

Minutes (unrestricted)

Meeting title: Senate

Date: Wednesday, 13 June 2012

Time: 2.15 pm

Location: Senate Room, George Thomas Building, Highfield campus

Present: The Vice-Chancellor (*in the Chair*), Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Wheeler, Pro Vice-Chancellor Humphris, Pro Vice-Chancellor Nelson, Pro Vice-Chancellor Spearing, Ms T Harrison (*Registrar*), Dr S Alam, Dr M C Azaola, Mr R Bailey*, Mrs M J Baker, Dr A Barney, Dr S Beers, Dr V Benson, Dr G Brambilla, Dr J Brown, Dr M L Brown, Professor I T Cameron, Dr F Cagampang, Dr A Channon, Dr T Chown, Professor S Cox, Professor A Curry, Mrs J Davis, Dr S Demain, Dr H Eres, Mr P Fraser-Mackenzie, Mr P Gibbs, Mr D Gilani*, Dr I Golosnoy, Dr L Green, Dr N Harvey, Professor S Hawkins, Professor G Hearn, Dr C W Jackson, Dr N Jarrett, Dr L Kraaijeveld, Professor T G Leighton, Dr R Lewis, Mr S Ling*, Dr B MacArthur, Professor J McBride, Dr C Metcalf, Professor P Middleton, Professor R A Mills, Professor T Minshull, Dr L Myers, Dr A D Neill, Dr T Newman, Dr D Nicole, Professor M Niranjani, Dr J Parker, Professor J Petts, Professor C Pope, Professor J Preston, Dr R Primorac, Professor A Richardson, Dr E Roe, Dr W B Sloan, Ms L Stobseth-Brown, Dr A Smith, Dr P Smith, Professor J Sykulski, Professor J Vickers, Ms K Walker, Mr S Watson*, Dr M Weal, Professor N White, Dr Y Xiong and Mr E Zaluska

In attendance The Chief Operating Officer, Director of Communications and Marketing and Ms C J Gamble

(* Member of Senate not present for the restricted items.)

Welcome

The Vice-Chancellor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Obituary

The Vice-Chancellor announced with regret the death of Ms Mary Topley who had died on 28 May 2012. He asked members of Senate to stand for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

Presentation

Professor Spearing, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Internationalisation), presented an overview of the International Strategic Plan and an update of the University's major overseas initiatives.

The focus of the Plan was to strengthen the global reputation of the University by working across the three core areas of activity – education, research and enterprise – securing high quality international partnerships and collaborations, designing a portfolio of programmes with distinctive international elements, recruiting talented staff and students from overseas and building extensive alumni networks.

Currently the University stood just outside the top 100 higher education institutions in the world, depending on how one judged the various league tables. The objective was to move upwards to join the group of top fifty universities. Looking at a range of metrics designed to assess the strength of the institution's international performance, Pro Vice-Chancellor Spearing outlined how the University's international research income compared with that of other Russell Group institutions, and drew attention to areas where improvements could be made in the University's activities to enhance its reputation worldwide.

From the list of international collaborations presented in the update, Pro Vice-Chancellor Spearing highlighted the partnership with Dalian Polytechnic University, which would reach its first full year of operation in the near future, the University's campus in Malaysia which would be opened in October 2012, and the developing relationships in Singapore, Japan and Brazil.

The Vice-Chancellor thanked Pro Vice-Chancellor Spearing for his presentation. Extraordinary efforts were being made by staff to further the University's ambitions internationally and the Vice-Chancellor was pleased to report that these were proving to be successful.

Responding to a question about the value of establishing close partnerships with universities overseas in a model similar to the one set up between Warwick and Monash, Pro Vice-Chancellor Spearing said that ideally for such arrangements to work at a strategic level there had to be a good match across at least half the disciplines at each institution. The relationships that existed between the University and institutions in Singapore were a good example of how a range of research areas could be closely linked with those of international partners.

Replying to a query about the University's website, the Director of Communications and Marketing stated that analyses were carried out of the interest in the site, and from this strategies could be drawn up to maximise the activities in various areas.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Spearing encouraged Senators to contact him if they needed assistance developing and managing relations with institutions abroad.

(The presentation would be made available on the SUSSED Senate members' group site.)

47 **Minutes of meetings**

47.1 **Minutes of the meeting held on 29 February 2012**

The Vice-Chancellor reported that the list of those present at the meeting had been revised to include Dr Beers whose name had been omitted from the set of minutes on the SUSSED group site.

