### Senate

**Approved Minutes**

**In the Chair:** Professor G Hogg  
**Date:** 10 December 2014

**Present also:**
- Dr D Ball  
- Dr K Brown  
- Professor P Corbett  
- Professor S Dewar  
- Professor L Galloway  
- Dr A Gardiner  
- Professor S Geiger  
- Professor G Gibson  
- Professor N Gilbert  
- Dr S Houston  
- Professor J Howie  
- Dr D Jamieson  
- Professor P John  
- Professor J Jones  
- Professor O Lagrouche  
- Dr M Lawson  
- Professor A Macdonald  
- Professor R MacIntosh  
- Ms M Matoshi  
- Professor K McKendrick  
- Professor S McLaughlin  
- Professor A Miller  
- Dr R Mochrie  
- Professor A Moore  
- Dr P Morris  
- Ms J Nelmes  
- Dr J Richards  
- Professor J Ritchie  
- Mr C Robinson  
- Professor J Sawkins  
- Professor A Scott  
- Professor G Stretaris  
- Professor G Stylos  
- Dr R Van Dijke  
- Dr R Van Dijke  
- Ms C Wilson

**In attendance:**
- Ms A M Dalton, Secretary of the University  
- Ms S Collier, Director, Governance and Legal Services  
- Mr M Roch, Director of Information Services  
- Mr P Travill, Academic Registrar Designate  
- Mr J McDermott, Clerk

**Apologies:**
- Professor S Chapman  
- Dr C Annabi  
- Professor R Aylett  
- Dr A Bell  
- Dr G Buckingham  
- Professor R Craik  
- Dr A Cuthbertson  
- Dr L Galbrun  
- Dr L Georgieva  
- Dr M Gul  
- Professor D Hand  
- Mr A Haniff  
- Dr H Hastie  
- Dr W Jackson  
- Ms B Jamieson  
- Professor A Kaka  
- Dr S Keith  
- Dr T Lansdown  
- Professor K Lumsden  
- Dr J Ma  
- Professor K McCullough  
- Dr G Medero  
- Dr A Paterson  
- Professor G Pender  
- Professor B Roberts  
- Dr N Robertson  
- Dr H Smith  
- Dr D Sun  
- Professor F Waldron  
- Dr M Winters  
- Professor P Woodward  
- Mr R W McGooin  
- Mrs K Patterson

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### 86. WELCOME

The Deputy Principal (External Relations) offered apologies for absence from the Principal and welcomed all those attending. Senate was reminded that this special meeting had been called for the sole purpose of considering the outcome of the 2014 round of the exercise to recruit a Principal & Vice-Chancellor as successor to Professor Chapman, who would demit office in March 2015.

### 87. APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW PRINCIPAL & VICE-CHANCELLOR (SP/14/52)

The University Secretary spoke to paper SP/14/52, which provided the Senate with an update on the process to appoint a new Principal & Vice-Chancellor.

The Senate was informed that the joint Court and Senate Appointment Committee, which had met the previous day, had decided to make no recommendation for an appointment at this stage. It was noted that the search for suitable candidates would therefore be re-opened. The details of the search would be agreed shortly, but it would again be world-wide and an executive search company would again be engaged as part of the process.

The Senate noted that the interim arrangements agreed by Court in June 2014 would come into effect once Professor Chapman demitted office, viz in terms of Article 6(i) of the Charter, that, during the
interregnum between the departure of Professor Steve Chapman and the start date of his appointed successor, Professor Julian Jones, Vice-Principal, would be appointed as Acting Principal and Vice-Chancellor. Senate further noted that there remained a strong senior management team, which would continue to support the execution of the University's Strategic Plan.

In discussion there was broad agreement that the decision of the panel was correct and confidence was expressed that taking further time to reappraise the criteria for the appointment and then to restart the recruitment process would arrive at a positive outcome. It was hoped that the forthcoming announcement of the REF outcome – if suitably positive – would have a positive influence on prospective applicants.

It was noted that the recruitment process would be relaunched early in the New Year, with a view to holding interviews around Easter 2015. It was emphasised that short-listed candidates would be offered the opportunity to visit the University and that their individual preferences would be accommodated as far as possible. It was anticipated that these visits would include visits to individual schools wherever possible.

Members were requested to raise any further thoughts that may arise outwith the meeting, with the University Secretary and/or others in the University Executive.

88. CLOSING REMARKS

The Chair thanked all who had attended this special meeting and wished all members and attendees a peaceful and enjoyable break over the festive season.

• the next scheduled meeting of Senate is on **11 February 2015** at 2.15 pm in the Carnegie Room, Edinburgh Campus.