

**SENATE**

**Minutes of Meeting held on 25 February 2015**

- Present:** The Provost, Professor James Stirling (Chair); Professors Anandalingam, Cilliers, Gardner, Gibson, Humphris, Matar, McCoy, Nash, Smith, Thompson, Welton, Wright; Associate Professor Miraldo; Drs Archer, Buluwela, Craig (representing Professor Magee), Fobelets, Kingsbury; Mr Lupton (representing Professor Kelleher), Mr Tebbutt; Mr Loose (Student Representative); with Mr Pateman (Academic Registrar) and Ms Baker (Senior Assistant Registrar)
- Apologies:** Professors Autio, Kelleher, Magee, McGregor, Parry, Richardson; Drs Gounaris, McPhail; Ms Mahmud and Mr Wheeler (Student Representatives)
- In attendance:** Mr Bailey (Management Trainee, Education Office/Registry), Mr Neilson, Ms Peter (Senior Assistant Registrar – Admissions)
- Invited:** Professor Craster (for Minute 1953)

The Provost welcomed Professor Jordan Nash as a new member of the Senate, and welcomed Mr Bailey and Ms Peter as observers to the meeting.

**1948 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Senate held on 10 December 2014 were confirmed. Subsequent to the meeting an error was identified in Minute 1940 (2.3) where the change of start date should have been recorded as being effective from entry in September 2015. The minute was subsequently amended.

**1949 Matters Arising**

Minute 1940 (1.2): MSc in Sustainable Retirement Investment and Management (Centre for Environmental Policy)

Reported: (i) That, as a consequence of discussions which had taken place earlier in the term, Chair's action had been taken to approve the introduction of the new MSc in Sustainable Retirement Investment and Management with effect from June 2015.

(ii) That, whereas the Senate had been uncertain as to whether it was appropriate for the Centre for Environmental Policy (CEP) to deliver the proposed new programme, subsequent discussions had clarified that the curriculum was indeed appropriate to be led by the CEP.

Noted: That the programme approval process had been highlighted for detailed attention as part of the academic standards framework consultation (Paper Senate/2014/43 refers) so as to ensure that the responsibility for strategic and academic approval was clearly defined.

## 1950 Provost's Business

Received: A Report from the Provost (**Paper Senate/2014/41**).

### (1) New Year's Honours

Reported: That the following staff had achieved recognition in the New Year's Honours:

Professor Stephen Richardson, Associate Provost (Institutional Affairs) and Professor of Chemical Engineering had been awarded a CBE for Services to Chemical Engineering Education.

Christopher Brinsmead, a member of Imperial's Council, had received a CBE for Services to UK Life Sciences.

Venugopal Karunakaran Nair, a visiting Professor in the Department of Medicine at Imperial, and Head of Avian Viral Diseases Programme, Pirbright Institute, had received an OBE for Services to Science.

Further Reported: That the Senate congratulated these staff on their achievements.

### (2) Vice President (Health)

Reported: (i) That the post of Vice President (Health) had been elevated to a College-wide role and would become the sole focus of Professor Dermot Kelleher, who currently also served as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

(ii) That as a result of the above, a new Dean of the Faculty of Medicine would be appointed to lead the Faculty's management and academic processes.

### (3) Appointments in the Business School

Reported: (i) That, following the departure of Professor Gerry George, Professor Nelson Phillips had taken up appointment as Associate Dean of Faculty and Research of Imperial College Business School.

(ii) That the Business School's Groups had become Departments, and that, to reflect this change, three Heads of Department had been appointed.

(iii) That as a consequence of the above, the Council would be asked to approve an amendment to the membership of the Senate to include one Head of Department from the Imperial College Business School, appointed by and from their number.

### (4) Vice President (Advancement)

Reported: That Mrs Sarah Porter Waterbury, currently Vice President of Development and Campaigns at New York University, had accepted appointment as the College's first Vice President (Advancement) and would take up the position on 20 April 2015.

