



**Senate**

<b>Paper Title</b>	Minutes of the meeting of Senate held on 07 December 2017.
<b>Outcome requested</b>	Senate is asked to <b>approve</b> the minutes of the last meeting
<b>Points for Senate members to note and further information</b>	n/a
<b>Questions for Senate to consider</b>	n/a
<b>Regulatory/statutory reference points</b>	n/a
<b>Strategy and risk</b>	n/a
<b>Reporting/consideration route for the paper</b>	Senate to approve.
<b>Authors</b>	Jane Pallant, Deputy Academic Registrar
<b>Sponsor</b>	Professor Colin Bailey, President and Principal

## Senate

### Minutes of 07 December 2017 (unconfirmed)

---

#### Present:

Professor Colin Bailey (Chair)	Professor David Adger	Professor Amrita Ahluwali
Professor Rob Allaker	Professor David Arrowsmith	Dr Mark Baxendale
Professor Warren Boutcher	Professor Frances Bowen	Dr Andrejs Braun
Dr John Buchanan	Professor Edmund Burke	Dr Colleen Cotter
Dr Sadhvi Dar	Dr Madeleine Davis	Dr Danë Goodsman
Professor Lucinda Hall	Professor Matthew Hilton	Dr Henri Huijberts
Professor Julian Jackson	Dr Robert Janes	Professor Boris Khoruzhenko
Professor David Lee	Professor Rebecca Lingwood	Professor Simon Lucas
Professor Seán McConville	Dr Michael McKinnie	Professor Sandra Nicholson
Mary Ojo	Professor Mauro Perretti	Dr Chris Phillips
Professor Richard Pickersgill	Dr Isobel Roele	Professor Julia Shelton
Professor Robbie Shilliam	Professor Bill Spence	Dr Christopher Tyson
Professor Wen Wang	Professor Tim Warner	Yasir Yeahia

#### In attendance:

Laura Gibbs	Kaya John (minutes)	Jonathan Morgan
Jane Pallant	Nicolaas Vriend	

#### Apologies:

Dr Aylin Baysan	Dr Ginestra Bianconi	Professor Alison Blunt
Dr Adrian Briggs	Professor Jack Cuzick	Dr Sebastian del Bano Rollin
Dr Matthias Dittmar	Professor Adam Fagan	Dr Richard Grose
Professor Rafael Leal-Arcas	Professor Nicholas Lemoine	Professor Spyros Maniatis
Ruari McGowan	Professor Peter McOwan	Dr Kamyar Mehran
Professor Valsamis Mitsilegas	Professor Sujoy Mukerji	Dr Jason Niggli
Professor Phoebe Okowa	Dr Eranjan Padumadasa	Tawab Rahmani
Ms Jane Reid	Dr Mark Roberts	Dr Anwar Tappuni
Professor Steve Thornton	Professor Anthony Warrens	Professor Ferranti Wong
Rachel Catherine Yafet		

### Part 1: Preliminary items

#### Minutes of the previous meeting (SE2017.23)

2017.33 Senate **approved** the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2017.

#### President and Principal's Report (SE2017.24)

2017.34 The President and Principal **reported** that:

- (i) The Office for Students (OfS) would formally come into being in April 2018, marking a significant change for the higher education sector. Members noted some key points relating to the

introduction of the OfS, including the sector's approach to the maintenance of institutional autonomy. QMUL would work closely with Universities UK and the Russell Group to support the sector's response to the recent consultation on the OfS and Senate would receive regular updates on future developments.

- (ii) The Chancellor had announced the Autumn Budget on 22 November 2017. There were no announcements on tuition fees, but costings had been provided for the previous announcement on raising the repayment threshold to £25,000 and freezing the fee level at £9250. At the time of reporting, it was not expected that net costs would be taken from the Department for Education budget. A further announcement of interest to the sector was that the budget contained significant cuts to the capital allocations for both the Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Department for Education in 2019-20 and 2020-21. Queen Mary Senior Executive (QMSE) would review the outcome of the budget in detail and would consider any action to be taken in response.
- (iii) QMSE had established a Finance and Investment Sub-Group to provide dedicated time for QMSE to focus on the institution's financial position. The sub-group would meet monthly and would report to QMSE.
- (iv) A number of priority areas were under consideration by QMSE and these areas would inform discussions during the Planning and Accountability Round. These areas included: retention, attainment, employability, student satisfaction, tariff points, profile and reputation, research strategy and REF preparations and league tables. There were some additional 'underpinning issues' relating to support for staff, the quality of the estate and the effectiveness of IT systems.
- (v) Recruitment for a new Vice-Principal (International) was underway with interviews due to take place on 15 December 2017. Recruitment for the positions of Director of Research Services and Director of Development had begun. Senate members were pleased to note that Ian McManus would join QMUL in January 2018 as the new Director of Estates, Facilities and Capital Development.
- (vi) The effects of QMUL's penalties for the late submission of work had been discussed in a number of groups and committees. It was agreed that late penalties should be considered further at the Education Quality and Standards Board before further recommendations would be considered by Senate.

