Queen Mary
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Senate

Paper Title	Minutes of the last meeting of Senate held on 20 October 2022
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to **approve** the minutes of the last meeting.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	n/a
Questions for Senate to consider	n/a
Regulatory/statutory reference points	n/a
Strategy and risk	n/a
Reporting/ consideration route for the paper	Senate to approve.
Authors	Jane Pallant, Director of Governance and Legal Services
Sponsor	Professor Colin Bailey, President and Principal

Senate

Minutes of 20 October 2022

Present:

Prof Colin Bailey (Chair)	Dr Erik Blair	Prof Frances Bowen
Prof Rob Briner	Dr Giorgio Chianello	Prof Alex Clark
Dr Dianne Cooper	Dr Giulia De Falco	Prof Panos Deloukas
Dr Jayne Dennis	Dr Pedro Elston	Prof Neve Gordon
Prof Colin Grant	Prof Jonathan Griffiths	Muneer Hussain
Prof Stefan Krummaker	Prof Andrew Livingston	Dr Philippa Lloyd
Dr Michaela MacDonald	Prof Arunthathi Mahendran	Prof Stephanie Marshall
Prof John Marshall	Prof Seán McConville	Prof Scott McCracken
Dr Ali Nankali	Dr Émilie Oléron Evans	Professor Christina Perry
Dr Anthony Phillips	Prof Thomas Prellberg	Prof Kathryn Richardson
Adi Sawalha	Dr James Strong	Prof Elizabeth Tanner
Prof Wen Wang	Dr Yannick Wurm	

In attendance:

Prof Stefan Krummaker	Prof Jo Martin	Jonathan Morgan
Jane Pallant	James Patterson	Prof Tim Warner
Kaya Wiles (Secretary)		

Apologies:

Prof Adrian Armstrong	Dr Jason Berry	Dr Lucy Carter
Prof Mark Caulfield	Prof Mary Collins	Prof Paul Coulthard
Dr Joseph Cronin	Prof Kavita Datta	Dr Debbie De Girolamo
Dr Paula Fonseca	Dr Abimbola Giwa	Prof Richard Grose
Prof Peter Hobson	Prof Henri Huijberts	Prof Martin Knight
Prof Ioannis Kokkoris	Prof Steffi Krause	Dr Theo Kreouzis
Prof Nicholas Lemoine	Prof Anthony Michael	Prof Wayne Morrison
Prof Mike Noon	Dr Michael Page	Prof Mauro Perretti
Prof Richard Pickersgill	Dr Amitha Ranauta	Dr Simon Rawlinson
Prof Hazel Screen	Charlie Sellar	Dr Prakash Shah
Saynab Sharif	Prof Jason Sturgess	Prof Daniel Todman
Prof Steve Uhlig	Prof Fiona Walter	Prof Anthony Warrens
Dr David Williams		

Part 1: Preliminary items

Welcome and apologies

2022.001 The Chair welcomed new members to Senate and **noted** the apologies received.

Minutes of the last meeting on 16 June 2022 (SE2022.01)

2022.002 Senate **approved** the following amendments to the minutes from the meeting on 16 June 2022:

(i) Minute 2021.106(i) would be amended to refer to the "pedagogic approach of Queen Mary's education" in place of "activities being performed".

(ii) Minute 2021.106(iii) would be updated to note that four pillars of excellence specified Queen Mary's commitment to students "as outlined in the 2030 strategy".

(iii) Minute 2021.109 would be amended to clarify that marking guides would need to differ by module and/or School/Institute to address the needs of each "programme's learning outcomes".

2022.003   Senate **confirmed** the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2022, subject to the amendments approved above.

Matters arising and Chair's actions (SE2022.02)

2022.004   Senate **noted** that the Admissions Policy for 2023–24 had been updated to reference "Medicine and Dentistry programmes" in place of using either "Barts and The London" or the "Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry".

2022.005   Senate **noted** an amendment to the Academic Regulations for 2022–23 by Chair's action to exclude the year abroad from the overall classification for the BA Modern Languages. The year abroad had previously been weighted as one eleventh of the overall classification outcome.

2022.006   Senate **noted** that three Chairs of the Professional Capability Committee and two Chairs of the Fitness to Practise Committee had been approved by Chair's action.

2022.007   Senate **noted** that three acting Chairs of the Academic Misconduct Panel for the 2022 calendar year had been approved by Chairs action.

2022.008   Senate **noted** that an amendment to the special regulations for programmes accredited by the Engineering Council had been approved by Chair's action. Under the special regulations, the University would award a compensated pass and credit for module marks above 30.0 (for modules below Level 7) or above 40.0 (for Level 7 modules) but below the module pass mark.

