UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK								
SENATE								
PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 14.00, WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH 2022								
	VIA MS TEAMS							
Present	Professor Stuart Croft	SC	Vice-Chancellor (Chair)					
	Professor Katherine Astbury	KA	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)					
	Professor Paul Botley	PB	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)					
	Dr Jane Bryan	JB	Representative of the Assembly					
	Professor Robin Clark	RC	Representative of the Faculty Board (Science, Engineering & Medicine (SEM))					
	Professor Matthew Clayton	MC	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)					
	Professor David Davies	DD	Representative of the Faculty Board (Science, Engineering & Medicine (SEM)) (until item 078)					
	Professor Chris Ennew	CE	Provost					
	Professor Jon Forster	JF	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)					
	Professor Rebecca Freeman	RF	Dean of Students					
	Professor Lorenzo Frigerio	LF	Chair, Faculty of Science, Engineering & Medicine					
	Robin Green	RG	Librarian					
	Professor John Greenlees	JG	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)					
	Professor Ruth Hewston	RH	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)					
	Professor Chris Hughes	СН	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)					
	Professor Saul Jacka	SJ	Representative of the Assembly					
	Professor Sudhesh Kumar	SK	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)					
	Professor David Leadley	DL	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)					
	Professor Andrew Lockett	AL	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)					
	Professor Tim Lockley	TL	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)					
	Professor Gabrielle Lynch	GL	Representative of the Assembly					
	Professor Noortje Marres	NM	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)					
	Professor Emma Mason	EM	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)					
	Professor Caroline Meyer	CM	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) (until item 076)					
	Professor Rachel Moseley	RM	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)					
	Professor Stéphanie Panichelli- Batalla	SPB	Representative of the Faculty Board (Arts)					
	Nathan Parsons	NP	Postgraduate Officer of the Students' Union (from item 072)					
	Professor Penny Roberts	PR	Chair, Faculty of Arts					
	Professor Mike Shipman	MS	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International)					
	Professor Simon Swain	SS	Vice-President (Regional and National Engagement)					
	Professor David Towers	DT	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)					
	Professor Ema Ushioda	EU	Representative of the Faculty Board (Social Sciences)					
	Professor Nick Vaughan-Williams	NVW	Chair, Faculty of Social Sciences					
	Dr Naomi Waltham-Smith	NWS	Representative of the Assembly					
	Professor Mike Ward	MW	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)					
	Professor Derrick Watson	DW	Representative of the Faculty Board (SEM)					
	Clare Watters	CW	Representative of the Assembly (until item 078)					
	Jenny Wheeler	JW	Representative of the Assembly					
Attending	Sophie Black	SB	Assistant Registrar (Governance) (minute taker)					
	Dan Derricott	DD	Director of Education Policy & Quality (Assistant Secretary)					
	Rosie Drinkwater	RD	Group Finance Director					
	Dr Ross Forman	RF	English and Comparative Literary Studies (observing)					
	Katharine Gray	KG	Head of Governance Services					
	Helen Hotten	HH	Clerical Officer (Academic Governance) (tech support)					
	Dr Elizabeth Hough	EH	Assistant Director, Head of Admissions Services (for item 074)					

С	Chih-Hsiang Lo	CHL	Societies Officer of the Students' Union and Education Officer
			elect (from item 072)
D	Or Leda Mirbahai	LM	Warwick Medical School (observing)
D	David Plumb	DP	Chief Innovation Officer (for item 072)
R	Rachel Sandby-Thomas	RST	Registrar (Secretary)
S	Sharon Tuersley	ST	Secretary to Council
D	Or Chris Twine	CT	Academic Registrar

NOTE: Some items are noted as "Exempt information not included" as they contain information that would be withheld from release to the public because an exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

Ref	Item

066 a) Welcome and Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Isabelle Atkins, Professor Daniel Branch, Shingai Dzumbira, Professor Stuart Hampton-Reeves, Professor Rebecca Kearney, Professor Fabienne Peter, Professor Pam Thomas and Professor Azrini Wahidin.

The Chair welcomed all, and the following who observed the meeting:

- Dr Ross Forman (English and Comparative Literary Studies)
- Dr Leda Mirbahai (WMS).

b) In memoriam: Dr Jonathan Nicholls

The Chair reported that the University had been deeply saddened to hear of the death of Dr Jonathan Nicholls, former Registrar and friend of the University.

