

WEB COPY

Court

Minute of Meeting held on Wednesday 10 April 2019 in the Mary Stewart Meeting Room, Garscube Estate

Present:

Mr Dave Anderson Employee Representative, Mr Graeme Bissett Co-opted Member, Ms Heather Cousins Co-opted Member, Professor Lindsay Farmer Senate Assessor, Mr David Finlayson Co-opted Member, Professor Carl Goodyear Senate Assessor, Dr Simon Kennedy Senate Assessor, Professor Kirsteen McCue Senate Assessor, Dr Morag Macdonald Simpson General Council Assessor, Ms Margaret Anne McParland Employee Representative, Mr Ronnie Mercer Co-opted Member, Dr June Milligan Co-opted Member, Professor Sir Anton Muscatelli Principal, Mr Elliot Napier SRC Assessor, Ms Elspeth Orcharton Co-opted Member, Ms Elizabeth Passey Co-opted Member (Convener of Court), Ms Lauren McDougall SRC President, Mr Gavin Stewart Co-opted Member, Dr Ken Sutherland Co-opted Member, Ms Lesley Sutherland General Council Assessor

Attending:

Dr David Duncan (Chief Operating Officer [COO] & University Secretary), Mr Robert Fraser (Director of Finance), Professor Neal Juster (Senior Vice-Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor), Ms Deborah Maddern (Administrative Officer), Professor Jill Morrison (Vice-Principal & Clerk of Senate), Professor Frank Coton (Vice-Principal Academic & Educational Innovation) (for item 40), Ms Susan Ashworth (Executive Director of Information Services) (for item 40), Mr Mark Johnston (Director of IT Services) (for item 40), Ms Christine Barr (Director of HR) (for item 44.1)

Observing:

Ms Kerry Christie (Remuneration Committee), Mr Doug Smith (Estates Committee)

Apologies:

Members: Cllr Susan Aitken Glasgow City Council Assessor, Mr Aamer Anwar Rector, Professor Nick Hill Senate Assessor, Mr David Milloy Co-opted Member, Dr Bethan Wood Senate Assessor

CRT/2018/37 Announcements

Ms Kerry Christie, a lay member of the Remuneration Committee and Mr Doug Smith, a lay member of the Estates Committee, were welcomed as observers.

There were the following declarations of interest in relation to business to be conducted at the meeting: Professor Sir Anton Muscatelli as a Trustee of USS, as an ongoing declaration, given the updates on the triennial valuation of the scheme; Professor Neal Juster for an item under the Principal's report, relating to Professor Juster's reappointment; the Convener for an item under the University Secretary's report, relating to the Convener's appraisal; and Dave Anderson in relation to the IT briefing, given his status as a member of staff in the service and contributor to the IT strategy.

It was recorded that the Executive Director and Vice-Principal External Relations, Ms Rachel Sandison, had briefed Court at the pre-lunch session, covering External Relations. Court's thanks for the briefing were recorded.

Court was reminded that papers and business were confidential.

CRT/2018/38. Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 13 February 2019

The minutes were approved.

CRT/2018/39. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

CRT/2018/40. Information/Technology Policy and Strategy Briefing

The University's IT strategy had been approved by Court in 2014, with a broad focus including support for Research and Learning & Teaching, support for business application and development of Business Intelligence. The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) aims of the strategy had now been largely met, with BYOD the norm for students. A more targeted technology strategy had been developed in 2016, prioritising areas including core infrastructure, IT governance, Customer Relationship Management and (in the longer term) machine learning and AI. The remit and membership of the IPSC had been revisited and services restructured to provide a more holistic approach to IT; this had included the formation of the Information Services Directorate.

There was a comprehensive investment plan, with funds already secured for some investments. Significant projects in the coming year related to Infrastructure mapping (data centres), pervasive WiFi installation, a review of the Virtual Learning Environment VLE and a campus-wide service model. Court noted progress made in relation to infrastructure, including a move to Office 365 and associated improvements to collaboration tools. With regard to Research, Court heard that support was being provided in High Performance Computing, Research collaboration technologies (e.g. filestore) and REF-related areas including development of Enlighten platforms and services. In support of the Student Experience, there was lecture capture in more locations, ongoing refreshment of audiovisual infrastructure, improvements to Moodle, virtual classroom software available, a digital signage strategy and Virtual Desktop Infrastructure VSI initiatives such as laptop loans.