#### **Vice-Principals' Reports (SE2017.25a-SE2017.25g)**

2017.35 Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Health), (SE2017.25a). Members **noted** that:

- (i) Key achievements for research included:

- a. An application to the UKRI Innovation/Rutherford Fund Fellowships scheme at Health Data Research UK had been successful with SMD having been awarded its funding request in full.
  - b. A successful multi-institutional National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Public Health Research grant for a project “Investigating the impact of London’s Ultra Low Emission Zone on children’s respiratory health”.
  - c. SMD had hosted the 2017 William Harvey Day which highlighted the world-leading research taking place within the School.
  - d. The launch symposium for the Centre for Inflammation and Therapeutic Innovation (CiTI) had taken place in November 2017.
- (ii) The Athena Swan submission for Medicine had been completed on 1 December 2017.
  - (iii) Interviews for the Dean of Dentistry position would take place in December 2017, with a strong field of candidates. Additionally Professor Sandra Eldridge had been appointed to the position of Associate Dean for Strategic Development.
  - (iv) Professor Sir Nicholas Wright, Centre Lead for the Centre for Tumour Biology (BCI) had been awarded an honorary degree from Imperial College in recognition of his contribution to medicine.
  - (v) Medical student Ravina Bhanot, had been invited to an event on inspiring leadership in future doctors by the NHS Medical Director following the publication of her book *The Survival Guide for First Year Medics*.

2017.36

Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal and Executive Dean (Humanities and Social Sciences), (SE2017.25b). Members **noted** that:

- (i) The official launch of the Arts and Culture Strategy had taken place on 8 November 2017. The event was a celebration of the cultural experiences that staff, students and members of the public are able to access at QMUL, bringing together artists from the QMUL community and international leaders from the cultural sector.
- (ii) The Memorandum of Agreement between the Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) and QMUL had been completed. The new MA in Heritage Management was formally announced at the Arts and Culture Strategy launch event and would start in autumn 2018. The programme had been designed to train the heritage leaders of the future in areas of heritage histories, theory and practice across HRP’s five sites in London.

2017.37

Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal and Executive Dean (Science and Engineering), (SE2017.25c). Members **noted** that:

- (i) The Faculty was holding Planning Round discussions with schools to identify priorities for the 2017-18 and beyond. Priorities included preparing for both the Research Excellence Framework (REF) and the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and the development of action plans to optimise performance across all disciplines.
- (ii) Preparations were being made in response to the imminent call for Centres for Doctoral Training from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). The Faculty planned to consider its submissions carefully in line with the priority areas identified by EPSRC.
- (iii) QMUL, along with three other new partners (Leeds, Newcastle and Manchester Universities) would be joining the Turing Institute as a partner university. QMUL would work with the Institute's growing network of partners in industry and government to advance the world-changing potential of data science. The Faculty would create an Institute of Applied Data Sciences to oversee research efforts in three key areas (Digital Health, Machine Learning and Risk Analysis & Decision Support). The Institute of Applied Data Sciences would also be involved in the development of enrichment opportunities and training for postgraduate students who were studying subject areas relating to data science.