Jonathan had joined Warwick in 1982, was Academic Registrar 1992-99, then Registrar until 2003. He moved to become Registrar at the University of Birmingham in 2004 and then Cambridge in 2007. He also held roles at the Open University, Shakespeare Martineau and FutureLearn. Jonathan had retained strong links with the University after leaving, as a research student, a local Councillor and incoming Chair of Warwick District Council.

Sincere condolences were extended to Jonathan's family on behalf of the Senate.

Note: The Chair confirmed that the following items had been requested to be discussed under Any Other Business:

- Proposed Changes to the Residential Life Team (RLT) Model
- Policy Issues Relating to Academic Practice.

067 Declarations of Interest

No new declarations were made.

068 | Minutes of meeting held on 26 January 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2022 (068-S160322, Protected) were **approved**, subject to a revision as discussed at the meeting.

069 | Matters arising from meeting held on 26 January 2022

There were no matters arising.

Chair's Update

070 | Chair's Business

The Senate received and noted the report (070-S160322, Protected) providing updates from the Chair under the following headings:

- Covid-19 Update Term 3
- Institutional News
- Sector News

a) New Vice-Provost and Chair of the Faculty of Arts

The Chair extended congratulations to Professor Rachel Moseley who would take up the role of Vice-Provost and Chair of the Faculty of Arts, when Professor Penny Roberts stepped down during the Summer 2022.

b) Additional Institutional Updates

The Chair reported that a number of senior colleagues would be moving on over the coming months: Rupert Lawrie, Commercial Director, Tony Pauley, Chief Information and Digital Officer and Sharon Tuersley, Secretary to Council. Dr Catherine Cochrane, Director of RIS, had also been appointed as Director of Research Strategy & Services at the University of Birmingham.

c) University Librarian

The Chair expressed sincere thanks on behalf of the University and the Senate to Robin Green, University Librarian, who was attending Senate for the last time before retiring in May 2022.

Robin first joined the University in 1985 and over the years progressed through a number of roles within the Library including Development Officer, Head of Information Services and Head of the Research & Innovation Unit. In 2005 Robin left Warwick to take up the post of Executive Director for the Consortium of Research Libraries (now Research Libraries UK) before returning to Warwick in 2007 as Deputy Librarian, subsequently being appointed to the post of Librarian in 2013.

Robin's commitment to the Library, its services and it's support to students was noted.

Away from Warwick, in recent years Robin had been Chair of Research Libraries UK, a Delegate to the Global Council for the OCLC Cooperative and Chair of the OCLC's Europe, Middle East and Africa Regional Council (EMEARC), a member of the Collaboration Strategy Group of SCONUL (the national organisation for academic libraries) and the UK Research Reserve and EThOS (British Library UK e-theses service) Advisory Boards.

d) Students' Union Election Results

The Senate noted the results of the 2022 Warwick SU Spring Elections as follows:

President: Will Brewer

Education Officer: Chih-Hsiang Lo

Democracy and Development Officer: Jack Sperry

Postgraduate Officer: Hamza Rehman

Societies Officer: Anna Taylor Sports Officer: Emma Birch

Welfare & Campaigns Officer: Tomi Amole

e) Shape of the Academic Year

The Provost reported that work was ongoing as requested at the last meeting of the Senate, including options appraisals and consultation with various other institutions. The need for change remained strong, however given the complexity of the work and the large project pipeline, this would be brought back to a future meeting of Senate. Thanks were extended to the Project Team for the quality of their work.

Substantive Items / Governance

071 | Strategic Research Update

Note: This item was taken alongside 077.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) presented the report (071-S160322, Protected), with updates under the following heading:

 PVC-R departmental visits. A Research Operations Group was being established to align the professional support for research. There would be representation from each faculty and the Group would consult with the wider University community. • Research Culture. The Enhancing Research Culture Fund had been put in place and would culminate in an internal Warwick Research Culture Conference to showcase and celebrate project outcomes, share best practice, and provide ideas for future initiatives.

It was noted that a real transformation of research culture would need to focus on more than funding, taking into consideration other barriers such as workload capacity to work on projects and submit bids. This would be taken forward as part of initiatives such as the Research Culture Forum.

- Research Communications REF2021 and beyond. A reinvigorated programme of research communications was being developed and would include communications on the REF results early on.
- Export Control.

072 | Innovation Update

Note: This item was taken after 073.

The Chief Innovation Officer presented the report (072-S160322, Protected) and accompanying presentation outlining progress towards the University's strategic objectives in Innovation:

- Research transfer
- Student Enterprise
- University reputation
- Regional Economy: Jobs, Start-ups and scale-ups
- New University business models
- These strategic objectives were underpinned by a set of enablers: Innovation Places; Warwick Innovation District brand; Academic and Industry leadership; Partnership to build and grow; Investment, sponsorship and grants.