### (5) Graduation Ceremonies

Reported: (i) That the Commemoration Day ceremonies 2015 had been moved from the planned date of Wednesday 28 October, and would take place on Monday 19 October. This was in recognition of the fact that original date at the end of October would fall after the study visa expiry date for most overseas undergraduates expected to graduate in 2015.

(ii) That holding the ceremonies on a Monday rather than a Wednesday would have implications for timetabling and that arrangements were in hand to ensure that there would

be no negative impact on teaching.

## **1951 Vice Provost's Business**

Received: A Report from the Vice Provost (Education) (**Paper Senate/2014/42**).

(1) National Student Survey 2015

Reported: (i) That the official start date for NSS 2015 had been 19 January 2015 and that the survey would close on 30 April 2015.

(ii) That the College's overall participation rate as at 23 February 2015 was 51.75%, compared to 61.3% at the same time the previous year.

## **1952 Academic Standards Framework Consultation and QAA Higher Education Review**

Received: A paper from the Vice Provost (Education) and the Academic Registrar (**Paper Senate/2014/43**).

Reported: (1) That following agreement by Senate in June 2014 the Vice-Provost (Education) and the Academic Registrar had begun an initial consultation with academic departments and faculties during the Autumn Term of 2014 to discuss the development of an Academic Standards Framework (ASF) for Imperial.

(2) That the framework would aim to address and facilitate actions from the Education & Student Strategy and to further reinforce the assurance that the College was effectively managing academic standards.

(3) That the development of the ASF must underpin and embed the College's quality systems and governance within the work streams of the Student Information Management Programme (SIMP).

(4) That a HEFCE consultation on the future of quality assessment in higher education was taking place, and that this would be a key opportunity to inform the future arrangements for the sector [see Minute 1955 below].

(5) That the College must prepare for the QAA institutional Higher Education Review (HER) due in AY 2016/17.

Noted: That the review methodology adopted by the QAA may be subject to change but that it would be prudent to plan on the basis of the current QAA method and timelines.

Considered: (1) The key areas of activity which the initial round of consultation had shown were considered to be requisite in the ASF.

(2) Those features which had been identified as needing more detailed attention before any proposals were finalised.

(3) The terms of reference and the proposed membership of the steering group assembled to co-ordinate and oversee the work on the ASF and preparations for the HER.

Noted: (1) That the issues emerging from the consultation, as outlined in the Senate's paper, were all subject to wider consultation and further discussion across College before any final proposals were made.

(2) That the role of the steering group would be to oversee the project as outlined in the Senate's paper, and that the steering group would establish "task and finish" groups to ensure appropriate and timely input from across the College.

(3) That the development of the new framework would provide opportunities to enhance the College's quality processes and systems and reflect the diversity of requirements across the College.

(4) That the new framework would be approved for initial implementation in the academic year 2015/2016.

Agreed: (1) The proposal to combine work on the ASF with preparations for the HER, as outlined in the Senate's paper.

(2) The establishment of the steering group to co-ordinate and oversee the necessary preparations.

(3) That the steering group should report to the Senate on a regular basis.

Noted: That when the College goes through the Higher Education Review process in 2016/2017, it will be judged on the intentions espoused in the new ASF.

### 1953 **A-Level Reform**

Received: A paper prepared by the Academic Registrar (**Paper Senate/2014/44**).

Reported: (1) That significant reforms to A-level qualifications were underway, which would result in different specifications and assessment methods for A-levels in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

(2) That in England, the AS qualifications would become optional for schools and colleges and that schools and colleges would make decisions regarding whether to offer the revised AS qualification based on various considerations reflecting their individual circumstances.

(3) That UCAS had undertaken a survey of English schools and colleges which had sought to identify how they were planning to respond to the changes. The survey had explored which of the reformed A-levels each school or college was planning to offer from September 2015, their intentions with regard to the AS, and what they expected their A-level and AS offer to look like in 2017.