Looking to the future, the service was exploring opportunities around the Smart Campus and Internet of Things, the use of AI and Chatbots for routine automation and Personalisation of IT-based services.

During questions and discussion, it was noted that IT requirements, including funding thereof, were being given greater emphasis in capital project planning, although IT planning for the distant future was difficult. The nature and level of IT provision for the SID at Dumfries was under review, although it was noted that the University's IT service was not the main provider of services at that campus. Developments in IT in other sectors such as the commercial sector would also be followed, to analyse their possible application to HE.

With regard to a query about lecture capture potentially affecting (downwards) the need for physical space, it was noted that this was not the case, since staff/student engagement was still required, given its central importance. Optimal provision for the student learning environment was however under constant review. Resource for IT-related project management was available; a comment was noted about the key importance of such skills being available in this area. It was also noted that in terms of governance for IT, structures similar to those for capital projects were being replicated, e.g. through boards being set up. There were also IT specialists involved with major estates projects.

Professor Coton, Ms Ashworth and Mr Johnston were thanked for the briefing.

CRT/2018/41. Report from the Principal

CRT/2018/41.1 Higher Education Developments

Brexit

The sector was continuing to lobby the government, given the consequences for HE.

Scottish Budget 2019-20

At the last meeting, the Principal had provided details about the overall draft budget for Higher Education, noting that this was, in effect, a flat-cash settlement for HE in revenue terms and that the allocation had been much as expected in the University's budget and financial forecasts.

At the end of February, the SFC had published the annual indicative Outcome Agreement funding letter for 2019/20. The letter did not include additional ring-fenced funding for controlled subjects. Court noted a table (below) showing the key funding lines for 2019/20 compared to 2018/19. All values cited omitted the temporary uplift to the Research Excellence Grant REG [£6.4M for REG (UoG £1.27M)] and University Innovation Fund UIF funding [£5.2M (UoG £601k)] announced in July 2018. The SFC's advice was that this uplift was regarded as temporary from Barnett consequentials, with ministers not committed to repeating it in future.

SFC Indicative Grants 2019-20

	£k		YoY Variance
	18/19	19/20	
Teaching Grant	82,262	82,215	-0.1%
Research Excellence Grant*	46,762	47,595	1.8%
University Innovation Fund*	1,549	1,549	0.0%
Research Postgraduate Grant	7,560	7,939	5.0%
Grants for Teaching, Research and Innovation	138,133	139,298	0.8%

*Based on 2018/19 Indicative Allocation, not including subsequent one-off uplift to REG and UIF.

Post-18 Funding Review in England

The uncertainty surrounding Brexit had meant that the initial findings of the Augar review had been delayed until May 2019 at the earliest. There had been ongoing discussions with BEIS, DfE and the Treasury, through the Russell Group, on the implications of the post-18 review.

CRT/2018/41.2 Universities Superannuation Scheme USS/Pensions update

Since the last meeting, the employer consultation by UUK on the Technical Provisions set out by the Trustee had been concluded. The University had supported the UUK position, which was that the employers would be willing to consider a system of contingent contributions which would allow a lower level of contributions at the lower 'bookend' indicated by the Trustee. The University continued to support the UUK (and UCU) position that the JEP conclusions should be implemented in full by the Trustee, and the employers had expressed concern at the level of deficit recovery contributions required by the USS Trustee.

Court noted a summary of the potential scenarios for employer and employee contributions depending on the outcome of the 2018 valuation. The University continued to take a cautious approach to budgeting, assuming that the upper bookend (without contingent contributions) might apply after the 2018 valuation. This was also the assumption taken at present in the future cash flow projections.

CRT/2018/41.3 Outcome Agreement

Court received annual updates on the content of the Outcome Agreement, which was required to be submitted to the SFC as a condition of funding. The Agreement set out what the University would deliver in return for Government funding. The document's focus was on the contribution made

towards improving life chances, supporting world-class research and creating sustainable economic growth for Scotland.

Court noted that new developments and initiatives across the University, and reflected in the updated document, included: the University's plans to meet Commission on Widening Access recommendations; resources in place to support victims of Gender-Based Violence and the policies to drive prevention; and a case study reflecting upon the success of the Glasgow Access Programme in supporting equitable access to medical school. Outcome Agreement commentary specific to the University of Glasgow at Dumfries had been included in the current year's document, rather than separately as had been requested by the SFC in previous years. The SFC had yet to confirm whether it would seek to compile a separate 'Crichton Campus' Outcome Agreement for 2019/20.