2017.38

Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Student Experience, Teaching and Learning) (SE2017.25d). Members **noted** that:

- (i) A League Table and Returns Group had been established to have oversight of data presented externally in league tables. The removal of league table performance from the TEF working group meant that the group would focus on the preparations for the Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (the new expanded title for TEF, the Teaching Excellence Framework) QMUL had been advised that it had not been selected to participate in the subject-level TEF pilots but subject-level data would be provided to institutions at the end of 2017; these data would be used to inform the internal subject-level shadow exercise at QMUL.
- (ii) A new initiative at Albert Island in the Royal Docks in East London was being explored. An expression of interest, in partnership with Newham College, had been submitted to the Department for Education to establish a Transport Engineering Institute of Technology as part of the development at Albert Island, which if successful would form a focus for transport and sustainable energy engineering education and research with integrated industrial engagement.
- (iii) In addition to the existing Digital and Technology Solutions Degree Apprenticeship programme, plans were underway to develop a Social Sector Professional Degree Apprenticeship programme.
- (iv) A number of subject areas had been identified as having potential for development as part of the next tranche of online postgraduate

taught programmes to be launched in 2018-19. Programmes and modules under consideration included international policy, accounting, finance, management, accounting and financial mathematics. These new areas were under consideration with academic leads and expressions of interest from other subject areas were welcomed.

- (v) QMUL had discontinued the Queen Mary Student Survey (QMSS) and had opted to run the United Kingdom Engagement Survey (UKES) alongside the National Student Survey (NSS) and Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES). Preparations were underway with the NSS opening on 29 January 2018 and the PTES and UKES opening on 05 February 2018. Campus promotion would launch once all three surveys were live.
- (vi) A strategic partnership between QMUL and KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm was under consideration. A two-day workshop had been held in September and a memorandum of understanding to express the intention to work towards a strategic partnership had been signed.
- (vii) QMSE had approved the introduction of a new strategic Student Recruitment and Admissions Group (SRAG) to replace the Marketing, Recruitment and Admissions Group (MRAG), Taught Programmes Planning Group and the Scholarships Committee.

2017.39

Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Research), (SE2017.25e). Members **noted** that:

- (i) A summary of the additional decisions on the regulations for Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021 had been circulated to schools and institutes. Key points included confirmation of the number of outputs and impact case studies required, guidance on the portability of outputs and clarity of regulations governing the requirement to submit 100% of staff. Draft REF guidance was due to be published in summer 2018 with full guidance expected by January 2019.
- (ii) Guidance notes and templates for the REF 2018 dry runs had been developed and circulated to schools and institutes. Recruitment for a new REF Manager was underway with the successful candidate expected to start in March 2018. Significant work had been undertaken to ensure the accuracy of the 2016-2017 staff HESA return including alignment with the REF eligible population data.
- (iii) A Medieval and Renaissance European Literary History proposal led by Professor Warren Boucher would be the QMUL submission for a £10m Leverhulme Research Centre. Two outline proposals had been submitted to the £20m Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) call, - a bid focused on under-nutrition, based in Zimbabwe and Zambia led by Dr Andrew Prendergast and; a hub for salt and sugar reduction in Asia led by Professor Graham MacGregor.

- (iv) The Minister for Universities and Science had announced plans for a Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF) to compare universities' effectiveness at business engagement and knowledge exchange. Research England, within UK Research and Innovation, would conduct consultations with the sector on the development of this KEF.
- (v) It has recently been announced that QMUL will be a new partner in the national Alan Turing Institute, which focuses on data science. This new partnership sits alongside continuing successes in this area at QMUL – recent examples being the BBC Data Science partnership and grant successes such as the STFC CDT in Data Intensive Science and the Health Data Research UK: RCUK Innovation/Rutherford Fund Fellowships award.
- (vi) The recent [Life Sciences Update](#) provides information on current and planned activities within the Life Sciences initiative - the next round of LS PhD studentship projects, new funding schemes, an update on the LS educational programmes, summaries of activities of the four LS Centres, note of recent high-level meetings with IBM and Philips, and the recent launch of QMUL's Centre for Inflammation and Therapeutic Innovation (CiTI).

2017.40

Senate **received** a report from the Academic Lead for Internationalisation, (SE2017.25f). Members **noted** that:

- (i) Professor David Sadler had retired on 31 August 2017. Professor Valsamis Mitsilegas would be interim Academic Lead for Internationalisation until the end of May 2018.
- (ii) International student recruitment enrolments for the 2017-18 intake had been generally positive in the context of competitor activity and reflected the challenges posed by the external market. This meant that QMUL had achieved the student recruitment targets set out in the QMUL Strategy.
- (iii) Initiatives to support outward student mobility were ongoing under the leadership of Dr Eyal Poleg. This work included regular communications with schools to support them in recruiting to the new four-year degree programmes with a year abroad
- (iv) Sophie Dilley had joined QMUL as the Summer Schools Director in September 2017. The Summer School would be offering 15 courses over two three-week blocks and applications were open for summer 2018.
- (v) The International Partnerships team had hosted, or co-hosted, visits from: The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India; Beijing Jiaotong University, China; Novosibirsk University, Russia; University Malaya, Malaysia; Universiti Teknoligi, Malaysia; Xiamen University, China; Kuwait Cultural Attache, Kuwait; Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, China; Minzu University, China; and the Dental Council of India.