(4) The main findings of the UCAS survey on A-level reform were presented as appendix III of the Senate's paper. The Senate noted the lack of a dominant response, indicating a high level of uncertainty amongst schools.

(5) That the UCAS survey had shown that schools and colleges were looking for clear guidance from universities and colleges about their treatment of the AS and were concerned about both transparency and fairness. That UCAS had strongly encouraged universities to publish statements explaining how they would respond to the reforms.

(6) That Imperial had agreed a statement to be given in response to any such enquiries, but that the College should now consider whether to produce a more detailed, public statement on how it would approach the challenge of ensuring a fair and transparent approach to considering applications from UK students presenting with a potentially much less consistent set of qualifications over the next few years.

Considered in discussion: (1) That all applicants to undergraduate programmes in the Department of Mathematics were, and would continue to be, asked to take the Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT) and that other departments might want to consider using the test.

(2) That there was concern that the change in funding would be particularly harmful for AS/A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics participation. However, the Department of Mathematics intended to retain the requirement for A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics (or equivalent qualifications) for application to its undergraduate programmes.

(3) That AS-level results currently provided recent and clear evidence of academic attainment, and as such were of great benefit in informing the decisions of admissions tutors.

(4) That the Undergraduate Admissions Committee (UAC) had considered the implications of reformed AS-levels and, in doing so, had been mindful of the College's commitment to recruiting the most able students from the widest pool of potential applicants, regardless of educational background. There was a general view from UAC that the College should not require applicants to take AS-level qualifications. The new Undergraduate Admissions network will look further at this question in the context of ensuring a fair and consistent admissions approach.

(5) That the Medical Studies Committee had likewise considered the implications of reformed AS-levels in the light of the MBBS minimum entry requirements of an AS qualification alongside three A-levels and the likelihood that many schools would no longer offer their students the opportunity to study four AS-level subjects. The Committee had strongly endorsed the value of the current AS qualification for the breadth of learning that it could demonstrate. Whilst reluctant to drop the requirement for a fourth AS qualification, the Committee concluded that they would not maintain a requirement that would disadvantage applicants from schools that were not able to offer four subjects.

(6) That where applicants had taken AS-level examinations, these would be used by an Admissions Tutor as evidence of academic attainment but should not be used to shortlist candidates for interview or to determine which candidates should receive an offer.

(7) That where schools or colleges had a limited availability of subjects which may have restricted a student's choice, this should be made clear as part of their references for university applications.

(8) That admissions tutors should consider how to use evidence of extracurricular activities, work experience and other academic and non-academic pursuits, as equivalencies of AS-level attainment.

(9) That in the absence of AS grade information, admissions tutors would become more reliant on the A-level predicted grades, and that it would be important for schools and colleges to be as accurate as possible when indicating A-level predicted grades.

Noted: That there was no desire to introduce an Imperial entrance test. That the College had previously undertaken a two year study whereby students entering the first year at Imperial had been asked to take the University of Cambridge Thinking Skills Assessment, and that this had not been found to give a robust correlation with their end of year results.

Agreed: (1) That the College should publish a statement which should express the following:

(i) That Imperial would maintain its commitment to admit students of the highest calibre with the potential to succeed.

(ii) That the College was aware that applicants would present with a variety of qualification profiles. That offers would be based on a holistic assessment of the application and that students should be strongly encouraged to provide as much supporting information as

possible in their personal statement.

(iii) That, where students were given the opportunity to sit AS-level examinations, they should be encouraged to do so.

(iv) That some schools/colleges would not be able to offer four full A-levels and that Imperial would not wish to disadvantage students who submit an application without AS level grades. In these circumstances, Imperial would make offers on an equivalent basis and further work should be undertaken to identify the means by which to do this.

(v) That schools/colleges should include information regarding the range of subject choices and qualifications on offer to students on the UCAS form and in the UCAS reference so as to give admissions tutors additional context and help ensure fairness in considering candidates.