Court approved the updated agreement, noting the key contents and changes. Court's thanks to those who had compiled the agreement were recorded. Comments were also noted about the significant length of the document, with Court hearing that the University was required to include the information at the request of the SFC.

As in the past, the large majority of SFC funding would continue to be formula-based, through allocations for Teaching, Research and Knowledge Exchange. Specific sums might be linked to the achievement of specific outcomes.

CRT/2018/41.4 Capital Programme interim update

At the February meeting, Court had heard that there would be a review of the capital plan, to be presented for approval to Court in June 2019, with an interim update in April.

By way of interim update, Professor Neal Juster updated Court on the key changes since the date of the original plan (December 2016), which included faster growth in student numbers, changing digital infrastructure needs and new strategic opportunities. Court noted that, since February, there had been a SMG-facilitated workshop and scenario planning events, with outputs from the former including an agreement to focus on the University's ambitions in terms of world rankings, on collaborations and on space; and from the latter an agreement to focus on areas including partnership and technology. Projects under the World Changing Glasgow Transformation programme were also relevant to the revision of the plan.

Court noted key headers and variables in the cashflow forecast, cashflow scenarios over the long term to 2035, data relating to overseas/EU capacity and projections in relation to students and space. It was clear that the strategic capacity to adapt would be key in the coming years. A narrowing down of scenarios for the 'look and feel' of the University in the next 15-20 years would occur ahead of the next meeting; it was confirmed that this included analysis of the HE sector in other countries.

CRT/2018/41.5 Senior Management Group reappointment

Professor Neal Juster left the meeting for this item.

Court heard that Professor Juster had been reappointed to the role of Senior Vice-Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor for a further 3 years, with an updated portfolio focusing on the development of the new University strategy, the Transformation Programme, and the overview of the Capital Programme. There would be some adjustment to other VP portfolios.

CRT/2018/41.6 Report on HE Economic Impact

In early March, Derek Mackay, Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work had announced a major report on how Scotland's universities could improve their engagement with industry and boost their contribution to economic growth. The Principal had been asked to provide

the report, which would aim to consider how the strengths of Scotland's universities could be channelled for maximum economic benefit for Scotland, by enhancing industrial partnerships and promoting greater collaboration across the sector. A major aspect of the report would be to examine international best practice and advise on how Scotland could learn from other innovative European economies. The report would make recommendations for government, public agencies and universities to consider. The expected publication date would be in the autumn of 2019.

Court members were invited to contact the Principal if they wished to contribute to the development of the report.

CRT/2018/41.7 Civic University Agreement

The University had recently joined 30 other institutions in committing to produce a Civic University Agreement in partnership with local government and other major institutions. This reaffirmed the University's commitment to working in the wider interest of Glasgow and Scotland, prioritising the economy and quality of life in the community.

The University had also recently signed an agreement with Glasgow City Council, pledging to use the institution's academic expertise to help inform public policy in the city.

CRT 2018/41.8 Key Activities

Court noted a summary of the main activities in which the Principal had been involved since the last meeting of Court, covering internal and external activities beyond daily operational management and strategy meetings. The activities were under the broad headings of: Academic Development and Strategy; Internationalisation activities; Lobbying/Policy Influencing and Promoting the University; Internal Activities and Communications.

CRT/2018/42. Report from the University Secretary

CRT/2018/42.1 Brexit

The University was continuing to keep the situation under review and to prepare for whatever form Brexit might take. Support was being provided to EU staff and students, and also to students and colleagues who had study placements or research/teaching relationships with any of the other EU states. A large amount of information and advice had been made available via the University website. Updates had also been provided in the University newsletter and via email.

A well-attended and successful Brexit Open Forum had been held on 9 April. Staff and students had been able to put questions or points to the Principal and other colleagues including the SRC President, Executive Director of External Relations and Director of HR.

The University was continuing to lobby Westminster and Holyrood as part of the Russell Group, Universities Scotland and Universities UK, and also as an individual institution.

CRT/2018/42.2 School of Engineering - change of name

The College of Science and Engineering had approved a proposed change of name for the School of Engineering, to the James Watt School of Engineering. Court heard that the Council of Senate had similarly approved the change at its meeting on 4 April.

Court approved the change of name.

CRT/2018/42.3 Remuneration Committee Chairs

In early March, a meeting of chairs of Remuneration Committees in Scottish HEIs had been hosted at Glasgow, with June Milligan in the chair. About 15 chairs or their representatives had attended, to discuss progress in implementing the regulatory framework (the CUC Higher Education Senior Staff Remuneration Code).

