



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

**WEDNESDAY 27 JULY 2016
2PM IN THE JOHN TOMLINSON ROOM**

Present:

Rev Canon Professor Peter Neil	Vice Chancellor (Chair)
Professor Jayne Mitchell	Deputy Vice Chancellor
Dr Ruth Sayers	Executive Dean: Learning, Teaching & International
Dr Nick Gee	Head of School of Teacher Development
Dr Andrew Jackson	Head of School of Humanities
Mr Andrew Tofts	Regulatory Compliance and Teacher Development Support Manager
Mr Graham Meeson	Academic Staff University Council Member elected by teaching staff

School of Humanities

Dr Craig Spence	Academic member of staff
Ms Viv Kerridge	Academic member of staff

School of TD

Dr Pat Beckley	Academic member of staff
Mr Shaun Thompson	Academic member of staff

Student members

Kieran Parrish	Students' Union President
Luke South	Students' Union Vice President (Education)

Officer:

Minuting Secretary:	Dr Anne Craven, Registrar and Secretary Ms Michele Upcott, Student Administration Manager
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The Chair welcomed the new members of the Students' Union to their first meeting of Senate.

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from the following members:

Mr Steve Deville, Director of Resources
Dr Olivia Sagan, School of Social Science, Academic member of staff
Dr Kate Adams, Head of Research
Professor Chris Atkin, Professor of Higher Education
Professor David Rae, Executive Dean: Research & Knowledge Exchange
Dr Graham Basten, Head of School of Social Sciences
Mrs Sacha Mason, School of Social Science Academic member of staff

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held 1 June 2015

- 2.1 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 June 2016 to be amended due to factual inaccuracies. The Minuting Secretary to amend after discussion with Deputy Vice Chancellor and revised minutes re-circulated to members.

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3. Matters arising

- 3.1. Action Points

3.1.1 QAA HER Final Report (refers to minute 5.1)

The Executive Dean: Learning, Teaching and International confirmed that the Communications Oversight Group (COG) were in a position to quote from the QAA HER Final Report in future marketing material.

3.1.2 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (refers to minute 6.1)

The Minuting Secretary confirmed on behalf of the Executive Dean: Research & Knowledge Exchange that BGSU representatives would be invited to attend future Stakeholder Engagement Committee meetings from October 2016.

Minutes of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee will be presented to future Senate meetings.

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next
meeting

3.1.3 Criteria for Honorary Graduates (refers to minute 11)

The Minuting Secretary confirmed that no nominations for Honorary Graduates had been received. A further call for nominations would be circulated and presented to the next meeting in October 2016.

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next
meeting

3.2 Other matters

3.2.1 Learning Gain Pilot projects and HEA PVC/DVC Working Group (refers to minute 7.5)

The Deputy Vice Chancellor informed members that BGU had been invited to take part in the Learning Gain Pilot (LGP). It is an honour to be invited and showcase our work and contribute towards the TEF.

4. Minutes – Academic Enhancement Committee held on 6 July 2016

- 4.1 Members received and noted the unconfirmed minutes of Academic Enhancement Committee held on 6 July 2016 noting the following:

- The AMR timeline is to be adjusted to allow for a richer set of data to be incorporate within the report which will inform the preparation and analysis of our application for TEF. The Regulatory Compliance and TD Support Manager has recirculated the timelines to Heads of School, Academic Co-ordinators, Collaborative Partners and Professional Support Services.
- Members noted some of the topics outlined in Minute 18.1 such as Learning Gain, the White paper and the revised approaches to quality.
- It was noted that staff were more engaged with the Statistics Handbook which will evolve to include a broader data set to help inform AMRs in a user-friendly

format. The data will align to what is required for TEF both subject and institutional, including sector averages and benchmarking.

5. Final QAA HER Action Plan

Members received and noted the final QAA HER Action Plan which comprises an external and internal plan.

The external action plan includes one recommendation and affirmations outlined in the QAA HER report. It was noted that there were four areas of good practice. The Action Plan (external) was published on BGU's website on 23 June 2016.

Members noted the internal action had been identified by the HER Steering Group and Academic Enhancement Committee. Both action plans are subject to time restraints and a key person responsible for the plan is identified.

Members noted that BGU will be working with relevant teams and committees to ensure that the actions are transferred in subsequent reviews. The actions plans will be monitored and reported through AEC minutes which will be received by Senate.

6. Final TEF Technical Consultation Response

Members received the final TEF Technical Consultation Response noting that the response had been circulated to University Council and submitted on 12 July 2016.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor reported that discussions had taken place both at the TEF Working Group and Senate about whether BGU would apply to be part of the Year 2 trial. University Council has given approval for BGU to apply for the trial; BGU to apply once the call for expressions of interests in the TEF Year 2 trial is received.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor reported that staff and students had been asked to consider nominating themselves to be part of the new review panel. The group dealing with these nominations has received in the region of 1,200 applications; in the first instance they are looking for around 90 assessors. The Chair of the panel has yet to be announced.

Members noted that BGU's response had been informed by illustrated metrics.

7. Final Response BIS Accelerated Courses and Switching University or Degree Response

Members received and noted the Final Response BIS Accelerated Courses and Switching University or Degree Response.

Members noted that PMG co-ordinator BGU's response. Discussions had taken place with key staff including the data team to help inform the response. BGU submitted only an Institutional response in the call for evidence which incorporated the views of students.

The call for evidence allows small institutions like BGU to express their views and concerns and to ensure that they are taken in account in the formation of the policy.

Members noted that AEC only received a verbal report on the response on 6 July 2016.