(vi) That students should be advised to check individual Departmental websites for their specific programme requirements before submitting an application, and should contact Departments directly with any queries.

Resolved: (1) That a College statement should be drafted and circulated to the Senate for agreement.

**Action: Academic Registrar**

(2) That the College would continue to work with schools and colleges to ensure that students were not adversely affected as a result of the curriculum choices on offer.

#### **1954 Review of Research Degree Provision in the Department of Medicine**

Considered and approved: A Report by the Postgraduate Research Quality Committee (**Paper Senate/2014/45**).

Reported: (1) That in its review of research degree provision in the Department of Medicine, the Postgraduate Research Quality Committee had been advised by five assessors who had visited the Department on 19 June 2014.

(2) That the reviewers had rated the Department of Medicine “compliant” with seventeen of the eighteen precepts. The Department had been considered as “non-compliant” with Precept 14 [Early Stage Assessment], but was working towards compliance in this regard and the panel had therefore concluded that the Department was “compliant” overall. The panel had considered that the degree programme provided very good research training and support for postgraduate students, and had noted that there were several areas where the provision was truly excellent and reached the highest standards of good practice.

(3) That the panel had commented that students were very positive about their overall experience and had reported excellent relationships with their supervisors.

4) That the panel had made three specific recommendations which had been thoroughly considered and responded to by the Department. The Chair of the panel had confirmed that he was satisfied with the responses presented. The Committee had noted in particular that the Department had addressed the poor ESA and LSR submission rates by reminding supervisors and students of deadlines well in advance and by changing their reporting practices.

(5) That the panel had highlighted several examples of good practice, including:

(i) An excellent website which, together with the student handbook, provided excellent access to information.

(ii) State of the art facilities at Hammersmith.

(iii) The Department's work in developing cohort building activities at various levels - in particular the Research Day for Young Researchers which was an excellent opportunity for all students to discuss their work and meet other students and staff.

Agreed: That the Senate was satisfied with the outcome of the review and approved the recommendation of the Postgraduate Research Quality Committee that the Department should report on developments since the periodic review as part of the next Precept Review in three years' time.

## 1955 **Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee (QAEC)**

Considered: A Report by the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee (**Paper Senate/2014/46**).

### (1) HEFCE Consultation on the Future of Quality Assessment Arrangements

Reported: (i) That the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) was consulting on the future of its quality assessment arrangements in fulfilment of its current statutory responsibilities. The first phase of the consultation (January – March) was intended to be a listening exercise, while the second stage of the review (summer 2015) would address more detailed options, design and implementation issues.

(ii) That the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee had prepared a response to the first stage discussion document and had sought views from the different quality committees across the College.

Considered and approved: On the recommendation of the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee, the College response to the HEFCE consultation on the future of its quality assessment arrangements, as outlined in section 1 and Appendix I of the Senate's paper.

### (2) Regulations for short courses

Reported: (i) That the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee had agreed that it was necessary to develop regulations to cover short courses, as outlined in section 2 of the Senate's paper.

(ii) That the new regulations had been developed in discussion with key stakeholders involved in the delivery of existing provision, including the Business School, the Faculty of Medicine, the Centre for Co-Curricular Studies, the Centre for Academic English and the Centre for Continuing Professional Development.

(iii) That, where possible, the regulations had been designed to mirror the regulations for programmes leading to an award of the College.

Considered and approved: On the recommendation of the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee, the regulations for short courses, as outlined in section 2 and Appendix II of the Senate's paper, with immediate effect.

Further reported: That work would now be undertaken to bring together all of the short courses running across the College under the auspices of the newly formed Short Course Quality Committee (SM 1936 of 10 December 2014 refers) and to maintain a comprehensive short course catalogue.