Senators approved the minutes of the meeting held on 29 February 2012 for signing by the Vice-Chancellor.

47.2 **Minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2012**

Senators approved the minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2012 for signing by the Vice-Chancellor.

48 **Matters arising**

48.1 *29 February 2012*

Amendments to Ordinances (Part 4): Students' Union (Minute 32)

The Vice-Chancellor reported that Council, at its meeting on 28 March 2012, had approved the revisions that had been necessary to Part 4 of the University's Ordinances as a result of the Students' Union applying to become an incorporated company. Senators had been consulted in early March 2012 about the changes and had endorsed them.

48.2 *2 May 2012*

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the May meeting.

49 **Vice-Chancellor's report and University Executive Group (UEG) decision log**

Received The Vice-Chancellor's report on recent activities, together with a list of actions and decisions taken after consultation with UEG since the meeting of Senate in February 2012.

The Vice-Chancellor drew attention to:

- *Submission to the Office for Fair Access (OFFA) – Access Agreement, 2013/14.* OFFA would notify institutions by 11 July 2012 whether their Access Agreements had been approved or

whether changes were sought. Based on the University's estimates, an increase was forecast in the number of students who would be eligible to receive some form of financial support, compared with 2012/13.

- *2013 entry students: ABB and changes to core and margin policy.* The University had yet to consider whether in the light of the changes announced by the Government in respect of student number controls in 2013/14 it would wish to bid for places available under the core and margin system.
- *Installation of the seventh Chancellor.* Dame Helen Alexander had been formally installed as Chancellor of the University at a ceremony held in the Turner Sims Concert Hall on 19 April 2012. Dame Helen had taken up her duties as Chancellor last year in August.
- *Prime Ministerial delegation to the Far East.* In April the Vice-Chancellor had joined a delegation to Japan, Indonesia and Malaysia which had provided opportunities to establish new contacts in higher education, to discuss policy matters with the Prime Minister and the Minister of State for Universities and Science, and to develop links with leading companies in the private sector.
- *The Office of Development and Alumni Relations.* The University had received an exceptional gift of £10 m, an extraordinary act of philanthropy, which was directed at the Faculty of Medicine.
- Referring to the decision log, attached to the report, the Vice-Chancellor stated that over the summer the intention was to consider how to improve the way in which decisions were communicated to Senate. More detailed reports could be expected in the future.

Noted The Vice-Chancellor's report and the decisions taken after consultation with the University Executive Group.

50 **Report from President of the Students' Union**

The Vice-Chancellor explained that Council received regular reports from the President of the Students' Union and he believed that Senate should also be kept up to date on the range of activities of the Union. He invited the President to outline the current initiatives in which the Union was involved.

Mr Ling summarized the involvement of the Union in projects organized by the National Union of Students. During the coming year the Union would draw up a student manifesto which would set out what the Union was working to achieve and was a document that could be used in consultations and discussions with the University and the local community. A referendum was planned on the Union rejoining the NUS.

Mr Watson, Vice-President (Academic Affairs), explained the changes that had been made to the student representation system during the year and the work of the course representatives who sat on Staff Student Liaison Committees. The timing of the elections had been changed to ensure that the course representations took up their responsibilities in good time for the start of a new academic session. A survey had recently been carried out of the system and the results would be used to enhance what was in place. He described the role that the student focus groups had played in curriculum innovation and the desire of the student body to be involved in shaping how their academic performance was assessed.

The Vice-Chancellor thanked the President and Vice-President for their updates and proposed that in future a report on the Union's activities be a standing item on Senate's agenda.

Resolved That a report from the President of the Students' Union be included as a standing item on Senate's agenda.

51 **Senate question time and review**

Received A report, dated 7 June 2012, from the Vice-Chancellor on the questions he had received from Senators, together with responses.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that, after the deadline for questions, he had received two more questions which, with the agreement of the Senator concerned, he would respond to in writing, circulating the questions and the replies to Senators with the minutes of the meeting. The questions were about the UCAS personal statements and the effects of the transition to the new organizational structure.

He invited questions on the response set out in the report from the Registrar about the deadlines for the marking of examination scripts. A point was made about one-year taught Master's programmes where the marking of the dissertation element took place in a subsequent academic session.

Turning to the review of the usefulness of the question-and-answer session, the Vice-Chancellor invited Senators to indicate whether they thought it should continue to be held.

There was unanimous support for continuing the present arrangements.