- (vi) The Academic Lead for Internationalisation had visited China to meet with partner universities in Shanghai and Beijing and had hosted an alumni reception. He also represented QMUL at the Universities UK International Asia Network meeting in London in October.

2017.41

Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Public Engagement and Student Enterprise), (SE2017.25g). Members **noted** that:

- (i) Nominations for the annual Engagement and Enterprise Awards were open with a deadline of 8 December 2017. The awards ceremony would be held on 27 February 2018.
- (ii) The Centre for Public Engagement (CPE) Large Grants Scheme had received 19 applications and 7 excellent projects had been funded.
- (iii) The CPE team had supported 7 projects in the Being Human 2017 programme, a national programme of events led by the School of Advanced Study, University of London in partnership with the Arts & Humanities Research Council and the British Academy.
- (iv) The CPE and Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service (THCVS) had hosted an opportunity for voluntary and community sector organisations and QMUL staff and students to meet and explore potential collaboration. The CPE team would also present a session at the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE) Engage conference on QMUL's Festival of Communities.
- (v) QMUL's InQUBEate alumni 'Motus Innovations' came first in the national Varsity Pitch competition on 13 November 2017 winning £10,000 for their stroke rehabilitation business. Additionally, an annual entrepreneur pitch competition 'GradVenture' had been launched during Global Entrepreneurship Week, managed by a cross-college group Chaired by QMUL. QMUL's InQUBEate business 'Hexad' won second place for their customised microbrewing business.
- (vi) On 13 January 2018 QMUL would be hosting Enterprise Nation's annual 'Start Up' event; a day of workshops and seminars designed to help 2000 people start up either own companies.

### **Students' Union President's report (SE2017.26)**

2017.42

The Students' Union President **reported** that:

- (i) QMSU would be assessing its position on the QMUL Model with the intention of formulating a long-term stance to allow continuity from QMSU for the future.
- (ii) As there would no longer be a link between NSS scores and tuition fees, the Sabbatical Officer, would consult with Student Council representatives to discuss whether to continue the boycott of the NSS.



- (iii) QMSU representatives had visited the Students' Union of the University of London Institute in Paris to share good practice and develop their relationship.
- (iv) Two committee members of each of the student groups were to take part in consent workshops to help signpost students to relevant services. It was hoped that the workshops would be rolled out in the 2018-19 academic year. This work would complement the Dignity policy and the joint Zero Tolerance campaign which would be launching at the start of 2018.
- (v) A review of Student Staff Liaison Committees (SSLCs) was underway. EQSB had approved a survey of academic chairs of SSLCs to help identify best practice and establish consistency across schools and institutes.
- (vi) On 16 November 2017 QMSU launched the StudyWell campaign aimed helping students to address stress and providing ideas on how to study more effectively. A StudyWell booklet would be published in December 2017.
- (vii) On 18 and 19 November 2017 the Vice President Education hosted the Black Women in Science Conference. The conference was attended by 180 students, including prospective students from local sixth form schools and their parents.
- (viii) The Vice President Welfare had been running the Islamophobia Awareness Month throughout November 2017. The campaign aimed to address misconceptions of Islamophobia and raise awareness of the effects that these misconceptions can have on Muslim members of the community.

## Part 2: Matters for information

### Presentation from the Vice-Principal (Student Experience, Teaching and Learning)

2017.43 Senate **received** a presentation from the Vice-Principal (Student Experience, Teaching and Learning) on the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). Members **noted** the following:

- (i) TEF2 (2016-17) involved data presented as six core metrics; teaching, assessment and feedback, academic support, non-continuation, employment or further study and highly skills employment or further study. QMUL was awarded Silver. This award was based on an initial hypothesis calculated from the benchmarked core metrics averaged over three years plus a 15-page narrative. TEF2 awards were at institutional level and last for three years unless an institution chooses to enter an earlier year's exercise.
- (ii) Based on our TEF3 (2017-18) metrics, the current trajectory indicated that significant improvements in NSS scores and employment measures would be needed to retain the Silver award in TEF5 (2019-20, when QMUL would next be required to

participate). It was expected that in 2019-20 subject-level TEF would have been implemented after the national pilots in TEF3 and TEF4.

