

## Summary Report of Senate 4: 24 June 2020

The Senate met on 24 June 2020. This paper provides a high-level summary of the business considered by Senate, which will be published on the University website. This is not a formal record of the Senate meeting but presents an update on matters discussed by the University's academic body.

Professor Shirley Congdon, Vice Chancellor  
Chair of Senate

The following matter was **recommended to Council** for approval:

- 1 Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Sub Strategy** - The Sub Strategy aims to provide a broad framework for how the University designs and supports the students learning experience and connects with the overarching Strategy and other Sub Strategies. Senate considered and **recommended to Council for approval** the Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Sub Strategy subject to a review of the content to ensure inclusive language was used throughout.
- 2 Review of ordinance and regulations relating to Honorary awards** - Senate noted the proposed amendment to Ordinance 10 and agreed to recommend that Council approve the proposed new Honorary Awards Policy to remove the disqualification of nominees for Honorary degrees or fellowships on the basis of the nominee holding the other award and automatic ineligibility for previously declining an award. This would sit alongside the terms of reference for Honorary Degrees Committee and a new Honorary Awards policy.

The following matters were **approved** at Senate, and it was agreed to draw these items to the attention of Council:

- 3 Student Contract and Student Protection Plan 2021/22** - Senate considered and approved the Student Contract and Student Protection Plan for 2021/22 for introduction on 1 August 2020, following minor amendments to paragraphs 22, 23 and 37 of the Student Contract, and expansion of the business continuity arrangements in the Student Protection Plan.
- 4 Update on Ordinance, Regulations, Policies and Procedures** - Senate considered and approved the proposed changes to the following University Ordinances and Regulations: Ordinance 2: Addition of the award of Master of Nursing to the list of awards, Regulation 5: Amendment to cover the BASALT test, and revision to the Academic Misconduct penalty tariff for postgraduate taught programmes to limit the maximum mark available for resubmission to 35%.
- 5 Recommendation of the Investigating Committee of Senate (Academic Misconduct)** - Senate approved the recommendation of the Investigating Committee for Academic Misconduct to

permanently exclude one student from the University with the appropriate fall back award for any credit achieved.

- 6 Higher Doctorate Assessment Panel** - Senate approved the appointment of an Assessment Panel for the award of a Higher Doctorate for a candidate whose work was in the field of Sustainable Development.
- 7 Application for Honorary, Visiting Emeritus and Professor** - Senate approved an application for an Honorary Visiting Professor appointment in the Faculty of Health Studies for a period of three years.
- 8 Research degrees by Distance learning** - Senate approved the proposal to introduce the Distance Learning mode of study for research degrees (PhD, MPhil), for full time and part time study based off campus for introduction from September 2020. Senate also approved the withdrawal of the existing fulltime external registration route to research degree, and to rename the extra mural route to 'Industrial Partnership route to research degree'.

Senate **discussed** the following reports:

- 9 Student recruitment update** - An update was provided on applications for the 2020-21 recruitment cycle following the UCAS deadline of 18 June. There was a significant improvement in firm undergraduate acceptances in comparison to the same point last year, however the distribution across Faculties was considerably varied. Late applications were still be received and processed. An update was provided on plans for Clearing, and recruitment activities undertaken which included feedback on a successful first virtual open day for the University.
- 10 International Foundation Year Project update** - Senate considered an updated report on the International Foundation Project and endorsed the approach subject to confirmation of a number of points raised. The main points raised included contract and location arrangements, consideration of the in-house provision and impact on the in-house provision, and completion of an equality impact assessment. The Chief Finance Officer agreed to follow up on the points raised and would feedback to the Chair.
- 11 Senate Effectiveness Review recommendations** - An update on the recommendations of the Senate Effectiveness Review undertaken in early 2020 were provided, with the intention for completion of all recommendations by the end of the year.
- 12 Report on the Complete University Guide** - Senate received an update on the outcome of the annual Complete University Guide published on 9 June 2020, which showed that the University had dropped six places overall to 69<sup>th</sup> place out of 130 institutions. Bradford appeared in 26 subject tables and had ranked within the top 10 in four subject areas.

Senate discussed the following reports and noted the content for **information**:

- 13 Chairs Report and action update** - Chairs report and Chairs action – The Chair reported on the Chairs actions taken since the last Senate to approve the Terms of Reference for Operation of Assessment Boards and two Honorary Visiting Professorship renewals.
- 14 Return to campus plan** - A Project Board had been set up to oversee and facilitate the safe return to campus and delivery of learning, teaching and research at the University. An overview of the three workstreams were presented on the student, research and people offer. A number of other workstreams had been established to deliver these offers.
- 15 Access and Participation Plan update** - An update was noted on the workstreams and work being undertaken for the five year plan going live on 1 August 2020.
- 16 Annual Report – Academic Appeals and Student Complaints 2018-19** - The annual overview report on Academic Appeals and Student Complaints for 2018-19 was noted by Senate.
- 17 Business from Committees of Senate** - Senate noted summary reports from Honorary Degrees Committee, Learning and Teaching Committee, and University Ethics Committee. It also noted the Faculty of Management, Law and Social Sciences, Faculty of Engineering and Informatics and Faculty of Life Sciences Faculty Board summary reports on issues discussed since the last meeting of the Senate.

Other reported noted **for information** included:

- 18** Full outcome of Entry Requirements Review
- 19** T-Levels briefing
- 20** Prevent Duty update
- 21** Bradford Teaching Fellows/National Teaching Fellows 2020
- 22** Draft Senate 1: 21 October 2020 agenda
- 23** Senate terms of reference and membership 2020-21
- 24** Senate schedule of business for 2020-21.

Senate **noted the deferral** of the following reports for future reporting to Senate:

- 27** Chairs actions – Exemptions from Emergency Regs and Bradford Academic
- 28** Applications for Honorary Professorship – Faculty of Life Sciences
- 29** QS World rankings
- 30 Date and time of the next Senate meeting:**  
Wednesday 21 October 2020, 2pm

### **31 Conclusion and Recommendation**

Members of Council are invited to receive and note this report and ensure the onward communication of its contents as appropriate.

Legal and Governance Team  
1 July 2020