Senate terms of reference and membership 2022–23 (SE2022.03)

2022.009   Members **received** Senate's terms of reference and membership for 2022–23 and **noted** that provision for variable terms was no longer required.

President and Principal's report (SE2022.04)

2022.010   Senate **received** the President and Principal's report. The following points were **noted**:

(i) Student recruitment across the University had been strong, with a record of over 103,000 applications across undergraduate and postgraduate taught programmes. Despite the positive position at University level, there were some programmes which had not met their targets. Faculty Vice-Principals and the Senior Executive Team would reflect on modifications that may help to address

recruitment in those areas. Increasing the resource for programmes which continued to attract significant students would also be considered. The use of online applications during Clearing had meant that the recruitment position changed very quickly for some programmes. The University would consider ways to mitigate the potential for over-recruitment when programmes approach capacity exceptionally quickly, including how to strengthen communication. The recruitment cycle for 2022–23 had made a positive start with record levels of attendance at open days in June 2022.

(ii) The National Security Bill and Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill were both progressing through Parliament. A new Higher Education Reform Bill was also expected in autumn 2022.

(iii) The University had received data on continuation, completion and progression outcomes from the Office for Students (OfS). The OfS used the data to assess compliance with Condition B3 of the ongoing conditions of registration. Providers were required to demonstrate that they met the conditions to maintain registered status. Possible sanctions for not meeting condition thresholds included fines and restrictions on access to student loan funding at programme level.

(iv) The London City Institute of Technology (LCIoT) had welcomed its first cohort of students at London City Island. The LCIoT was a collaboration between Queen Mary, Newham College and a range of employers. The LCIoT would deliver higher technical education and apprenticeships with a focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics subjects.

(v) The Research Highways were launched in August 2022 and had been receiving positive attention. The Research Highways would help external partners and collaborators to understand research excellence at Queen Mary.

(vi) High-level results from the recent staff survey had been shared with Heads of School/Institutes and Professional Services Directors. The survey had been conducted by a new supplier and the format of the outputs differed to what was provided following previous surveys. Work was underway to identify themes from both the quantitative and qualitative responses. The approach to this analysis was being carefully considered, as respondents had been informed that their comments would not be shared in detail. Dr Sharon Ellis, Chief Operations Officer, chaired the Staff Survey Steering Group and would be asked to consider ways in which Schools/Institutes/Directorates could feed into the work.

(vii) The Senior Executive Team had been reviewing recruitment processes for academic leadership positions across the University, including for Heads of Schools and Directors of Institutes. Consideration was being given to inclusivity and enhancing the openness, fairness and transparency of the recruitment process for these roles.

Vice Principal's reports   **(SE2022.05a-g)**

2022.011   Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Humanities and Social Sciences) (SE2022.05a). The following points were **noted**:

         (i)   Professor Frances Bowen began her role as Vice-Principal (Humanities and Social Sciences) in September 2022. Professor Jonathan Griffiths and Professor Kathryn Richardson were now in post as the Heads of the School of Law and the School of Languages, Linguistics and Film.

2022.012   Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Health) (SE2022.05b). The following points were **noted**:

         (i)   Three researchers from the Faculty had been named by research.com in the top 100 female scientists in the world: Professor Claudia Langenberg, Professor Frances Balkwill and Professor Irene Leigh.

2022.013   Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Science and Engineering) (SE2022.05c). The following points were **noted**:

         (i)   The Faculty continued to produce high quality research, with some excellent research being published in high impact journals.

         (ii)   The Faculty would be investing in 30 new research-focused academic posts as part of the ambitious growth plan linked to Strategy 2030.

         (iii)   The Faculty, in collaboration with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, would be launching the Centre for Academic Inclusion in Science and Engineering on 31 October 2022.

2022.014   Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Education) (SE2022.05d). The following points were **noted**:

         (i)   A task force had been established to take forward work around the National Student Survey following the results released over the summer. Action planning was underway with Faculties and Schools/Institutes.

         (ii)   The Vice-Principal (Education) would be working with Directors of Education on the 2022–23 Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) exercise. Most of the required work would be performed centrally, with less burden on Schools and Institutes than the disciplinary-level TEF that was originally proposed by the OfS.

2022.015   Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (International) (SE2022.05e). The following points were **noted**:

         (i)   The political environment, and any impact this might have on the University's ability to recruit students from overseas, was being closely monitored. Although there were external risk factors regarding international recruitment, it remained key for Queen Mary to continue to operate as an inclusive, international

University that attracts talent from across the world. Recruiting both home and international students aligned with the University's values, such as embracing diversity of thought, and with the strategic goal to be the most inclusive University of its kind by 2030. Risks would continue to be mitigated through diplomacy with relevant countries and the diversification of student recruitment.

