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LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

SENATE 16th March 2022

PRESENT: Professor G Pillay (in the Chair), Professor K Newport (Vice-Chair), Associate Professor G Anderson, Mr M Beecroft, Ms S Beecroft, Dr W Bignold, Professor W Blazek, Professor D Bolt, Dr C Boyle, Professor M Brennan, Ms J Burgess, Mr A Catterall, Dr J Clear, Dr S Corbett, Professor Rosanna Cousins, Professor G Cuthbertson, Professor S Davismoon, Professor N Donnelly, Mr J Ellison, Professor B Evans, Professor N Ferguson, Dr A Foulkes, Ms C Harvey, Dr P Haughan, Rev Professor D Jeyaraj, Ms S Kelly, Professor O Khaiyat, Professor M Lavalette, Dr J Malone, Ms Z Marshall, Mr S Massie, Professor P McGrail, Ms S Murray, Professor G Paramei, Associate Professor C Penketh, Ms C Priestley, Professor D Reid, Mr B Ricketts, Professor F Rizzuto, Professor S Shakespeare, Dr F Su Ms S Trujillo, Professor C Wakefield, Dr C Walsh
(43 Members)

Mr D Dykins (Secretary and Minutes)

APOLOGIES: Professor P Bamber, Dr M Baxendale, Mr M Hill, Dr J Hogan, Professor S Kelly, Associate Professor M Littler, Professor S Marwood, Mr I McKenna, Dr D Merryweather Professor A Nagar, Ms M Pearson, Rev P Rooney, Ms C Vitti

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of Senate held on 10th November 2021 were **APPROVED** as a correct record.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

3. Vice-Chair's Report

The Chair invited the Vice-Chair, Professor Newport, to report on management decisions taken between meetings of Senate.

Appointments

Professor Newport reported that the following visiting academics had been appointed:

- Dr Waigi Ng'ang'a to be Honorary Research Fellow attached to the Andrew Walls Centre
- Dr G Baker to be visiting professor to the School of Education
- Mr Abishek Jain to be Honorary Fellow attached to the School of Health Sciences

Building Update and Infrastructure

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Professor Newport noted that the Sports Hall has now been incorporated into an overall Sports function within Health Sciences allowing greater use of facilities by staff and students. The School of Health Sciences, has also been rebadged as the School of Health and Sport Sciences. The Dining Room in the Arbour Room will now be named the Rosemary Guest Dining Room.

Partnerships

- The Network of Hope agreement with Carmel College will be renewed this summer.
- The agreement with Newman College will change from sub-contractual to a validation model.

Accreditations

- Social Work England Re-accreditation: a full 5-year review took place in January and courses have been reapproved for 5 years with a commendation in 4 areas.
- ACCA Re-Accreditation: Following a full 5-year accreditation review process, ACCA accreditation has been reapproved.
- CIEEM Re-Accreditation for the suite of BSc Environmental courses: a five-year accreditation review is currently underway with paper work submitted 25th Feb; a site visit will take place on 6th April.
- CASE: New application for CASE accreditation to be submitted by 5th April with site visit by CASE reviewers scheduled for 31st May.
- BASES endorsement submitted for the BSc Sport & Exercise Science. Outcome is pending
- ESB and NYA Accreditation for the new BA Youth Work and Community Development course (new for AY 2022).
- Advance HE: The University is withdrawing from the Accreditation from 1st Sept 2022.
- CIM 3-year re-accreditation submission due Summer 2022.
- Ofsted: accreditation of ITT for 2024; a full project team has been established and is being led by Professor Newport. Paperwork was submitted on 7th Feb with an outcome expected in May.

Committee Reports

4. Research Committee

Members had received the minutes of the meeting of Research Committee held on 9th February 2022.

5. Academic Committee

- (i) Members had received the minutes of the Academic Committee held on 15th December 2021 and 23rd February 2022. Dr Haughan drew member's attention to the committee's recommendation for approval of new courses and re-approval of existing courses (Appendix 1).

Senate **APPROVED** the recommended courses.

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Dr Haughan noted that Quality Handbook 11, Accreditation of Prior Certificated Learning had been updated to include additional qualifications.

Senate **APPROVED** the amendments to QH11.

Dr Haughan drew members' attention to the approved external examiners which were supplied for information (Appendix 2).

It was noted that a refreshed Moodle Framework was being developed, but that Schools and Departments with their own strategy could continue to work to their strategies for the time being.

- (ii) Strategy for Enhancing Student Employability: Members had received the Strategy. Dr Haughan explained that the University holds an external accreditation from Matrix who have reviewed and approved the Strategy. Mr Catterall asked whether there was a separate document aimed at students in the widening participation umbrella; Dr Haughan said this is a top-level document but the APP document referred to in the strategy addresses this area. Professor Donnelly asked for clarification on KPIs as they appeared inconsistent. Dr Haughan said it was government subtleties which created two different levels; under B3, credit was only given for professional positions graduates move into, so there is a need to be above the national average, but the University would also like to have a significantly higher rate for students more generally in employment. For the B3 element, the OfS will set thresholds and the University will refine the documents once those thresholds are agreed.