8. Final Response to the DLHE Consultation

- 8.1 Members received and noted the Final Response to the consultation on the Principles and Future Requirements for the UK's Public Interest Data about Graduates (HESA DLHE Consultation Response).

The response was co-ordinated by the Alumni Development Officer who had been working with BG Futures, Events Team, Data Team and University Registrar and Secretary. The response advocates conducting a survey led by the institution rather than HMRC collecting data.

It was noted that any future categorisation needs to include definitions to ensure that student are fully informed to enable them to make the correct choice when completing the survey.

9. Draft Response to HEFCE Paper – Funding to support teaching in Higher Education: Consultation on arrangements for supporting widening access and successful student outcomes, including progression to taught postgraduate study

- 9.1 Members received and noted the response to the HEFCE paper - Funding to support teaching in Higher Education: Consultation on arrangements for supporting widening access and successful student outcomes, including progression to taught postgraduate study.

The Executive Dean: Learning, Teaching and International informed member that the Head of Student Advice had taken the response through the Widening Participation Group which feeds in to Learning and Teaching Committee. It was noted that the consultation papers proposes the removal of the present Student Opportunities Allocation funding and be replaced with the NCOP funding.

Members noted the paper includes masters programmes and revised definitions of disadvantaged backgrounds. Response submitted on 22 July 2016.

10. HE Sector Policy updates

The Deputy Vice Chancellor gave members an updated on HE Sector Policies, noting the following:

- Second reading of the HE Bill on 19 July 2016, debates about the principles behind the bill but no opportunity to propose amendments. On 6 September 2016 the Parliament Committee will debate the Bill clause by clause and this is where the opportunity for amendments will take place.
- Creation of a new department Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) which will include Research, Science and Innovation.
- HE has been moved to the Department for Education (DfE). There are concerns about HE moving back to the DfE due to past criticism of not managing their business well. Risk that HE funding could get absorbed in to school funding.
- BGU's local MPs connected to the HE Bill include:
 - Edward Leigh (serves Gainsborough)/Dan Hanson
 - Matt Warman (serves Boston & Skegness)

The Deputy Vice Chancellor recommended that BGU invite the above local MPs to the University for discussions and put forward a case on behalf of the local area and small institutions.

The University needs to decide ahead of the second reading of the HE Bill in September and the call for further written evidence, what we as an institution want it to do and what it should be. The key points of the HE Bill second reading will be:

- Increasing the HE Sector
- TEF
- Link to student fees
- Office for Students (OIS)
- University Title
- Linked to business
- Discussions about EU Referendum in relation to HE & Research funding

11. Outcome of BGUSSS 2016 Results

The Chair thanked those involved in the survey and noted the hard work taken to analyse the data

The Executive Dean: Learning, Teaching and International gave members a synopsis of the survey and noted the following:

- Highest response rate of 427, improvement on last year
- Free text has been disseminated to subjects and relevant professional support areas for consideration.
- Data to be reported on within AMRs

The Survey Review Group considered and analysed the results of the BGUSS survey.

The University are planning to have a single point of contact where students can access results and responses to surveys.

The University is intending to conduct a review of all surveys; a paper will be presented to AEC which will commission the review. The intention is to move all analysis of survey data to the Data Team where it would be carefully managed and analysed.

It was noted that BGUSSS survey would possibly be conducted in January but the SU President suggested that it be moved to February as this would avoid the busy period of hand-ins and examinations during January. Some members felt that February was too late and that we should consider something in September ie. Induction week, a session on "Value your Voice". The Regulatory Compliance and TD Support Manager said that this could be incorporated in the Regulation Roadshows that take place from September to December.

12. Final Ofsted Report

Members received and noted the Final Ofsted Report.

The Head of School of Teacher Development reported that the report was extremely positive with an overall achievement of Grade 2 for FE provision.

The Head of School wished to thank the Regulatory Compliance and TD Support Manager for all the support he provided to the partner colleagues and the institution. It was noted that Ofsted had started to see the impact of the changes in December 2015 but these were fully evident at the re-inspection in May 2016. The impact of these changes was clear and it was down to the expertise and leadership of the Regulatory Compliance and TD Support Manager. The School and Partner Colleges are extremely happy with the outcome.

13. Records of Decisions

BGU

13.1 Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (PGCHE)

Members received and approved the Record of Decision for the programme as recommended by AEC 6 July 2016.

13.2 BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies

Members received and approved the Record of Decision for the programme as recommended by AEC 6 July 2016

Lincoln College

13.3 FdSc Football Coaching and Development in the Community

Chair's action to be taken following the signature of Head of Collaborative Partner.

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14. Enhanced Periodic Review – BG Futures

Members received and noted the Enhanced Periodic Review. AEC have discussed the report and noted the lack of references to the HER Review. Members endorsed the recommendations which will feed into the AMR action plan.

15. Any other business

Changes to Governance

The Chair informed members that a review of the relationship between Senate and University Council will take place during 2016-2017 following the new appointment of the Chair of University Council.

Members noted that some institutions are considering having a member of University Council as a member of Senate to ensure governance. Terms of Reference and Membership of Senate will be considered at the meeting in October 2016.

PN/MU

16. Dates of next meeting(s) in 2016-2017

- Wednesday 19 October 2016 at 2pm in Room 13
- Wednesday 14 December 2016 at 2pm in Room 13
- Wednesday 1 March 2017 at 2pm in Room 13
- Wednesday 1 June 2017 at 2pm in Room 13
- Wednesday 27 July 2017 at 2pm in Room 13

Signed by the Chair: _____

Rev Canon Professor Peter Neil

Date: _____