</p> <p>The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) presented the report (011-S061021, Protected) updating on the range of activities led by and within the remit of Education Executive since July 2021, with updates as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Executive Strategic Priorities for 2021/22: Largely a continuation of the previous year on longer term priorities based on feedback from the Warwick community. • University response to the Office for Students consultation on Quality and Standards • Proposed revisions to international education governance. <p>It was suggested that an additional SEM Faculty representative be added to the revised Internationalisation Steering Committee, to reflect the faculty's size.</p> <p>With regards to mobility, the revised Committee would seek to support a wider range of students being able to access outward mobility and international opportunities, noting also requirements of the Turing Scheme to report on and demonstrate progress towards more inclusive opportunities. By diversifying the types of opportunity, these should become more accessible in every sense.</p> <p>DECISION: The Senate approved the recommended revisions to international education governance.</p>
012	<p>Research Update</p> <p>The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) presented the report (012-S061021, Protected) providing an update on Research at Warwick, with updates under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key items of business for the Research Committee during 2021/2022. • Research Excellence Framework (REF): it had recently been confirmed that the REF results would be published on 12 May. • Looking ahead – Research Impact. <p>In developing Research Culture, it was intended to engage all departments in discussion around how best to ensure colleagues at Warwick felt supported in carrying out their research.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that engagement should take place with colleagues researching in a range of global locations and contexts and that this would be facilitated by working with the International Executive team.</p> <p>Thanks were extended to colleagues for their work on REF sub panels.</p>
013	<p>Office for Students' Expectations for Sexual Misconduct</p> <p>The Director of Student Discipline and Resolution presented the report (013-S061021, Protected) setting out the results of the review of the University's policies and processes against the OfS' Statement of Expectations on Higher Education providers on how to prevent and respond to incidents of harassment and sexual misconduct. The following key points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been considerable progress in recent years and the report set out where Warwick met and, in some cases, exceeded the OfS' expectations. There remained still more to do, however, and it was timely to think ahead more strategically over the coming five years. • Concerns were noted around the current cohort having benefitted from fewer life experiences as a result of multiple lockdowns, together with the impact of schools deprioritising attention on areas like Consent due to struggles with academic delivery during the pandemic. Prevention, training and awareness on consent and healthy relationships would therefore remain essential. <p>Thanks were extended to the Director of Student Discipline and Resolution and their team for the work in this area.</p>

	<p>In response to comments on the quality of training, notwithstanding the positive uptake, it was noted that the Student Liaison Team had evolved to become more diverse and effective, engaging increasingly with student groups expressing such concerns. This would allow the team to learn from good practice and test the development of new training prior to launch.</p> <p>Dr Jane Brian, as Academic Lead of the Community Values Education Programme, also highlighted the aim to work collaboratively across the University, to empower students to live by the Warwick values and ensure a community-wide approach to changing the culture.</p> <p>It was suggested that further consideration could be given to offering a route to legal advice for students in certain circumstances, noting the neutral position taken by the OfS on this issue.</p> <p>DECISION: The Senate endorsed the development of a five year strategy.</p> <p>ACTION: Consider offering a route to legal advice for students in certain circumstances.</p>
014	<p>Annual Report on Student Discipline</p> <p>The Director of Student Discipline and Resolution presented the Report and Support Annual Report 2020/21 (014-S061021, Protected).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report had been developed for online publication for the first time. With an interactive design it sought to help engagement with the processes involved, sparking conversation, rather than simply focussing on student discipline. <p>Members commented on the accessibility and statistical elements of the report.</p> <p>It was also noted that it would be helpful to promote and encourage discussion around contested issues that arose as part of work in this area, in a brave, safe and facilitative space, bringing together other strands of discussion as appropriate.</p> <p>DECISION: The Senate approved the publication of the interactive Report & Support Annual Report 2020/21, subject to a review of accessibility of the report.</p>
015	<p>Report from Senate Working Group on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression</p> <p>Professor Naomi Waltham-Smith (Chair of the Working Group on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression) presented the report (015-S061021, Protected) from the Working Group and provided a verbal update on progress of the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill. The following key points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bill was likely to pass into law before Christmas with minimal amendments, creating a range of duties, including an obligation to promote free speech. • The Bill would create considerable additional burden for institutions and, even more so, for Students' Unions. • A new Office for Students Director of Free Speech would be appointed, holding a number of statutory duties. • The aims of the Senate Working Group were therefore more pressing than ever. The Group had met twice to date, bringing forward proposed Terms of Reference for approval by the Senate. • The Group would aim to report to Senate as required, with an update expected at the next meeting on urgent issues arising from the likely passing of the Bill, followed by a two-year project to work through the University's response. • The wide range of views of Group members was encouraged; the Group planned to aim for consensus (recording any dissent) and to maintain discretion and anonymity in the Group's discussions so that members could speak freely. <p>The inclusion of a student member on the Group, as well as the ambition of consensus was welcomed.</p> <p>The Senate also noted ongoing related work in the Students' Union, which the Group could usefully be connected to.</p> <p>DECISION: The Senate approved the terms of reference and membership of the Working Group.</p>