The Senate noted that the existing diverse set of Innovation programmes was being built upon, supporting academics, founders, students and businesses, with particular focus on sectors where the University had existing strengths and opportunities.

There had been positive progress during the first full year of implementation, with awareness, engagement and impact.

073 Report from Senate Reference Group for the Appointment of the University Librarian

Note: This item was taken after 071/077.

The Provost and Chair of the Reference Group presented the report (073-S160322, Protected) setting out the recommendations to inform the Librarian recruitment process.

It was suggested that the changing international dynamic of students and understanding the provenance of knowledge could be more strongly articulated.

The Librarian welcomed the vision as set out by the recommendations, in particular the bridging role.

DECISION: The Senate **approved** the recommendations to inform the Librarian recruitment process.

074 Update on Admissions 2022 Cycle

Note: This item was taken after 075.

The Provost and Assistant Director (Head of Admissions Services) presented the report (074-S160322, Protected) providing an update on 2022 cycle admissions indicators, with the following key points:

• The report was being presented to Senate later in the year following the change in the UCAS deadline to later in January.

[Exempt information not included]

Admissions data analysed by gender and ethnicity was requested in future reports, noting that ethnicity data was not made available until the end of each cycle and data would also be reviewed by the Social Inclusion Committee.

Members highlighted the impact of the permanent move of the UCAS deadline on the timing and flow of recruitment and conversion activity through the year. Further discussion would be needed to understand impacts across the University and map through the workload implications.

The net impact of investment in additional posts in the Admissions team in the context of the increased volume of applications was queried, with assurances given that Warwick was not currently behind on offer making compared to the sector.

The highest ever level of applications, the positive effects of the scholarships schemes in place at Warwick and the new Faculty of Arts building, as well as the encouraging improvement in conversion rates were all acknowledged.

075 | Enhancing Academic Governance and Policymaking

Note: This item was taken after 072.

The Director of Education Policy and Quality presented the report (075-S160322, Protected) outlining proposals to refresh and improve the University's academic governance and policy making over the coming years. The following key points were highlighted:

- Firstly, the report set out proposals on practical steps to transition Senate to a revised annual cycle of meetings in 2022-23. This sought to reintroduce some in-person engagement alongside online meetings; enable a better flow of business; and prioritise the Senate's time on its most meaningful business.
- Secondly, the report suggested a light-touch refresh, to be taken during the 2022-23 academic year, to reflect on the working of the various Senate committees, both individually and together as a system.
- The report also proposed a longer-term direction of travel towards an annual approach to approval of changes and publication of academic regulations and policy.

The Senate welcomed the overall principles underpinning the proposals.

Appropriate ownership for each Regulation and any proposed changes would be essential, to ensure accurate consideration at each level of Committee approval. Easy access to the current Regulations, as well as information on recent changes would also be important.

It was anticipated that regulatory and policy changes would be discussed/approved at the March/April meeting of Senate, with a preference for these not to be brought to the proposed September meeting.

While the positive effects of online meetings on accessibility and engagement were noted, the importance of informal face-to-face engagement, outside and in the margins of in-person meetings was also highlighted.

DECISION: The Senate **approved** the proposed changes to the Senate meeting cycle in 2022-23 (September (focused meeting), early November, mid-late January, March/April, late June) subject to reconsideration of the mix of in-person and online meetings.

Committee Reports I

076 | Report from the Education Committee

Note: This item was taken after 074.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) presented the report from the Education Committee (076-S160322, Protected), with updates under the following headings:

- Curriculum Review: Approval to Deliver. Work was moving ahead, with rough plans and approaches agreed.
- Institutional Teaching and Learning Review 2023: Blueprint for Delivery. Consultation was ongoing and a risk-based approach was being developed.

077 | Report from the Research Committee

Note: This item was taken after 071.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) presented the report from the Research Committee (077-S160322, Protected), with updates under the following headings:

- Responsible Innovation
- REF2021 institutional process
- Warwick Data / The Alan Turing Institute
- Open Access and Monographs
- Elsevier Negotiations Update
- Proposal for the Establishment of the Centre for Global Jewish Studies
- Triennial review of University Research Centres 2021/22
- Update from the Open Research Group (ORG)

DECISIONS: The Senate:

- 1) Approved the establishment of the Centre for Global Jewish Studies.
- 2) Approved the continuation of the University Research Centres listed in the report.

