

**UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK  
SENATE**

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE MEETING HELD 14:00, WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 2025, CHANCELLOR'S SUITE,  
ROOTES BUILDING**

<b>Present</b>	Professor Stuart Croft	Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
	Muneeba Amjad	Students' Union Vice-President Education
	Dr Freeha Azmat	Assembly representative
	Dr Navdeep Bains	Director of Research and Impact Services
	Dr Elisabeth Blagrove	Assembly representative
	Adam Child	Academic Registrar
	Professor Robin Clark	Dean of Warwick Manufacturing Group (SEM)
	Professor Matthew Clayton	Head of Politics & International Studies (Social Sciences)
	Ali Collins	Assembly Representative
	Professor Paulo De Sousa Aguiar de Medeiro	Head of English & Comparative Literary Studies (Arts)
	Enobong David-Etesin	Faculty PGT Student Representative (Social Sciences)
	Professor Emma Flynn	Provost
	Professor Lorenzo Frigerio	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education)
	Professor Teresa Grant	Head of Centre for the Study of the Renaissance (Arts)
	Professor Stuart Hampton-Reeves	Head of Creative Arts, Performance & Visual Cultures (Arts)
	Professor James Hayton	Vice-Provost & Chair of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)
	Professor Charlottee Heath-Kelly	Assembly representative
	Dr Bo Kelestyn	Assembly representative
	James Kimmins	Faculty UG Student Representative (SEM)
	Professor Nina-Anne Lawrence	Head of Warwick Foundation Studies (Social Sciences)
	Dr Joanne Lee	Co-Head of School of Modern Languages and Cultures (Arts)
	Dr David Lees	Dean of Students
	Professor Ulf Liebe	Head of Sociology (Social Sciences)
	Professor Tim Lockley	Head of History (Arts)
	Professor Caroline Meyer	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)
	Professor Rachel Moseley	Vice-Provost & Chair of the Faculty Board (Arts)
	Professor Mark Newton	Head of Physics (SEM)
	Enaya Nihal	President of the Students' Union
	Otto Oldridge	Faculty UG Student Representative (Social Sciences)
	Anna O'Neill	Librarian
	Professor Gavin Perkins	Dean of Warwick Medical School (SEM)
	Rachel Sandby-Thomas	Registrar
	Dr Gavin Schwartz-Leeper	Chair of the Academic Freedom Review Committee
Alijah Taha	Students' Union Vice-President Postgraduate	
Professor Yulia Timofeeva	Head of Computer Science Department (SEM)	
Professor Cagatay Turkey	Head of Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies (Social Sciences)	
Professor Pat Unwin	Head of Chemistry (SEM)	
Professor Mike Ward	Vice-Provost & Chair of the Faculty Board (SEM)	
Professor Chris Warhurst	Head of Institute for Employment Research (Social Sciences)	
Professor Derrick Watson	Head of Psychology (SEM)	
<b>Attending</b>	Dr Shahnaz Akhter	Senior Policy & Engagement Advisor (observer)
	Professor Andy Clark	Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) (items 088 to 090)
	Lils Dobber	Graduate Management Trainee (observer)
	Dan Derricott	Director of Education Policy & Quality (Secretary to Senate)
	Rosie Drinkwater	Group Finance Director
	Katharine Gray	Head of Governance
	Liz Hough	Director of Admissions