CRT/2018/42.4 Sustainability Working Group – Climate Change

The Sustainability Working Group oversaw and co-ordinated work in the area of addressing climate change. The group reported to the Estates Committee. The University had legal duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, including taking measures to ensure the resiliency of the estate. A Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2018-2028 had been developed. In the wider sphere, the University was also committed to working with partners as part of the Climate Ready Clyde initiative, to create a shared vision, strategy and action plan for an adapting Glasgow City Region.

The working group's recent activities had included receipt of a report on measuring sustainability at UoG vs. the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The report had presented the results of a mapping project looking at how the University contributed to delivering on the SDGs. It had also considered how the University is contributing to the SDGs through our research activity.

Court agreed that a briefing in this area would be useful, for members to receive more detail.

CRT/2018/42.5 Annual Court Self-Assessment and Convener appraisal

A questionnaire for Court self-assessment/feedback on performance had been circulated after the last meeting. The Court Governance Working Group would meet to identify any themes and develop recommendations for action. Court would receive the details at the June meeting

The Convener left the meeting for the next section of the item, with the Vice-Convener Graeme Bissett chairing instead.

As part of the good practice set out in the Code of Good HE Governance, Ronnie Mercer had undertaken an appraisal of the Convener's performance. Court members had been provided with a summary. Members who had participated were thanked. Court would be kept apprised of any changes arising, some of which were connected to the self-assessment outcomes and practices relating to Court business.

CRT/2018/42.6 Organisational Change

A summary of the Organisational Change Governance Group's business over the last year was noted.

CRT/2018/42.7 International students.

A short-life working group was being set up under the leadership of the Executive Director for Student and Academic Services, to look at the international student experience; this would encompass both academic support and social integration, including on-campus offerings for students, such as sport, clubs and societies. The group would include strong student representation. It would report to the Student Experience Committee and thereafter to Senate and Court.

CRT/2018/42.8 HE Governance (Scotland) Act – Ordinances on Court and Senate Composition

Court members had recently been contacted with an update advising that comments from the Scottish Government advisers had been received and providing copies of the finalised draft Ordinances, which were now out for consultation.

CRT/2018/42.9 Modern Slavery Act 2015 – updated statement

This statement aimed to inform the University community and the general public about the steps taken during the last financial year in support of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The University Secretary had recently approved the annual update to the statement, which was on the University website.

CRT/2018/42.10 Police Incident March 2019

Staff, students and Court members had been kept informed via email about a suspicious package received at the University on 6 March. Police advice had been taken throughout the day, which had included evacuation of buildings in the vicinity of the mailroom. A ‘lessons learned’ workshop had taken place and had identified refinements for any future incidents on any of the campuses.

CRT/2018/42.11 Summary of Convener’s Business

A summary of activities undertaken by the Convener since the last meeting was noted.

CRT/2018/42.12 New Student Services Model

The Student and Staff Service Delivery project was being delivered under the World Changing Glasgow Transformation strategy. The project was focussed on two key areas: the method of delivery of services in the future and the introduction of a new Enterprise Service Management System (Ivanti Service Manager), an easy-to-use self-service platform which would improve the way students and staff could request services and report issues. It would also have a searchable body of information, with access to answers to common questions. A phased launch would allow users to feed back their experience of the new service before a full launch later in the summer.

CRT/2018/42.13 SRC Spring Elections

The following candidates had been successful in the Spring 2019 SRC elections and would take up sabbatical officer posts on 1st July 2019:

President: Scott Kirby
VP Education: Liam Brady
VP Student Support: Tom McFerran
VP Student Activities: Kirsty Summers

Court’s congratulations were recorded.

CRT/2018/42.14 Head of School Appointments

College of Arts: School of Humanities/Sgoil nan Daonnachdan

Professor Michael Brady had been appointed as Head of the School of Humanities/Sgoil nan Daonnachdan for four years from 1 August 2019, succeeding Professor Lynn Abrams.

College of Arts: School of Modern Languages and Cultures

Professor Vicente Perez De Leon had been re-appointed as Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures for one year from 1 August 2019.

CRT/2018/43. Report from the Rector

In the Rector’s absence, there was no report.