078 Draft Principles for a Code of Practice on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression

Note: This item was taken after 076.

Professor Naomi Waltham-Smith (Chair of the Working Group on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression) presented the report from the Working Group (078-S160322, Public). The report set out a series of principles by which the Group intended to be guided in its development of the Code of Practice on Academic Freedom (AF) and Freedom of Expression (FoE). Following a series of "town hall" sessions to consult on the draft Code, it was intended to present the Code to Senate for comment in July.

It was further noted that the Code would cover AF and FoE, to distinguish their respective scopes and levels of protection. It would seek to address particular concerns about the legal challenge to AF, providing guidance without however being overly prescriptive. The Code could also be supplemented, with additional resources or training, with examples on implementation.

DECISION: The Senate **approved** the proposed approach to the drafting of the Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression Code.

079 Report from the Assembly meeting on 8 March 2022

The Secretary to Council presented the report from the meeting of the Assembly on 8 March 2022 (079-S160322, Public) which was held to consider an interim report from the Assembly Working Party on Antisemitism and Racism (AWP). The Assembly was strongly supportive of the AWP continuing its work.

Assembly members also had the opportunity to preview the draft principles for the Code of Practice on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression (item 078 refers). Members were supportive of the draft principles and the development of the Code.

Items below this line were for receipt and/or approval, without discussion

Substantive Items / Governance II

080 | Chair's Action Report

The report (080-S160322, Protected) was received and noted.

081 Proposed Revisions to the Terms of Reference of the Senate Sub-Group and Regulations 9 and 37

The Senate received the report (081-S160322, Protected) setting out proposed revisions to the terms of reference of the Senate Sub-Group to include approval of membership of Boards of Examiners, as well as revisions to Regulations 9 (Constitutions of Boards of Examiners) and 37 (Taught Postgraduate Courses) to reflect this change.

DECISIONS: The Senate:

1) **Approved** the changes to the Senate Sub-Group terms of reference.

2) Approved the changes to Regulations 9 and 37. 082 Membership Updates The Senate received a number of updates to sub-committee memberships (082-S160322, Public). DECISION: The Senate approved updates to the membership of a number of its sub-committees. Committee Reports II 083 Report from the Research Governance and Ethics Committee The report (083-S160322, Protected) was received and noted. 084 Report from the Social Inclusion Committee The report (084-S160322, Protected) was received and noted.

085 Report from the University Executive Board

The report (085-S160322, Protected) was received and noted.

Other

086 Student and Alumni Deaths

The report (086-S160322, Public) was received and noted.

087 | Any other business

a) Proposed Changes to the Residential Life Team (RLT) Model

Jenny Wheeler, on behalf of the Assembly representatives, reported that students and staff had raised concerns about the proposed changes to the Residential Life Team (RLT) model. In particular, the lack of adequate Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) (on both the impact for residents and RLT members) and meaningful consultation with those with protected characteristics. It was requested that proposed changes be delayed by at least one academic year to allow fuller, more meaningful consultation.

Student members confirmed that this request aligned with concerns raised in an emergency motion to oppose all proposed changes to the RLT model passed recently by the Students' Union (SU) Student Council.

Academic members reported that concerns had also been raised within a number of academic departments.

The Registrar reported that 17 focus groups had been convened to discuss the proposals (three of which student-led and one conducted by the previous year's SU President); a presentation had been given to the SU with some support expressed by the SU; and 12 drop-in sessions had been held to gather views. As stated in the proposal, the EIA was not yet complete and dialogue was ongoing with the SU Disabled Students' Officer. The proposed model was comparable to those in operation at other Russell Group institutions. Furthermore, the proposed changes would provide the opportunity for international students to participate in the RLT system.

The suggestion from the Assembly representatives that two EIAs be conducted was re-stated, to cover both students in residence who benefited from the support, and those who were in RLT roles.

It was agreed that further engagement take place outside the meeting with the relevant officers to inform the discussion. The role of Senate in providing advice to Council on matters of student wellbeing (as per Ordinance 5) was noted. This matter would be reported from Senate to Council at its next meeting.

ACTION: Concerns about the proposed changes to the Residential Life Team (RLT) model to be included in the Senate report to Council.

b) Policy Issues Relating to Academic Practice

Professor Naomi Waltham-Smith reported that the Assembly representatives who were also on the Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression Working Group had been contacted about the handling by the University's Policy Oversight Group (POG) of policy issues relating to academic practice, and the principle of Senate involvement in policy impacting academic practice and academic freedom.