Senate **APPROVED** the strategy for Enhancing Student Employability. Ms Mair will now work with Heads to develop local action plans.

- (iii) Academic Term Dates: Members had received the proposed term dates which had been created using the model developed during the pandemic. Dr Haughan highlighted differences between mainstream dates, Social Work and QTS courses. Professor Donnelly suggested that reflective weeks may be impacting retention and engagement, though the Students' Union were very much in favour of the four-week blocks with breaks introduced by the reflective weeks. The Chair noted that the intention was that formal teaching did not occur in the reflective weeks, but that students should be set project/catch up work and should still have access to academic staff during this time. Ms Trujillo queried whether any useful information could be found in data relating to reflective weeks during lockdown and the Chair agreed that it would be useful to investigate this.

Action: Senate to review 8-week blocks in term 1 of AY 2022/3. This would include a review of data relating to attendance following reflective weeks.

Dr Walsh queried the logic of scheduling international student arrivals in January and it was agreed that this would be amended so that students arrived in the first reflective week after Christmas. Mr Ricketts noted that the calendar for 2024/25 extends into June and suggested this might be pulled forward. Professor Khaiyat suggested using the reflective week for practical assessments. Dr Haughan said she would review both suggestions.

Senate **APPROVED** the Academic Term Dates.

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- (iv) Policy Updates: Members had received three updated policies which, Dr Walsh noted, had been simplified and carefully designed to be more accessible to both staff and students, and had involved extensive input from Ms Gittins. All three devolved responsibilities to Schools/Departments.
- a. Mitigating Circumstances: Currently the University is in transitional arrangements in this area and providing these arrangements are not required after the summer, this new policy will apply from October 2022. Dr Walsh agreed with Mr Rickets, that students need to be made aware of the changes and at School level this needs to be robustly explained. Mr Massie queried the requirement of evidence for a bereavement; Dr Walsh said that it would not be appropriate to make a judgement on individual circumstances, so if a longer period is requested, medical evidence will be required.
- b. Academic Misconduct: Dr Walsh noted that the School/Department is able to decide on a penalty using indicative tariffs. Professor Cousins queried the use of the term *warning* and it was agreed that this would be changed to *formative penalty* to make clear a resubmission is still necessary and counselling on plagiarism should be included. Professor Shakespeare suggested the penalty include a re-presentation of work which is uncapped at Level F or C, though Professor Donnelly felt this would not be appropriate in cases of data fabrication, where the whole assignment would need to be started again with a cap. Dr Walsh agreed to consider how this might be reflected in the document.
- c. Appeals: There were no further comments on the document.

Senate **APPROVED** the above three policies with the suggested amendments to the Academic Misconduct document.

6. Chair's Business

Professor Pillay drew Senators' attention to the series of Inaugural Professorial Lectures that had recently started.

Professor Pillay also noted recent (and upcoming) industrial action by UCU. He noted that the union are reneging on the workload model, agreed in June 2020 and are now requesting that this figure be reduced further. Dr Anderson said that the overall workload figure was nominal or notional and does not necessarily reflect an academic's actual workload. Therefore, it is not a matter or cause for dispute. Professor Pillay thanked him for a more realistic approaching in counting hours and also advised that the University supports a higher pay offer but has very limited input into collective bargaining. Professor Newport said he would be happy to continue discussions with UCU. It was noted that the Students' Union did not support the strike.

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Appendix 1: Curriculum Matters

Course Reapprovals

- BAC Major Musical Theatre
- BA Criminology
- MSc Mathematics
- BSc Mathematics
- BAC/BSc Major Mathematics
- MMath
- BAC Major Drama
- Master of Humanities (MHum)

Course Approvals

- PG Musculoskeletal Ultrasound

Withdrawals

- BA Applied Childhood & Youth
- BA Applied Social Sciences

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Appendix 2: External Examiner Appointments

Subject	Name	Institution	Commence
UG Politics, IR MA in Politics and IR, MA in Contemporary European Affairs	Dr Greig Charnock	University of Manchester	January 2022
UG History (Major & Combined) and MA History	Dr Ciara Meehan	University of Hertfordshire	January 2022
Degrees with Foundation Year	Mr Gareth Henry	Nelson and Colne College	December 2021
SCITT programmes	Dr Paul McFlynn	Ulster University	January 2022
Disability Studies	Dr Antonios Ktenidis	Leeds Beckett University	April 2022
MSc Sport Medicine, Exercise and Health	Dr Karl New	University of South Wales	February 2022

Subject	Name	Nature of Request
Integrated Masters in Digital Literacies	Dr Pullen	Extension of Tenure