	ACTION: President of the Students' Union to connect the Working Group to the SU's evolving development of their policy in this area.
Items below this line were for receipt and/or approval, without discussion	
Governance II	
016	Chair's Action Report The report (016-S061021, Protected) was received and noted.
017	Constitution and Membership of Senate Committees 2021-22 The report (017-S061021, Public) was received and noted. DECISIONS: The Senate: 1) Approved the membership and terms of reference of Senate and Joint Senate and Council Committees for 2021-22. 2) Approved proposed minor revisions to the terms of reference of the Research Committee and the Social Inclusion Committee.
018	Revision to Ordinance 8 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates The Senate received proposed revisions to Ordinance 8 (018-S061021, Public) to introduce the Foundation Degree in Science (FdSc), noting that a number of UCB courses which would be accredited by the University from January 2022 allowed for the award of FdSc. DECISION: The Senate approved and recommended to Council the revisions to ordinance 8 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates.
019	Revisions to Regulation 38 Governing Research Degrees The Senate received proposed revisions (019-S061021, Public) to incorporate part-time study for the Engineering Doctorate (EngD) programme into section 38.3 Periods of study. DECISION: The Senate approved the revisions to Regulation 38 Governing Research Degrees (section 38.3), with immediate effect.
Committee Reports	
020	Report from the Academic Staff Committee The Committee received and noted the report (020-S061021, Protected). DECISIONS: The Senate: 1) Approved the membership of the Academic Staff Committee for 2021-22. 2) Approved the membership of the Probation Review Group for 2021-22. ACTION: Seek clarification of promotions data "percentage successful" figure within report outside of the meeting.
021	Report from the University Executive Board The report (021-S061021, Protected) was received and noted.
Other	
022	Student and Alumni Deaths The report (022-S061021, Public) was received and noted.
023	Any other business There was no other business.
Next meeting: 14:00 Wednesday 26 January 2022 via MS Teams	

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS			
ITEM	DECISION/ACTION	LEAD AND DUE DATE	STATUS
2019-20			
034 – Report from the Education Committee	ACTION: A project plan would be developed which would include further consultation with the Faculty of Arts and presented to the Senate at a future meeting to assist the implementation of the Warwick Core Skills framework and an update on progress provided by the end of the academic year.	PTi, tbc	In progress
106b – Revisions to Reg 27 On-Campus Residential Accommodation and Reg 23 Student Disciplinary Offences	ACTION 2: A review to be undertaken of University policy and process relating to student drug use and possession.	Helen Knee, Jane Bryan, asap	Ongoing
2020-21			
045 – Report from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee	ACTION 2: Mitigating circumstances policy to be reviewed to ensure no adverse impacts on disabled students.	Director of Education Policy and Quality	Ongoing
065 – Education Update	ACTION: Update on volunteering at Warwick to be brought to a future Senate meeting.	Director of Education Policy and Quality to Roberta Wooldridge Smith	Complete
116b – Senate Inclusivity, Membership and Elections	ACTION: Report on inclusivity and diversity of membership of academic governance committees to be brought to a future meeting of the Senate.	Director of Education Policy and Quality	Ongoing
122a – Access and Participation Plan Update	ACTION: Guidance to be provided on correct use of the Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty section on committee report coversheets.	Senate Secretariat ASAP	Ongoing
2021-22			
06-10-2021			
006 - Standing Orders of the Senate	DECISION: The Senate approved its Standing Orders for 2021-22.		
011 - Education Update	DECISION: The Senate approved the recommended revisions to international education governance.		
013 - Office for Students' Expectations for Sexual Misconduct	DECISION: The Senate endorsed the development of a five year strategy.		
	ACTION: Consider offering a route to legal advice for students in certain circumstances.	Director of Student Discipline and Resolution	
014 - Annual Report on Student Discipline	DECISION: The Senate approved the publication of the interactive Report & Support Annual Report 2020/21, subject to a review of accessibility of the report.		
015 - Report from Senate Working Group on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression	DECISION: The Senate approved the terms of reference and membership of the Working Group.		
	ACTION: President of the Students' Union to connect the Working Group to the SU's evolving development of their policy in this area.	Shingai Dzumbira	
017 - Constitution and Membership of Senate Committees 2021-22	DECISIONS: The Senate: 1) Approved the membership and terms of reference of Senate and Joint Senate and Council Committees for 2021-22.		

	2) Approved proposed minor revisions to the terms of reference of the Research Committee and the Social Inclusion Committee.		
018 - Revision to Ord 8 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates	DECISION: The Senate approved and recommended to Council the revisions to ordinance 8 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates.		
019 - Revisions to Reg 38 Governing Research Degrees	DECISION: The Senate approved the revisions to Regulation 38 Governing Research Degrees (section 38.3), with immediate effect.		
020 - Report from the Academic Staff Committee	DECISIONS: The Senate: 1) Approved the membership of the Academic Staff Committee for 2021-22. 2) Approved the membership of the Probation Review Group for 2021-22.		
	ACTION: Seek clarification of promotions data “percentage successful” figure within report outside of the meeting.	Senate Secretariat via ASC Secretariat	Complete