The Secretary to Council (and Secretary to POG) confirmed that POG, with a remit of reviewing new policies and amendments to existing policies, included broad membership with senior academic members and students. It was expected that wide consultation on policies would always precede consideration by POG. In the case of the policy in question, this hadn't yet been presented to POG and consultation had not yet happened.

It was agreed that further discussion on the role of Senate and POG in policy oversight and approval should take place outside the meeting.

ACTION: Secretary to Council and Assembly Representatives to discuss the role of Senate and POG in policy oversight and approval.

Next meeting: 14:00 Wednesday 15 June 2022 via MS Teams

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS						
ITEM	DECISION/ACTION	LEAD AND DUE DATE	STATUS			
2019-20						
034 – Report from the	ACTION: A project plan would be developed which	PTi, tbc	In progress			
Education Committee	would include further consultation with the Faculty of					
	Arts and presented to the Senate at a future meeting to					
	assist the implementation of the Warwick Core Skills					
	framework and an update on progress provided by the					
	end of the academic year.					
106b – Revisions to Reg	ACTION 2: A review to be undertaken of University	Helen Knee, Jane	Ongoing			
27 On-Campus	policy and process relating to student drug use and	Bryan, asap				
Residential	possession.					
Accommodation and Reg						
23 Student Disciplinary						
Offences						
2020-21						
045 – Report from the	ACTION 2: Mitigating circumstances policy to be	Director of	Ongoing			
Academic Quality and	reviewed to ensure no adverse impacts on disabled	Education Policy				
Standards Committee	students.	and Quality				
116b – Senate Inclusivity,	ACTION : Report on inclusivity and diversity of	Director of	Ongoing			
Membership and	membership of academic governance committees to be	Education Policy				
Elections	brought to a future meeting of the Senate.	and Quality				
122a – Access and	ACTION : Guidance to be provided on correct use of the	Senate	Ongoing			
Participation Plan	Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty	Secretariat				
Update	section on committee report coversheets.	ASAP				
2021-22						
06-10-2021			1			
013 - Office for Students'	ACTION : Consider offering a route to legal advice for	Director of Student				
Expectations for Sexual	students in certain circumstances.	Discipline and				
Misconduct		Resolution				
015 - Report from Senate	ACTION: President of the Students' Union to connect	Shingai Dzumbira				
Working Group on	the Working Group to the SU's evolving development					
Academic Freedom and	of their policy in this area.					
Freedom of Expression						
26-01-2022	,					
036 - Shape of the	ACTION: Further work to be carried out, as discussed,	Provost, Academic	Superseded,			
Academic Year	with a view to bringing back a range of proposals for	Registrar, Senior	to be			
	discussion at Senate in March.	Head of Strategic	rescheduled			
		Change Planning				

16-03-2022					
073 - Report from Senate	DECISION: The Senate approved the recommendations to inform the Librarian recruitment				
Reference Group for the	process.				
Appointment of the					
University Librarian					
075 - Enhancing	DECISION: The Senate approved the proposed changes to the Senate meeting cycle in 2022-				
Academic Governance	23 (September (focused meeting), early November, mid-late January, March/April, late				
and Policymaking	June) subject to reconsideration of the mix of in-person and online meetings.				
077 - Report from the	DECISIONS: The Senate:				
Research Committee	3) Approved the establishment of the Centre for Global Jewish Studies.				
	4) Approved the continuation of the University Research Centres listed in the report.				
078 - Draft Principles for	DECISION: The Senate approved the proposed approach to the drafting of the Academic				
a Code of Practice on	Freedom and Freedom of Expression Code.				
Academic Freedom and					
Freedom of Expression					
081 - Proposed Revisions	DECISIONS: The Senate:				
to the Terms of	3) Approved the changes to the Senate Sub-Group terms of reference.				
Reference of the Senate	4) Approved the changes to Regulations 9 and 37.				
Sub-Group and					
Regulations 9 and 37					
082 - Membership	DECISION: The Senate approved updates to the membership of a number of its sub-				
Updates	committees.				
087a - Proposed Changes	ACTION: Concerns about the proposed changes to the Senate Secretariat Complete				
to the Residential Life	Residential Life Team (RLT) model to be included in				
Team (RLT) Model	the Senate report to Council.				
087b - Policy Issues	ACTION: Secretary to Council and Assembly Sharon Tuersley, Complete				
Relating to Academic	Representatives to discuss the role of Senate and POG Senate Assembly				
Practice	in policy oversight and approval. representatives				