- (iii) From 2018 there would be a move from the DLHE survey to the Graduate Outcomes survey, which is conducted 15 months after graduation rather than 6 months. Therefore the 2018 DLHE survey results would be current for two years rather than the usual one-year period and likely to be used for TEF4 and TEF5.

### **HEFCE Annual Provider Review**

2017.44 It was **noted** that, following approval at the last meeting of Senate, the HEFCE Annual Provider Review report had been presented to Council. Council had endorsed the report and had provided the relevant assurances to HEFCE.

### **QMUL Model (SE2017.27)**

2017.45 Senate received an update on the QMUL Model. It was noted that:

- (i) The risk register was one area of focus. Members noted that, as agreed at the last meeting of Senate, R32, a risk to good honours derived from a broadening of UG programmes, had been added to the register.
- (ii) Resources, including the impact of time pressure on members of staff, was discussed.
- (iii) In addition to benefits to the student experience and employability, there was scope for the QMUL Model to work towards developing a sense of community and belonging. Staff in the Engagement Retention and Success unit (ERS) had been undertaking work on BAME attainment, retention and experience, concluding that BAME students often lacked a sense of belonging. It was further noted that the role of the personal tutor was key in developing a sense of belonging and community within the university.

## **Part 3: Matters for consideration**

### **QMUL Model Unit (SE2017.28)**

2017.46 Senate considered a proposal for a cross-institutional QMUL Model Unit. The proposed QMUL Model Unit would draw on expertise within existing directorates and would provide a structure that would provide academic validity to the development and delivery of QMUL Model modules that were not based in a school or institute, taking responsibility for the academic standards and quality of these modules.

2017.47 Members noted that further consideration would need to be given to the practical operation of the QMUL Model Unit. Resource planning would also be an important factor in the next phase of discussions.

2017.48 Senate **approved** the proposal for a QMUL Model unit, subject to clarification of the issues at the next Senate meeting.

### **Semester-based examinations (SE2017.29)**

- 2017.49 Senate received a paper on a previous consultation on the introduction of semester-based examinations to facilitate discussion of the issues for further consideration.
- 2017.50 QMUL had seen a significant rise in the number of examinations being held; from 50,000 in 2010-11 to an expected 83,000 in 2017-18. The number of examinations had also given rise to space issues which had cost implications due to the need to hire external spaces. Semester based examinations offered advantages to students in terms of spreading their assessments, and also to staff in the distribution of their workload.
- 2017.51 Senate **agreed** that it would be important to consider the impact of holding semester based examinations on the structure of the academic year. While there were advantages to this distribution of assessment across the academic year, there could also be implications on staff time if the length of the academic year was extended. Some staff were concerned that where there was a requirement for a sustained period of research, the break between semesters could be detrimental in terms of sustained engagement.
- 2017.52 Senate **agreed** that it would consider the possibility of semester based examinations in greater depth. A summary of the different models that might be implemented would be considered at the March 2018 meeting of Senate, with a consultation to follow this discussion.
- 2017.53 It was decided that options would be brought back to Senate taking into consideration the modules taught, student numbers and practices across the sector.

### **Dignity at QMUL (SE2017.30)**

- 2017.54 Senate received an update on the progress with the Dignity at QMUL work. This included a draft of the Dignity at QMUL policy for staff for information, and the Dignity at QMUL statement and guidance on harassment for students for approval. Members noted that the guidance for staff required consideration by the staff unions before a final draft would be presented to Senate.
- 2017.55 Members expressed concerns with regard to the staff policy, in particular references to 'upwards bullying'. Members agreed that feedback on this issue would be provided to the Human Resources Directorate in advance of the circulation of the next draft to the trades unions.
- 2017.56 QMSU had some concerns about the student guidance that they wished to feed back after the meeting. Senate **approved** the student guidance, subject to clarification of the points raised by QMSU.