Noted The questions and answers during Senate question time, the support for the continuation of the current arrangements, and the Vice-Chancellor's intention to circulate a written response with the minutes of the meeting.

52 **Development of a Strategy to transform Education and the Student Experience, 2014/15: update**

Received A briefing paper, dated 6 June 2012, drafted by Pro Vice-Chancellor Humphris and the Registrar on the work that had to be completed to consolidate a large number of activities over the next two years in order to achieve the ambitions set out in the Education and Student Experience Strategic Plan, the latest update of which had been presented in detail to Senate on February 2012.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Humphris presented the paper, highlighting a number of the actions which were listed:

- Work would commence with the Faculties on rationalizing the portfolio of undergraduate programmes while taking account of offering a wide choice of, and flexibility in, learning.
- The Graduate Passport would be developed further. It was expected that more students would engage with the initiative as competition among graduates in the labour market increased.
- The new Academic Registrar would take up her post next month. Among her responsibilities would be working with the academic community to streamline the quality management and enhancement framework for implementation from 2013/14.
- The delivery of a fit-for-purpose, online module choice system from 2013.
- The Centre for Innovation and Technology in Education (CiTE) would provide a service to the Faculties, supporting their ambitions in respect of education innovation.
- Regarding the online assessment and feedback technologies, Pro Vice-Chancellor Humphris commented that they had a role to play in helping to improve the scores in the National Student Survey.

In considering the timetable of actions, Senators posed the following questions:

- Attention should be paid to ensuring that the more fundamental processes in student administration were working well.

The Vice-Chancellor recognized that both elements were vital: ensuring that the basic administrative processes functioned smoothly, and pursuing the strategic agenda for progress and reform. The allocation of resources available should be directed to the different activities appropriately.

- Was the deadline for the introduction of an online module choice system overly ambitious? Should a trial period be built in to the schedule to ensure that when it was rolled out across the Faculties the system worked as intended? The Registrar responded that many of the elements that were required for moving to this system were in place but it was a question of determining how best to bring them altogether. The aim was to help students from all the Faculties make curricular choices across the boundaries of their home Faculty thus the determination to introduce the system for everyone at the same time. She did not want to lose sight of the ambition but conceded that it might prove necessary to have a pilot first.

The Vice-Chancellor stated that regular reports would be provided to Senate on the how the various aspects of the programme were progressing.

Noted The content of the briefing paper on the timetable for the completion of the work set out in respect of the aims of the Education and Student Experience Strategic Plan for the period up to 2014/15.

53 **Recruitment and admissions, 2012/13**

Received A report, dated 1 June 2012, from Pro Vice-Chancellor Humphris on the student number target information for 2012/13 and the University's approach to confirmation and clearing in that year.

In presenting the report, Pro Vice-Chancellor underlined the consequences for the institution of the changes to the funding system in 2012/13. The HEFCE teaching grant had been radically reduced thus any volatility in student recruitment would be reflected directly in the level of income flowing to the University. She summarized the current position in respect of undergraduate and postgraduate numbers. The Recruitment and Admissions teams were hard at work with Faculties processing applications.

A number of points were made during the discussion of the position:

- Deans were exploring where they might consider offering places during clearing.
- During clearing, all the teams would be co-located, together with support staff dealing with student accommodation.
- There was concern among some academic staff that their particular discipline might prove to be vulnerable in the changed funding set-up. The Vice-Chancellor said that the institution should not overreact at this point. Time was needed to assess how the new arrangements would affect future students' choices. Meanwhile, the University should use the tactical methods at its disposal to maintain its position. The Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor commented that the institution was financially strong. It should tackle the problems that might arise with confidence.
- Would there be an evaluation of the changes that had been introduced this year to the recruitment processes to determine whether improvements had been made? The Registrar confirmed that that was the intention and would be part of the work described in the paper on the Education and Student Experience Strategic Plan (Agendum 7).

Noted The update from Pro Vice-Chancellor Humphris on recruitment and admissions matters for 2012/13.

54 **Self-Evaluation Document: revised draft**

Received A revised draft of the Self-Evaluation Document (SED) which had been prepared after the extraordinary meeting of Senate on 2 May 2012 and the mock review conducted with the group of external 'critical friends' on 8 and 9 May 2012.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Humphris thanked the members of the Senate Reading Group for all their contributions to the drafting work. The evidence to support the statements in the document was currently being gathered. Professor Humphris and Dr Piggott were in the process of visiting each Faculty to ensure that they were content with detail of the document. She reminded Senators of the timetable for the review.