CRT/2018/44. Reports of Court Committees

CRT/2018/44.1 HR Committee

At its recent meeting, the Committee had received briefings on USS, national pay negotiations 2019-20, Brexit and the Staff Survey 2018. The Head of Performance, Pay and Reward had highlighted progress and developments in this area. The Head of Organisational Development had outlined feedback from the Staff Survey results and presented 'roadmap' plans for Organisational Development. The Equality & Diversity Unit manager had presented on strategic imperatives including Athena Swan Silver accreditation. The Committee had reviewed the minute of a recent JCCN meeting. The JCCN minute was also noted by Court.

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) Mainstreaming report, prepared to fulfil the University's responsibilities under the PSED had been provided to Court by electronic link; it required to be submitted by 30 April. A link to the Staff Equality Monitoring Report was included in the Mainstreaming report.

The HR Committee report to Court included a summary paper with headlines from the 2018 Staff Survey and resulting action plan, which was aligned to the World Changing Glasgow Transformation programme. Christine Barr, Director of HR, briefed Court on the key aspects, noting that the survey was one of many activities in the area of staff feedback and development. The survey response rate at institutional level had been 68%, with some variation across Colleges and University Services. Areas of strength and areas for development were noted, as were more granular details from College level and Job Family analysis. Key outcomes from different demographic profiles were also noted.

There had been positive feedback in the survey in relation to: the University's culture and values; staff roles and work experience; dignity and diversity; and immediate line management. Themes for further action that had come out of the survey were: University leadership; managing change; workload and work-life balance; and communication and engagement. To address these areas, there had been increased focus on enhancing leadership visibility, including SMG-led events across the campus and on enhancing leadership and management capability. There were also actions to improve communication and engagement across the campus; these included the Engagement Lead Network, 'Have Your Say' plans and events to celebrate success. Action was being taken to improve staff perceptions of wellbeing and work-life balance: the Health & Wellbeing Action Plan and improved use of technology, including automated applications to maximise efficiency, were examples.

In discussion, it was noted that it was important for SMG-led initiatives to be implemented at all levels of the institution. The high importance of senior management visibility was stressed. E-events, use of social media platforms and the involvement of unions were suggested as complementary ways to maximise engagement.

Ms Barr was thanked for the briefing.

CRT/2018/44.2 Health, Safety and Wellbeing Committee

The Committee had received updates on: meetings with onsite contractors; arrangements for budgets for additional counselling; and the parking permit eligibility policy relating to disabled staff. The Committee had covered its usual range of business in reviewing standard reports on Occupational Health activities, audit updates, accident reporting and employee counselling.

The Committee had heard that discussions were ongoing about the possibility of developing a short video to promote the various mental health support services available to staff and students. The Committee had agreed that a subgroup should convene to look further at services offering training materials and information for LBTBQ and female travellers to help them to travel safely in countries that could be inhospitable for this demographic.

The Committee had received and discussed matters relating to the HSW annual report, an executive summary of which was now received and noted by Court. Court noted from the Committee chair, Dr David Duncan, that the report provided assurances about the proactive health and safety culture at the University, which included health and safety being embedded in estates activity and positive engagement with the campus trade unions.

Court noted that lessons learned from the recent security incident would be discussed at the Committee. Court's appreciation of the work of individuals involved in managing the incident was recorded.

CRT/2018/44.3 Finance Committee

CRT/2018/44.3.1 Cashflow and Capital Plan Workshop

Court noted a report summarising a cashflow and capital plan workshop held in March. The workshop's objective had been informally to agree positions on the main variables, principal assumptions and forecast scenarios, with an understanding of their cash flow effect and impact on the University's long-term financial sustainability. The chair of the Committee, Graeme Bissett, recorded thanks to senior management and University colleagues involved in the preparation and running of the workshop, which had shown the importance and usefulness of a collaborative approach ahead of formal decision-making via Court Committees and Court.

Mr Bissett noted that there were significant variables with regard to the analysis of long-term financial sustainability; this was not unusual or surprising given the 15-20 year forecast period and the difficulty of projecting so far ahead. The workshop had not resulted in a mandate for a particular way forward, the process having been handled so as to allow for flexibility and/or change in expenditure and strategic direction.

CRT/2018/44.3.2 Capital Projects

Court noted an update on capital projects. The Finance Committee had approved 7 capex applications at its last meeting: Data Annex Hall 2 - £4.2m; Gilmorehill / QMU Level 4 / PGT Teaching Space - £570k; Gilmorehill / Various / CTT Learning & Teaching Space 2018-19 - £1.52m; Gilmorehill / Gilmorehill Halls / Pilot Project - £501,300 plus £111k maintenance; Equipment associated to ERC Consolidator Grant application, including sputtering machine and scanning probe microscope - £695k; 2 Thermal ionization mass spectrometers - £598k; Application to support equipment / infrastructure bid to SPEN - £548k.