2022.016   Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Policy and Strategic Partnerships) (SE2022.05f). The following points were **noted**:

(i)   The University held a successful event with PwC on 12 October 2022. Senior partners from PwC visited the University to meet students enrolled on its Flying Start programmes and senior leadership from the University. PwC collaborated with Queen Mary on two Flying Start programmes: Accountancy; and Digital and Technology Solutions. PwC representatives had been particularly pleased with their interaction with students, including the engaging questions that had been asked.

(ii)   The University had won a further contract with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy for the Economic Masters Apprenticeship Progamme (EMAP).

2022.017   Senate **received** a report from the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation) (SE2022.05g). The following points were **noted**:

(i)   The results of the second iteration of the Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF) were published at the start of October 2022. The KEF used data that was publicly available to analyse the different ways universities work with their external partners for the benefit of society. KEF2 moved away from using deciles to using quintiles. The University had seen improvements in its KEF2 results, but other Russel Group universities had improved by a larger margin. A working group had been established to explore the results for the CPD and graduate start-ups category. The data being captured, and therefore the KEF2 results, were not representative of all the work being done in this area across the university. It was noted that CPD activity was recorded in different systems and that work was ongoing to resolve the implications of this for the KEF.

(ii)   The University had been awarded three accounts from the UKRI Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) funding for 2022–25. The funding was intended to support knowledge exchange, the acceleration of impact and to bridge the funding gap between UKRI and other sources of funding to facilitate impact for the benefit of society. IAA funding was available through the Queen Mary Impact Fund (QMIF). A review of previous applications to the QMIF identified that most applications were submitted by colleagues in the Faculty of Science and Engineering. Colleagues from the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry and Humanities and Social Sciences were being encouraged to apply.

(iii) Professor Claudia Langenberg joined the University in September 2022 as the inaugural Director of the Precision Healthcare University Research Institute. In October 2022, Dr Phil Clare joined as CEO of Queen Mary Innovation Ltd.

Students' Union President's report   **(SE2022.06)**

2022.018   Senate **received** the Students' Union President's report. The following points were **noted**:

(i) Welcome Fairs for new and returning students took place on 22 and 23 September 2022. The fairs were successful, with over 10,000 students attending.

(ii) Muneer Hussain, QMSU Vice-President (Science and Engineering), had been working with the University to address timetabling concerns raised by students in relation to religious observance. Good progress had been made to date with further work underway.

(iii) At the Whitechapel campus, QMSU would be moving from the BLSA Building to space within the Garrod Building. Events had been held to showcase the plans and proposals to students. The feedback from students had been positive.

(iv) QMSU was working with the University to share best practice and avoid duplication of efforts in relation to supporting students during the cost-of-living crisis. This included a review of facilities that could be used by students. A webpage had been created to signpost internal and external support services and resources to students. This had been publicised to students in an all-student email sent by the President and Principal on 19 October 2022.

Part 2: Matters for Discussion

Presentation from the Deputy Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)

2022.019   Senate **received** a presentation from the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation) on research culture. The following points were **noted**:

(i) The University aimed to create a research culture that enabled everyone to thrive and excel in alignment with Queen Mary's strategic goals.

(ii) There were two main strands to the University's work on enhancing the research culture: creating a strategy with input from the research community; and celebrating successes.

(iii) Research culture was a broad term, covering many areas including postgraduate research supervision and research integrity. Researchers were an important part of defining research culture priorities and what made the University distinctive. The focus would be on issues specific to research, rather than those applicable to the wider University.

(iv) All research staff, including Professional Services colleagues, had been invited to complete a survey on the research culture strategy. The survey would help to identify key themes, opportunities and concerns. The survey data would be broken down by School/Institute, career level and by Professional Services team. Each School/Institute also had their own focus groups to help develop the strategy. The survey and focus groups would inform the priority actions which would then be considered by the Research and Innovation Board in early 2023. The aim would be to identify five or six areas where a change could be made in the short term.

(v) The University's new Research and Innovation Awards would be launched in January 2023, with a ceremony planned for April 2023. The awards would help the University to celebrate success across 10 categories.

(vi) The Research Highways had been attracting positive attention. Phase two would see each School/Institute represented to allow the University's diverse research activity and community to be showcased.