The Vice-Chancellor invited Senators to offer comments on the document, particularly ones on points of substance or accuracy. A query was raised about the possibility of producing a shorter version of the SED to make it easier for those who were not members of Senate or who were not directly involved with the work to appreciate its detail. Dr Piggott said that consideration would be given to making an abridged version available. In the meantime, she had planned to circulate the document via the SUSSED group site once it had been signed off by the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar. She could also make available the comments on the SED that she might receive after today's meeting.

Resolved That the current version of the Self-Evaluation Document be endorsed and the statement that it would remain subject to change up to the point of the final sign off on 16 July 2012 by the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar be noted.

55 **Academic reward and recognition project: update**

Received An oral update from the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor on the academic reward and recognition project.

The Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor highlighted the areas that had been the subject of discussion during the rounds of consultation with academic staff:

- There had been much debate on the appraisal/personal performance and development review (PPDR) process. The concerns that had been registered were not about the process as such but about the ability of the appraisers and appraisees to participate in it effectively, for example, was sufficient time given to it and was enough effort put in to it?
- There were concerns about the introduction of performance related pay and how it related to the national pay framework.
- The proposed revised definition of an academic as an individual who was active in both areas of education and research.

The Provost stated that account had been taken of the views presented and subsequently the proposals had been revised. These had been submitted to the University Executive Group (UEG) for consideration. UEG had been supportive of the plans, but wished to see some development of the scheme to simplify it and, regarding its introduction, to undertake it in stages, starting with ERE level 7. For levels 4 to 6, the current PPDR arrangements would continue for the time being, but they would be improved. Performance-related pay would not be introduced for these levels. An individual's portfolio of work in the ERE career track up to level 7 must comprise education and research activities, with a minimum percentage of 20% of an academic's work in one of the areas, and 80% maximum in the other. More thought should be given to the title that would eventually replace 'Reader' and whether 'Associate Professor' was appropriate. An academic specialist pathway would be included in the job family, that of 'Professional practice'. In the area of Enterprise, advice was being sought from colleagues about the descriptions of the levels.

When the work on these matters had been completed, the Provost would publish the details which he planned to do over the summer. The discussions with the local UCU branch representatives would continue.

Noted The oral update from the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor and his intention to make available the details of the new arrangements when revised.

56 **Revisions to Ordinances: Part 7, Admission, Matriculation, Examination and Awards**

Received A report from the Quality, Standards and Accreditation Team (QSAT) setting out proposed changes to Part 7 of the Ordinances, dated 6 June 2012.

The Registrar introduced the proposed revisions to Part 7 which were designed to bring the wording of the document up to date in respect of the current terminology in use and the approaches that were adopted to matters such as external examining and accreditation of prior (experiential) learning. The initial work in the area had been undertaken by the former Director of the Learning and Teaching Enhancement Unit, and had been completed by QSAT. A number of Associate Deans (Education and Student Experience) and Faculty Education Managers had been involved in the work.

The Registrar explained the process, set out in the University's Charter (Article 19), for revising the Ordinances: Council, on the recommendation of or after consultation with the Senate, approved additions to, amendments or repeals of, the Ordinances. Subject to Senate's endorsement of the report, the revisions to Part 7 would be presented to Council on 11 July 2012.

The proposed changes were unanimously endorsed.

Resolved That the proposed amendments to Ordinance Part 7, as set out in Appendix 1, be approved.

57 **Membership of Council under Class 3: members appointed by the Senate**

Received A call for nominations from Senators from the Registrar on behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee.

The Registrar invited Senators to put themselves forward for nomination. The applications would be considered by the Nominating Committee. Two members of Senate would reach the end of their term on Council at the end of July 2012: Professor Cameron and Professor Vickers who had been nominated

to fill the casual vacancy which had arisen when Professor Makhoul had stood down earlier than planned.

Noted The call for nominations and the stated deadline of 31 July 2012.

58 University Programme Committee

58.1 Report from meeting held on 18 April 2012

Received A report from the meeting of the University Programme Committee, held on 18 April 2012, presented by the Chair of the Committee, Professor Curry.

The Vice-Chancellor invited Senators to approve the recommendation in the report (item 1) on the amendment to the Regulations for the degrees of Doctor of Letters, Music, Science, Science in the Social Sciences and Laws. It concerned a minor revision to paragraph 5 of the Regulations: the title of 'Academic Registrar' was substituted for 'Director of Research and Innovation Services'.