### (3) Chemical Engineering Summer Schools

Considered and formally approved: On the recommendation of the Quality Assurance and

Enhancement Committee, the establishment of the Chemical Engineering Laboratory Summer School for Undergraduates, and the Foundation Course in Chemical Engineering, as outlined in section 3 and Appendix III of the Senate's paper, with effect from Summer 2015.

(4) Policy and guidance concerning Undergraduate and Master's Students Sitting Examinations Overseas

Reported: (i) That the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee had considered a policy document for sitting examinations overseas which was intended to replace three separate existing policies, and to cover the new Global MBA programme which had started in December 2014.

(ii) That there had been no significant changes to the policy overall, but that, on the recommendation of a recent appeal panel, departments must now provide the host Centre with an emergency contact number.

(iii) That the policy included a check list for departments arranging overseas examinations.

Considered and approved: (i) On the recommendation of the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee, the policy and guidance concerning undergraduate and Master's students sitting examinations overseas, as outlined in section 4 and Appendix IV of the Senate's paper, with immediate effect.

(ii) The removal of the following guidelines in favour of the policy and guidance approved above, with immediate effect:

- (a) Guidelines for Undergraduate resit examinations overseas
- (b) Guidelines for MSc resit examinations overseas
- (c) Overseas Examinations for MSc in Process Automation, Instrumentation and Control

(5) QAA Consultations

Noted: That the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee was seeking views on the following QAA consultations and would submit responses in March 2015:

- (a) Qualifications Awarded by Two or More Degree Awarding Bodies
- (b) Master's Degree Characteristics
- (c) Doctoral Degree Characteristics

(6) Short Course Quality Committee (SCQC)

Noted: That, following the Senate decision in December 2014 to establish a Short Course Quality Committee (Minute SM 1936 of 10 December 2014 refers), work had started on designing an approval and review process for all the College's short course activities. It was intended that the new Committee should meet in March 2015 and would agree the detail of the processes and priorities for 2014-15.

## 1956 **Postgraduate Quality Committees**

Considered: A Report by the Postgraduate Quality Committees (**Paper Senate/2014/47**).

(1) New Programme Proposal

MSc and Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Therapeutic Strategies (NHLI)

Reported: (i) That the Master's Quality Committee (Medicine, Life Sciences & School of Professional Development) had considered and approved a proposal from the NHLI for the

establishment of a new MSc in Advanced Therapeutic Strategies, with effect from October 2015, as outlined in section 1 of the Senate's paper.

(ii) That the programme would include a Postgraduate Certificate and some modules would also be offered as standalone modules (without assessment) via the continuing professional development route.

(iii) That the programme was a unique combination of emerging areas within the field of human health and disease. It would comprise three streams: Gene and Nucleic Acid Based Therapies; Regenerative Medicine and Drug Discovery and Disease.

(iv) That the programme was expected to attract applicants from a variety of backgrounds who were interested in medicine, medical and translational research and those interested in working in the pharmaceutical industry or for clinical research organisations.

(v) That the Postgraduate Certificate would be offered on a full-time only basis from October to mid-January. The MSc would be offered on a full-time only basis over one calendar year. The programme would be based at the Royal Brompton Campus.

(vi) That students would be encouraged to apply for the award with which they wished to graduate. However, there would be an option for Postgraduate Certificate students to transfer to the MSc around week 11, subject to satisfactory academic progress. The Postgraduate Certificate would also be available as an exit qualification for those students who did not successfully complete the MSc but who had met the requirements for the lower award.

(vii) That the Programme Team had been asked to further enhance the programme/module intended learning outcomes, so that the alignment of outcomes, teaching and assessment was clearly demonstrated. It had been agreed that this should be completed, in discussion with the Educational Development Unit, by Easter 2015.

(viii) That the programme specification for the proposed MSc and Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Therapeutic Strategies was provided in Appendix I of the Senate's paper.

Approved: On the recommendation of the Committee, the introduction of the MSc and Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Therapeutic Strategies with effect from October 2015.