(vii) External awards were a key aspect of celebrating success, as they provide the opportunity to show appreciation for the research and raise the profile of the researcher. Work to help maximise award nominations by matching candidates with appropriate awards would continue. It was recognised that receiving nominations and recommendations from other universities was particularly valuable. It was noted that a system to track nomination deadlines and give advance warning of closing dates would be useful. Examples of good nominations, including the wording that panels may be looking for, would also be welcomed. Support writing press releases could also help publicise research.

(viii) Researchers were able to share their viewpoints and any concerns through the research forum, which had approximately 100 members.

(ix) Both academic and Professional Services staff had highlighted that efficiency could be improved by updating some of the University's research processes and systems. It would remain important to achieve an appropriate balance between devolved and central decision making on some matters, but it was recognised that it was important to eliminate processing delays to increase agility.

Academic assurance report **(SE2022.07)**

2022.020 Senate **considered** the draft Academic Assurance Report for 2021–22 and **noted** that it would be submitted to Council for consideration on 17 November 2022.

2022.021 Members **noted** that the draft report would be updated to include reference to the degree apprenticeship provision.

| 2022.022 | Members **noted** the deadline of 01 November 2022 to provide any further comments on the draft report. |

Research Misconduct Policy (SE2022.08)

| 2022.023 | Senate **considered** the revised Research Misconduct Policy and **noted** that the policy had been reconfigured to ensure the research misconduct process was timely and proportionate and to codify the roles of the team. |

| 2022.024 | Senate **noted** that the policy had been reviewed by Dr Rhys Morgan, an expert on supporting research integrity from the University of Cambridge. The review had ensured that the updated policy was in line with best practice across the sector. The policy had also been considered and approved by the Research and Innovation Board. |

| 2022.025 | Senate **approved** the Research Misconduct Policy. |

Joint Research Policies (SE2022.09)

| 2022.026 | Senate **considered** the Barts NHS Trust and Queen Mary Joint Research Policies and **noted** that the policies covered all aspects of clinical research management and delivery and some financial and HR aspects of non-clinical research. The policies were agreed jointly by Queen Mary and Barts NHS Trust. The current revisions to the policies had been discussed and approved by the Research and Innovation Board. |

| 2022.027 | Senate **approved** the Barts NHS Trust and Queen Mary Joint Research Policies. |

Part 3: Matters for Report

Approval of membership and terms of reference for sub-boards of Senate for 2022–23 (SE2022.10)

| 2022.028 | Senate **approved** the membership and terms of reference for sub-boards of Senate for 2022–23. |

| 2022.029 | Members **noted** that references to 'Chairman' would be updated to instead read 'Chair'. |

Indicative annual business plan for 2022-2023 (SE2022.11)

| 2022.030 | Senate **considered** the annual indicative business plan for 2022–23 and **agreed** that the following items would be added: |

> (i) Academic reputation. This item would cover the work being done across the University to build the University's academic reputation. Data, such as league table rankings, allowed the University to measure academic reputation in a tangible way that could be tracked over time. The agenda item would therefore include an overview of how league tables rate and rank universities on this metric.

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(ii) The NSS. This item would provide more granular insights into the priorities and action being taken in Schools and Institutes.

(iii) OfS regulatory requirements. This item would be taken alongside the NSS agenda item to provide an overview of the regulatory context as it relates to the student experience.

(iv) Academic assurance in periods of industrial action and how the University fulfils its regulatory obligations.
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2022.031   Senate **approved** the annual indicative business plan for 2022–23, subject to the additions outlined above.

Council Report   (SE2022.12)

2022.032   Senate **noted** executive summaries of business considered by Council at its meetings on 07 July 06 October 2022.

Taught Programmes Board   (SE2022.13)

2022.033   Senate **noted** proposals relating to programme and module developments considered between 26 May and 21 September 2022.

Education Quality and Standards Board   (SE2022.14)

2022.034   Senate **noted** the executive summary of business considered by the Education Quality and Standards Board at the meetings on 20 July and 03 October 2022.

Research Degrees Programmes and Examinations Board   (SE2022.15)

2022.035   Senate **noted** the executive summary of business considered by the Research Degrees Programmes and Examinations Board at meetings held between June 2022 and September 2022.

Ethics of Research Committee   (SE2022.16)

2022.036   Senate **noted** the executive summary of the business considered by the Ethics of Research Committee at the meeting on 15 June 2022.

Partnerships Board   (SE2022.17)

2022.037   Senate **noted** the executive summary of business considered by the Partnerships Board between 04 May and 27 September 2022.

Part 4: Other matters

Dates of future meetings

2022.038   Senate **noted** the upcoming Senate meetings for 2022–23:
- Thursday 15 December 2022, 3–5pm
- Thursday 16 March 2023, 3–5pm
- Thursday 8 June 2023, 3–5pm