Resolved That paragraph 5 of the Regulations for the degrees of Doctor of Letters, Music, Science, Science in the Social Sciences and Laws be amended as set out under item 1 of Agendum 13.1 and introduced with immediate effect; and that the remaining items in the report be noted.

58.2 Report from meeting held on 30 May 2012

Received A report from the meeting of the University Programme Committee (UPC), held on 30 May 2012, presented by the Chair of the Committee, Professor Curry.

Professor Curry sought Senators' approval of items 1 to 5 in UPC's report. Referring to item 4 on the educational governance arrangements for the University's Malaysian campus (USMC), Professor Pope questioned whether an equality impact assessment had been carried out in respect of the proposed arrangements. She expressed concerns about the running of a campus in a country whose legal and constitutional framework was less liberal than the UK's and how it would be possible to ensure a student experience on a par with that at the University. Professor Pope was particularly anxious about the treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students.

Professor Curry said that the University was obliged to observe the laws and prevailing culture of the country in which it ran the campus. The quality assurance arrangements and the relationship between the programmes delivered in USMC and the host Faculties in Southampton were set out in Appendix 4. USMC would not be regarded as a Faculty but would operate through the governance arrangements of the parent Faculty or Faculties in Southampton.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Spearing referred to the discussion at Senate in June 2011 on the statement on international partnerships which set out guidelines for the University that were to be used when developing initiatives abroad. In the case of Malaysia, the University had established a positive relationship with the country's government. It would be inappropriate for the University to use its position to campaign politically in a foreign country. Moreover, it would be taking on a role that went beyond the limits of its constitution.

The Vice-Chancellor suggested that an item at a subsequent meeting of Senate be devoted to discussing the ethics of internationalization, based on the policy statement approved by Council in September 2011.

Turning to the items in the report before Senate, Professor Lee queried whether under the matter of the progression regulations, the comments from the Faculty of Business and Law had been taken into account. Dr Barney, who was leading the work in this area, confirmed that she planned to discuss directly with Law the particular points the academic unit had raised about accrediting bodies and repeating students. Professor Lee stated that there was an additional point to be made regarding the different arrangements for internal and external candidates and the possibility of these being considered discriminatory. Dr Barney confirmed that all of the comments would be taken into account and that further work would be undertaken to establish the best way forward.

- Resolved**
- (i) That the Fitness to Practise Policy and procedures be approved as set out in Appendices 1.1 and 1.2.
 - (ii) That the Regulations for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy awarded jointly with another institution be approved, as set out in Appendix 2, and introduced from 2012/13.
 - (iii) That the Regulations for Mayflower Scholarships, as set in Appendix 3, be approved and be introduced from 2012/13.
 - (iv) That the educational governance arrangements for USMC, as set out in Appendix 4, be approved, and be subject to amendment should the University's policy in this area change in the future.
 - (v) That the proposals in respect of the progression regulations be approved, and that the Vice-Chancellor be authorized, on behalf of Senate, to sign off the final version of the regulations after the work being undertaken on behalf of UPC had been completed and presented to UPC on 11 July 2012.
 - (vi) That the items for information in the report be noted.

59 **Nominations Committee: report from meetings held on 28 March 2012 and 23 May 2012**

Received A report from the Nominations Committee on two recent meetings held in March and May 2012 which brought forward a number of recommendations regarding the reappointment and appointment of Pro-Chancellors.

The Vice-Chancellor stated that he wished to commend both appointments to Senate. Dame Valerie had made an extraordinary commitment to the University over the years and her expertise and knowledge would be retained through her continued appointment as a Pro-Chancellor. Turning to the appointment of Dr Rider, the Vice-Chancellor commented that the Committee had undertaken a substantial search for a successor to Dame Valerie as the Chair of Council. Dr Rider brought a wide range of experience to the role, gained in the public and the private sectors, and was alumna of the University.

- Resolved**
- (i) That the recommendation that Dame Valerie Strachan be reappointed as a Pro-Chancellor of the University for a further three-year term from 1 August 2012 until 31 July 2015 be wholeheartedly supported.
 - (ii) That the recommendation that Dr Gill Rider be appointed as a Pro-Chancellor, subject to Council's approval of her nomination to Class 1, Chair of the Council, for an initial period of three years from 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2015 be wholeheartedly supported.

60 **Vice-Chancellor's action(s) as Chair of Senate**

The Vice-Chancellor stated that there were no matters to report.