## (2) Major Programme Modifications

### (2.1) MSc in Economics and Strategy for Business (Imperial College Business School)

Considered and approved: On the recommendation of the Master's Quality Committee (Business, Engineering & Physical Sciences), the change of start date, from October to September, with effect from entry in 2015, as outlined in section 2.1 of the Senate's paper.

### (2.2) MRes in Cancer Biology (Department of Surgery and Cancer)

Considered and approved: (i) On the recommendation of the Master's Quality Committee (Medicine, Life Sciences and School of Professional Development), the introduction of a new stream in cancer informatics within the MRes in Cancer Biology, with effect from October 2015, as outlined in section 2.2 of the Senate's paper.

Noted: (i) That the Master's Quality Committee had received reassurances from the Department of Life Sciences that there was no perceived conflict of interest with the existing MSc in Bioinformatics and Theoretical Systems Biology.

(ii) That the Programme Team had been asked to further enhance the programme/module intended learning outcomes for the new stream, so that the alignment of outcomes,

teaching and assessment was clearly demonstrated. It had been agreed that this should be completed, in discussion with the Educational Development Unit, by Easter 2015.

(3) Extending Open Access to Theses

Reported: That the Postgraduate Research Quality Committee had considered and approved a proposal from the Director of Library Services to widen full text open access to e-theses dating from before March 2013, subject to certain criteria and safeguards, as outlined in section 3 and Appendix II of the Senate's paper.

Approved: On the recommendation of the Committee, that full text open access be widened to e-theses dating from before March 2013, subject to the following safeguards:

(i) For theses deposited electronically between July 2007 and February 2013: with consultation on a department by department basis. Where an existing embargo is in place, departmental advice will be sought as to whether to contact individuals and/or funders with a request to remove the embargo, or whether to continue to keep the theses under embargo.

(ii) For retrospectively digitised theses: with consultation on a department by department basis. Currently, no embargoed theses are being digitised. At the point where we move to digitise theses with an existing embargo in place, departmental advice will be sought as to whether to contact individuals and/or funders with a request to remove the embargo, or whether to continue to keep the theses under embargo.

(iii) For both proposals, to use alumni contact networks to inform alumni that all non-embargoed theses are being made available open access unless discussions with individual departments results in a request to contact specific groups of individuals.

Noted: With regard to the retrospective digitisation of print theses, that many print theses may already exist in electronic format and that the library may be able to have immediate access to these where appropriate.

(4) Student Exchange Partnerships in the Business School

Reported: That the Master's Quality Committee (Business, Engineering & Physical Sciences) had approved the introduction of four student exchange partnerships, as outlined in section 4 of the Senate's paper.

(5) Postgraduate English Requirement

Reported: That the Postgraduate Research Quality Committee had discussed proposals for revisions to the English Language Requirement for doctoral students and had endorsed the review of the current requirement being undertaken by the Graduate School and the Registry.

(6) Appointment of External Examiners for 2014-2015

Reported: That the Master's Quality Committees had approved nominations for Board Chairs and External Examiners for the 2014-15 academic session.

**1957 Report by the Medical Studies Committee**

Considered: A Report by the Medical Studies Committee (**Paper Senate/2014/48**).

(1) Revisions to the Procedure for the Assessment of Fitness to Practise Medicine

Considered and approved: On the recommendation of the Medical Studies Committee, minor changes to the procedure affecting the constitution of the panel, information about

the Medical Schools Council's excluded students' database, and revisions to the terms of reference of the Student Monitoring Group, as outlined in Appendix I of the Senate's report.

Resolved: To recommend approval of the changes to the Council with immediate effect.

(2) Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine

Considered and approved: On the recommendation of the Medical Studies Committee, revisions to the LKCMedicine examination regulations, as outlined in Appendix II of the Senate's paper, and revisions to the Guidelines for External Examiners, as outlined in Appendix III of the Senate's paper, both with immediate effect.