	Jenny Hughes	Head of Information and Operations (Student Opportunity) (item 088)
	Emma Jeavons	Governance Manager (observer)
	Maanya Raju	Students' Union Vice-President Postgraduate elect (observer)
	Calum Reilly	Graduate Management Trainee (observer)
	Kim Robinson	Deputy Director and Head of Education Policy & Governance (items 088 to 090)
	Samuel Roseveare	Director of National & Regional Policy
	Ananya Sreekumar	Students' Union Vice-President Education elect (observer)
	Emma Tew	Governance Manager (Assistant Secretary to Senate)
	Dr Chris Twine	Secretary to Council
	Kate Walewska	Director of Marketing & Student Recruitment
Ref	Item	
079	<p><b>Welcome and apologies for absence</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from Professor Daniel Branch, Professor Fiona Copland, Professor David Fearn, Professor Jon Forster, Professor Miriam Gifford, Professor Andrew Lockett, Professor Ben Lockwood , Professor Guy Longworth, Professor John Murphy, Professor James Robinson, Professor Michael Scott, Dr Jane Webb, Professor Andrew Williams and Nuo Xu.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed the following attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sam Roseveare (Director of National &amp; Regional Policy), Liz Hough (Director of Admissions) and Kate Walewska (Director of Marketing &amp; Student Recruitment) who were presenting items at the meeting.</li> <li>• Incoming Students' Union Sabbatical Officers, Ananya Sreekumar (Vice-President (Education) elect) and Maanya Raju (Vice-President (Postgraduate) elect) who were observing the meeting.</li> <li>• Dr Shahnaz Akhter (Senior Policy &amp; Engagement Advisor), Emma Jeavons (Governance Manager), Lils Dobber (Graduate Management Trainee) and Calum Reilly (Graduate Management Trainee) who were observing the meeting.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked the following Senate members who were coming to the end of their term of office:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students' Union Sabbatical Officers: Enaya Nihal, Muneeba Amjad</li> <li>• Faculty Student Representatives: Enobong David-Etesin, James Kimmins, Otto Oldridge</li> <li>• Dr Freeha Azmat (Assembly Representative)</li> <li>• Professor Charlotte Heath-Kelly (Assembly Representative)</li> <li>• Professor Dan Branch (Chair of the Senate Committee responsible for postgraduate research)</li> <li>• Professor Stuart Hampton-Reeves (Head of School of Creative Arts, Performance and Visual Cultures)</li> <li>• Professor Jon Forster (Head of Statistics)</li> <li>• Professor Ben Lockwood (Head of Economics)</li> <li>• Professor Robin Clark (Dean of WMG)</li> <li>• Professor Derrick Watson (Head of Psychology)</li> <li>• Professor Pat Unwin (Head of Chemistry)</li> </ul>	
080	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>No new declarations were made.</p>	