With regard to the Data Annex Hall project, Court noted from Graeme Bissett that the Committee had approved this significant project without concerns, but that the location of the budget had initially been unclear to the Committee and this illustrated the importance of good co-ordination between the capital plan and IT projects, as referred to earlier in the meeting.

CRT/2018/44.3.3 Financial reports

Court noted an overview of performance as at 28 February 2019.

The report was noted, including the executive summary.

CRT/2018/44.4 Student Experience Committee

The Committee's recent discussions had included several items for Court to note, in particular: arrangements for GP registration for students, where it was important that students understood about continuity of care and about access to emergency healthcare; discussions about Retention and its links to student commuting times, which matter would be discussed further by a working group;

understanding the BAME student experience; and content warnings in the delivery of academic subjects, where a short-term working group would be looking at ways of informing students across a range of subjects.

Court approved a change to the membership of the Committee, to include a representative from the Dumfries Campus and the Head of Student Services.

The report was noted.

CRT/2018/44.5 Estates Committee

The Committee had approved Capex applications relating to: QMU Level 4/PGT Teaching Space in the sum of £570k; CTT Learning and Teaching Space 18/19 Investment in the sum of £1.52million; Gilmorehill Halls/Pilot Project in the sum of £612,300; New Build/Data Annex Hall 2 in the sum of £4.2million; Refurbishment Costs associated with ERC Consolidator Grant application in the sum of £91k and Equipment costs (fully grant funded) in the sum of £604k; Thermal Ionization Mass Spectrometers in the sum of £598k (fully grant funded); and Equipment/Infrastructure associated with bid to SP Energy Networks in the sum of £548k.

The Committee had reviewed and discussed the most up-to-date information on capital plan expenditure, with the details having then fed into the Finance Committee discussions.

The report was noted.

CRT/2018/44.6 Audit & Risk Committee

The Committee had received: confirmation that the contract for external audit services had been awarded to Ernst & Young, from May 2019; internal audit reports on: Graduate Teaching Assistants: Follow-up review; and Use of Innovation Fund; and the updated University Risk Register. The Committee had received an update on Implementation of Outstanding Recommendations from prior internal audits. It had also been briefed on Risk Management arrangements.

The Committee would be undertaking its annual self-assessment in the coming weeks. Court members' input on the operation of the Committee would be invited as part of this exercise.

The report was noted.

CRT/2018/45. Communications from Meeting of Council of Senate 4 April 2019

The Council of Senate had received and approved a proposal to change the name of the School of Engineering to the James Watt School of Engineering.

The Council had received a summary of the outcome of the Enhancement Led Institutional Review (ELIR), noting from the Vice-Principal, Academic and Educational Innovation that the ELIR Team had reached the view that the University of Glasgow had demonstrated effectiveness in arrangements for enhancing quality and securing academic standards. This was the most positive judgement available and there had been no areas of concern that might have led the team to consider any other judgement.

The ELIR team had also made a series of differentiated outcomes identifying good practice (commendations) and areas where the University had been asked to improve or to review its approach (recommendations). Commendations had covered areas including: a strong institutional culture of self-evaluation and reflection and a willingness to draw on external examples and evidence; student engagement and partnership; a strategic approach to widening access; and the approach to promoting equality and diversity. Recommendations had been made in areas including: consistency of

communication around timeliness of feedback; clarity of roles and responsibilities relating to Advising for Postgraduate students; and ensuring visibility of external examiner reports to students.

Professor Coton and the Principal had expressed thanks to all staff and student colleagues who had been involved in the ELIR process.

The Council of Senate had also received: a report from the Student Experience Committee meeting held in March; an overview of the University's draft institutional Code of Practice for REF2021, setting out how the University would fairly and transparently identify staff with significant responsibility for research, determine who was an independent researcher and determine how outputs would be selected for submission; a report on the Education Policy and Strategy Committee meeting held in March; and an update on progress of the draft Ordinance on the Composition of Senate.

The Clerk of Senate had reported a number of acceptances from nominees for Honorary Degrees in 2019.

The communications from the Council of Senate were noted.

CRT/2018/46. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

CRT/2018/47. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Court will be held on Tuesday 18 June 2019 at 1.45pm in the Senate Room.