Reported: That the revisions were intended to introduce additional pragmatic safeguards around the appointment of External Examiners, to ensure diversity of backgrounds and academic experience, and to mitigate in circumstances where an external examiner may have an association with a collaborative partner of either NTU or Imperial.

Resolved: That the term "collaborative" should be carefully defined in respect of the appointment of external examiners.

(3) External Examiners

Reported: That the Committee had approved a number of new external examiners nominated for 2014-15.

(4) Education Committee reports

Reported: That the Committee had considered and ratified the reports submitted by its various subordinate committees, as outlined in section 4 of the Senate's report.

(5) External Examiner Reports

Reported: That the Committee had considered the summaries of the Education Committees' discussions of the External Examiner reports, as outlined in section 5 and Appendix IV of the Senate's report.

(6) SOLE

Reported: That the Committee had considered the SOLE results from the summer term 2013-14, as outlined in section 6 of the Senate's report. The Committee had noted that the pilot of the replacement candidate would continue in Year 3 of the Medicine programmes. The Committee had agreed the introduction of a new annual report from Directors of Clinical Studies describing where they had made changes in response to student feedback.

**1958 Report on Undergraduate Admissions**

Considered: A Report from the Academic Registrar (**Paper Senate/2014/49**).

Reported: (i) That College wide, 16844 applications for 2015 entry had been received 'on time' by the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015 UCAS deadline, representing an increase of 6.7% on applications received by 15<sup>th</sup> January in the previous cycle, as outlined in Appendix A of the Senate's paper.

(ii) That across the sector, there had been only a 2% increase in applications received by the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015 UCAS deadline.

**1959 Dates of Terms**

Considered: A Note from the Academic Registrar (**Paper Senate/2014/50**).

Confirmed: The dates of terms for the 2016-2017 session (SM 1846 of 26 February 2014 refers).

Approved: The proposed dates of terms for the 2017-2018 session.

Noted: (i) The provisional dates of terms for the sessions 20187-2019 to 2024-2025.

(ii) The schedule of variations to the main dates of terms in 2015-16, as shown in Annex 2 of the Senate's paper. Subsequent to the meeting, the dates for the School of Medicine were corrected.

**1960 Prizes and Medals Established/Amended**

Considered: Recommendations concerning new prizes as outlined in **Paper Senate/2014/51**.

Approved: The establishment of six new prizes as outlined in items A-F of the Senate's paper.

**1961 Cheating Offences – 2013/14 Academic Session**

Received: A Report from the Academic Registrar (**Paper Senate/2014/52**)

Noted: (i) The summary of all examination offences reported to the Registry (including cases of major plagiarism) which had taken place in the 2013-14 academic year.

(ii) That in the next annual report the Senate would be interested to know how the requirement for postgraduate students to complete the Graduate School Plagiarism Awareness online course had affected the number of plagiarism cases reported.

**1962 Staff Matters**

Received: A Note by the Provost (**Paper Senate/2014/53**).

**1963 Appointment of External Examiners in 2014-2015**

Received: The names and affiliations of External Examiners for undergraduate and Master's degrees appointed to act at 2013-14 examinations since the last Senate meeting **Paper Senate/2014/54**).

**1964 Award of Degrees and Diplomas**

Reported: That under the provisions of University of London Ordinance 9(2) and Imperial College London Ordinance B1(1), and with the terms of SM 8 of October 1998, that the Academic Registrar had acted on behalf of the Senate in approving the awards for candidates who had satisfied the examiners in the examination and satisfied all other necessary requirements for the award of the degrees, and that degrees had been conferred on these candidates, the date being as indicated on the award.

**1965 Any Other Business**

On this occasion no other business was raised.

**1966 Date of Next Meeting**

Reported: The next meeting of the Senate would take place on Wednesday 20 May 2015, in the Council Room, 170 Queen's Gate, starting at 3.00pm.