081	<p><b>Minutes of meeting held on 9 April 2025</b></p> <p>An amendment was requested to the minutes of the 9 April 2025 meeting (081-S250625, Confidential) to clarify that Regulation 41: Governing the Management of the Impact upon the University’s Academic Business of Force Majeure had not formally been invoked (item 077 refers). The revised minute would be approved through Chair’s Action and reported at the next Senate meeting.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Secretariat to amend the previous minutes in line with members’ comments and seek approval via Chair’s Action.</p>
082	<p><b>Matters arising from meeting held on 9 April 2025</b></p> <p><b>a) US Policy Context</b></p> <p>Following discussion at the previous meeting (item 063 refers), the Academic Registrar provided an update on the review of travel guidance and risk assessment processes for University travel to the US, with key points as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The International Strategy and Relations Team had issued updated guidance for staff on mitigating travel risks to the US, which was available on the Health and Safety Travel Hub.</li> <li>• Student Opportunity maintained up-to-date guidance on risk assessments required for outbound student mobility and international placements, including country-specific assessments.</li> <li>• Students were advised to consult Foreign, Commonwealth &amp; Development Office advice when preparing personal risk assessments for travel. Pre-departure briefings provided to students now included enhanced content on in-country awareness, using the US as an example.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair of the Academic Freedom Review Committee (AFRC) provided an update, with key points as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chair had consulted colleagues from the University Executive Board (UEB), HR, and the Education Group to explore potential areas for inclusion in AFRC’s broadening remit, including insights from political developments in other countries such as the US.</li> <li>• A proposal to amend the governing instruments to reflect the expanded remit of AFRC would be presented at the Senate meeting in September.</li> <li>• Work was progressing to establish Academic Freedom Champions across Senate sub-committees.</li> </ul>
<b>Chair’s Update</b>	
083	<p><b>Chair’s Business</b></p> <p>The Senate noted the report (083-S250625, Internal).</p> <p><b>a) Assembly Representatives</b></p> <p>The Chair reported that Dr Clare Rowan and Professor Olanrewaju Sorinola had been elected as academic Assembly representatives on the Senate for the term 1 August 2025 to 31 July 2028.</p> <p><b>b) University Community Posts</b></p> <p>The Chair reported that nominations would shortly be invited for staff members to join the Senate in one of the newly created University community posts. The posts were created as part of the Academic Governance Review and were designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring more diverse expertise and perspectives relevant to the Senate.</li> <li>• Broaden the Senate’s membership by inviting nominations from all staff groups across the University, encompassing a range of grades and contract types, beyond the current senior leadership.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Item</b>	
084	<p><b>Library and Archives Strategy 2030</b></p> <p>The Librarian presented a new Library and Archives Strategy (084-S250625, Confidential), with key points as follows:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The strategy outlined the Library’s future direction following Warwick Transformation. ‘Archives’ was added to the title to highlight the valuable work of the Modern Records Centre.</li> <li>• The strategy recognised the shift toward digital services, while reaffirming that physical study spaces remained essential to the student experience. The approach moved away from a hub-and-spoke model toward a reimagined central library space.</li> <li>• Emphasis was placed on strengthening the Library’s role as a research library of national and international significance. Negotiations with JISC to expand research publications were nearing completion.</li> </ul> <p>The Senate discussed that student behavioural data collated on study space preferences showed that personal needs, such as neurodivergent considerations, had a significant influence. The strategy aligned with the Connect programmes to ensure a balanced provision of social and quiet study spaces across the campus.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the Library was considering changes in teaching practices driven by technology and was contributing to relevant workstreams within the Education and Student Experience Strategy.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>recommended to the Council for approval</b> the Library and Archives Strategy.</p>
<b>Substantive Items</b>	
085	<p><b>Higher Education Policy Landscape</b></p> <p>The Director of National &amp; Regional Policy presented a briefing on the evolving Higher Education (HE) policy landscape (085-S250625, Confidential), with key points as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the policy update presented to the Senate in September 2024 (item 011 refers), government focus had moved further toward the economy and defence. Policy decisions on HE had generally been unfavourable, with the proposed levy on international student fee income causing particular concern in the sector amid ongoing financial instability.</li> <li>• Department for Education (DfE) accounts data showed that HE funding formed part of a broader skills group budget covering all education stages, with a trend of declining HE investment and rising funding in other areas. As a result, any reform to improve unit funding would likely require a smaller HE sector.</li> <li>• The Skills White Paper (including HE) was expected within a few months and was likely to offer an interim solution rather than comprehensive funding reform.</li> </ul> <p>The Registrar added that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A further risk related to the Resource Accounting and Budgeting (RAB) charge, the government’s estimate of the portion of student loans unlikely to be repaid, which was currently around 45%. If this rose above 50%, it could trigger the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to reclassify HE as publicly funded, as had previously happened with Further Education colleges. Such a reclassification could have significant implications for institutional autonomy.</li> </ul> <p>[Exempt information not included]</p> <p>It was noted that the University had opportunities to contribute to government priorities in areas such as the economy and defence. These were competitive fields, which could raise ethical concerns and risk marginalising disciplines seen as less directly employable.</p>
086	<p><b>Student Recruitment</b></p> <p>The Director of Admissions and the Director of Marketing &amp; Student Recruitment presented an update on student recruitment and admissions (086-S250625, Confidential), with key points as follows:</p> <p>[Exempt information not included]</p>
087	<p><b>Financial Planning Parameters</b></p> <p>The Group Finance Director presented an overview of the financial planning parameters (087-S250625, Confidential), with key points as follows:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sector volatility had disrupted the University's financial planning process and many HE institutions were facing serious financial challenges.</li> <li>• Warwick remained financially stable.</li> </ul> <p>[Exempt information not included]</p>
088	<p><b>Ethical Principles for Education Engagements</b></p> <p>The Academic Registrar and Head of Information &amp; Operations (Student Opportunity) presented newly developed Ethical Principles for Education Engagements (088-S250625, Internal), which aligned to the previous ethical assurance work undertaken around research, fundraising and investment.</p> <p>Members requested an amendment to the 'Defence' section to specify that the University would not support the development of weapons that were <i>indiscriminate</i> or prohibited under international <i>humanitarian</i> law, as follows:</p> <p><i>We do not engage in Educational Engagements if the engagement directly supports the development of weapons systems <u>which are by nature indiscriminate or are</u> prohibited under international <u>humanitarian</u> law.</i></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>recommended to the Council for approval</b> the Ethical Principles for Educational Engagements, subject to a proposed amendment.</p>
089	<p><b>Renaming of Warwick Foundation Studies</b></p> <p>The Head of Warwick Foundation Studies (WFS) presented a proposal to rename WFS to Warwick Global Academy (089-S250625, Internal), reflecting its international focus, cross-University collaboration, and alignment with Warwick's global brand.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>recommended to the Council for approval</b> the renaming of Warwick Foundation Studies to Warwick Global Academy.</p>
090	<p><b>Reform of Academic Regulations</b></p> <p>The Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education Policy) and Deputy Director and Head of Education Policy &amp; Governance presented on a project to reform and simplify the University's academic regulations and policy (090-S250625, Internal).</p> <p>The initial stage involved introducing a unified Framework that set out consistent expectations for the structure, development, and drafting of academic regulation and policy. This was aligned with the existing Policy Framework already established for corporate governance activities.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> the Academic Regulations and Policy Framework.</p>
091	<p><b>University College Birmingham Partnership Update</b></p> <p>The Director of Education Policy &amp; Quality and Secretary to Senate presented an update on the University College Birmingham (UCB) partnership (091-S250625, Confidential), with key points as follows:</p> <p>[Exempt information not included]</p>
092	<p><b>Update from Senate Representatives on the Council</b></p> <p>There were no items to report from the Senate representatives on Council.</p>
<b>Items below this line were for receipt and/or approval without discussion</b>	
<b>Governance</b>	
093	<p><b>Chair's Action Report</b></p> <p>The report (093-S250625, Internal) was received and noted.</p>
094	<p><b>Heads of Department 2025-26</b></p> <p>The report (094-S250625, Public) was received and noted.</p>