61 **The Government's Higher Education Policies**

Received A discussion paper on the Government's higher education policies, drafted by Professors Pope, Nicole and Vickers, dated 6 June 2012, setting out three motions.

The Vice-Chancellor explained that he intended to invite Senators to vote on the motions in the paper after they had been presented and discussed. He clarified that it was Senate which was being invited to take a position in the matter and not the University.

The following points were made:

- The Students' Union supported the thrust of the recommendations in the paper. Opposition to the introduction of higher fees was part of trying to make changes for the better for future students in higher education. The Union wanted to work together with academic staff to campaign against the changes.

- The paper explained the financial aspects of the new fee regime with clarity. The financial issues had not been widely debated.
- Fees *per se* were not wrong but it was the speed with which the new arrangements had been introduced that was objectionable and the consequences.
- Debatable was the issue of whether the Government's proposals could be described as a 'policy'. The Government had failed to develop a coherent set of proposals across undergraduate and postgraduate provision.
- Senators commented on the large number of unsatisfactory features of the new arrangements which had the potential to destabilize higher education. The increasing national debt would not decrease the deficit unless the student loan debt could be sold. This might lead to changes in the financial terms and conditions to which students signed up. If the number of students in higher education declined it appeared reasonable to assume that that would adversely affect the number of undergraduates from disadvantaged backgrounds who entered higher education as they would be discouraged from doing so by the financial consequences. If the changes distorted an individual's choice, leading to some subjects rising in popularity while others shrank, eventually the concept of a University would be undermined.
- It should be underlined that the University was not introducing fees of its own volition. It had to do so because the Government was withdrawing state funding. There was no other option other than to cease teaching.

The Vice-Chancellor stated that he welcomed this opportunity for Senate to express its views. He supported the sentiments expressed in the paper but had reservations about some of the wording of the three recommendations. In particular, the second recommendation attempted to express the fact that the new, higher fees were not fair. If fees *per se* were opposed then it would suggest that what was intended was a return to the previous position where higher education was free to the individual who benefited. Was this position fair to the taxpayer? In his view, there was a balance to be struck between the public and personal contributions to higher education. Regarding the third recommendation, the Vice-Chancellor had made some preliminary enquiries about the 'Access for All' campaign and had learned that it was promoted by a group called the 'National Campaign against fees and cuts'. The group was urging students to take direct action. The Vice-Chancellor was anxious about endorsing a manifesto of a group when it was unclear what was involved and what the consequences might be for those who carried out whatever was planned.

In discussion, the following revised motions were proposed. (Professor Vickers proposed the amendments and Professor Pope seconded them):

- (i) The first motion should remain unchanged: The Senate of the University of Southampton reluctantly notes the introduction of higher fees for undergraduate degrees from September 2012.
- (ii) The Senate believes that these higher fees and associated student loans do not reflect a fair and reasonable balance between public and personal investment in higher education which the Senate believes will be detrimental not only to the University's students but to higher education and society.
- (iii) The Senate expresses solidarity with the University's students in peaceful and legal campaigning against the changes to student fees.

The Vice-Chancellor invited Senators to vote on the motions by a show of hands, taking each one in turn. All three motions were carried unanimously. There were no abstentions.

Resolved That Senate support the following statements in the debate on the Government's higher education policies:

- The Senate of the University of Southampton reluctantly notes the introduction of higher fees for undergraduate degrees from September 2012.
- The Senate believes that these higher fees and associated student loans do not reflect a fair and reasonable balance between public and personal investment in higher education which the Senate believes will be detrimental not only to the University's students but to higher education and society.

- The Senate expresses solidarity with the University's students in peaceful and legal campaigning against the changes to student fees.

62 **Timetable for review of effectiveness of Senate: update**

The Registrar reported that the review of the effectiveness of Senate would take place during the next academic session. The timetable and the process for conducting the review would be circulated in due course.

63 **Date of next meeting**

The Vice-Chancellor drew attention to the proposed dates for meetings of Senate during the next session. He reported that it had been requested that the June meeting be held later, moving it from the current slot to a week after the examination boards had met. This would be arranged, making the minor revision required to the Standing Orders to allow a meeting of Senate to take place outside term time at the beginning of the next session.

Noted The dates of Senate meetings during the 2012/13 academic session:
7 November 2012; 27 February 2013 and 19 June 2013.

64 **Valediction**

The Vice-Chancellor thanked the student members who were leaving the University and the members of staff who had reached the end of their term on Senate for their valued contributions to the meetings of Senate during the year. He wished the students well in their future careers.

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