### **Code of Student Discipline (SE2017.31)**

- 2017.57 The Code of Student Discipline had been updated to ensure that it aligned with guidance provided by Universities UK and Pinsent Masons LLP '*Guidance for higher education institutions; how to handle alleged student misconduct which may also constitute a criminal offence.*' These updates included the provision of more detail on the types of misconduct that may occur through the use of social media, a new section on sexual misconduct and an expansion of the section on

handling a case where the alleged misconduct may also constitute a criminal offence.

2017.58 Senate **approved** the changes to the Code of Student Discipline.

#### ***Honorary Degrees and Fellowships (SE2017.32) confidential***

2017.59 Senate **approved** for recommendation to Council the following nominations of the Honorary Degrees and Fellowships Committee as follows:

(i) The award of Doctor of Letters (DLitt) to: Sir Peter Hendy; Sir Roy Strong; Sir David Butler.

(ii) The award of Doctor of Laws (LLD) to: Dame Laura Cox.

2017.60 Senate **noted** the nominations for election as fellows of QMUL which would be considered for approval by Council: George Parker; Jules Pipe; Baroness Oona King; Hari Kunzru; Benjamin Balance-Drew (PlanB); Steve Cross; Sir Nicholas Montagu; Simon Linnett.

2017.61 Senate **noted** the conferment of the Queen Mary Medal on Cliff Merry.

#### **Barts Research Centre for Women's Health (SE2017.33)**

2017.62 Senate received a proposal for the Barts Research Centre for Women's Health. Members noted that the aim of the Centre was to develop a programme of research that was at the forefront of world-class research into women's health at all stages of life. The Centre would be based within the Blizard Institute, School of Medicine and Dentistry.

2017.63 Senate **approved** the establishment of the Barts Research Centre for Women's Health.

### **Part 4: Reports from Sub-boards of Senate**

#### **Taught Programmes Board (SE2017.34)**

2017.64 Senate **noted** the report of academic developments considered by the Taught Programmes Board between 28th September 2017 and 20th November 2017.

#### **Education Quality and Standards Board (SE2017.35)**

2017.65 Senate **noted** the executive summary report from the Education Quality and Standards Board (EQSB) on 15 November 2017.

2017.66 Senate also noted that EQSB had taken the decision to remove the policy of deregistering students from individual modules for non-attendance. It was agreed that there should be suspension of Academic Regulations 2.88-94, with amendments to regulations 2.70-72 and 2.87, with immediate effect. Attendance monitoring would continue in accordance with established procedures.

#### **Research Degrees Programmes and Examinations Board (SE2017.36)**

2017.67 Senate **noted** the executive summary of business considered by the Research Degrees Programmes and Examinations Board (RDPEB) in October and November 2017.

#### **Partnerships Board (SE2017.37)**

2017.68 Senate **noted** the executive summary of business considered by the Partnership Board between July and 22 November 2017.

#### **Vice-Principal's (Public Engagement and Student Enterprise) Advisory Group (SE2017.38)**

2017.69 Senate **noted** the executive summary of business considered by the Vice-Principal's Public Engagement and Student Enterprise Advisory Group at its meeting on 18 October 2017.

### **Part 5: Other matters**

#### **Dates of future meetings**

2017.70 Senate **noted** that the next meetings of Senate would be held as follows:

- Thursday 15 March 2018
- Thursday 7 June 2018

#### **Any other business**

2017.71 **Governance**  
The Academic Registrar and Council Secretary provided Senate with a brief summary of governance arrangements in relation to senior staff pay, in response to a question from a member of Senate. The membership of the Remuneration Committee comprised a majority of external members, including the Vice-Chair of Council, who chaired the Committee. An academic staff member of Council had recently been added to the membership and the President of QMSU, also a Council member, would be invited in future to meetings at which the President and Principal's performance and remuneration would be discussed. It was noted that the President and Principal was not currently a member of the Committee and was not present for any discussion of his own performance and remuneration. It was **agreed** that the Academic Registrar and Council Secretary would present a broader overview of corporate governance arrangements at the next meeting of Senate.

2017.72 **USS Pensions**  
Senate discussed the proposed changes to the USS pension scheme following a reported £7.5 billion deficit. Concerns had been raised about future benefits and the sustainability of pensions. The proposals were to be considered by the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC). The deadline to reach a solution had been extended to 18 December 2017. Staff would be provided with regular updates from Human Resources.