095	<p><b>Precautionary Actions Update</b></p> <p>The report (095-S250625, Highly Confidential) was received and noted.</p>
096	<p><b>Recommendations for Postgraduate Research Awards</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> the qualifications set out on the pass list (096-S250625, Highly Confidential).</p>
097	<p><b>Revisions to Governing Instruments</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>recommended to Council for approval</b> revisions to the following Governing Instruments (097-S250625, Confidential):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statute 7: The Senate</li> <li>• Ordinance 5: The Senate</li> <li>• Statute 8: Powers of Senate</li> <li>• Ordinance 7: Academic Bodies</li> <li>• Ordinance 3: Officers of the University</li> <li>• Ordinance 4: The Council</li> </ul>
098	<p><b>Revisions to Regulations:</b></p> <p><b>a) Faculty Governance Review: Changes to Academic Regulations</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> revisions to academic regulations, related to the outcome of the Faculty Governance Review (098a-250625, Public).</p> <p><b>b) Regulation 23: Student Disciplinary Offences</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> revisions to Regulation 23: Student Disciplinary Offences related to updated discipline committee titles and student membership (098b-250625, Internal).</p> <p><b>c) Regulation 27: On-Campus Residential Accommodation Regulations</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> revisions to Regulation 27: On-Campus Residential Accommodation Regulations, following a wholesale review by the Residential Community Team (098c-250625, Internal).</p>
099	<p><b>Open Access and Rights Retention Policy</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> the revised Open Access and Rights Retention Policy.</p>
<b>Committee Reports</b>	
100	<p><b>Report from the Education and Student Experience Committee</b></p> <p>The report (100-S250625, Public) was received and noted.</p>
101	<p><b>Report from the Research Committee (including a review of membership and Terms of Reference)</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> the revised membership and terms of reference for the Research Committee (101-S250625, Internal).</p>
102	<p><b>Report from the Research, Governance and Ethics Committee (including a review of membership)</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> the revised membership for the Research, Governance and Ethics Committee (102-S250625, Confidential).</p>
103	<p><b>Report from the Academic Resourcing Committee (including a review of membership and Terms of Reference)</b></p> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Senate <b>approved</b> the revised membership and terms of reference for the Academic Resourcing Committee (103-S250625, Confidential).</p>
104	<p><b>Annual report from the Academic Staff Committee</b></p> <p>This item was deferred to the next Senate meeting.</p>

**PUBLIC**

105	<b>Report from the University Executive Board</b> The report (105-S250625, Confidential) was received and noted.
<b>Other</b>	
106	<b>Student Deaths</b> The report (106-S250625, Public) was received and noted.
107	<b>Any other business</b> There was no other business.
<b>Next meeting: 14:00, Wednesday 24 September 2025, TBC</b>	