

## Academic Committee

### Minutes

06 July 2022

14.00 – 16.00

MS Teams

<p><b><u>Present Members</u></b></p> <p><b>Ex-Officio</b></p> <p>Professor Geoff Smith Professor Castulus Kolo</p> <p>Professor Lawrence Phillips Professor Gill Stark Dan Lanigan Carl Teigh Valérie de Saegher Nevena Tomasevic Pam Taylor Maryanne Pearce Stine Ostergaard Kaus Maxinne Huybreckx Prof Maria Charalambous</p> <p><b>Elected Representatives</b></p> <p>Amparo Lallana Elise Goodman</p>		<p>Vice-Chancellor &amp; CEO (Chair) President, Macromedia University &amp; Non-executive Board member</p> <p>Associate Provost Associate Provost Chief Commercial Officer Chief Financial Officer Director of HR Chief Transformation Officer Head of Student Support Head of Registry Student Union President Student Union Vice-President – Student Experience Director of Learning &amp; Teaching, Director (People)</p> <p>Academic Representative at Director level Representative for Professional Service</p>
<p><b><u>In Attendance</u></b></p> <p>Aoife McGuinness Bridget Alabi</p>		<p>Head of Governance and Compliance Secretary to Academic Committees (Minutes)</p>
<p><b><u>Opening Items</u></b></p>		
1.	<p><b>Welcome from the Chair</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed members to today's meeting, in particular Dan Lanigan, Nevena Tomasevic and Aoife McGuinness who were attending Regent's Academic Committee meeting for the first time. Stine Ostergaard Kaus was warmly congratulated on her re-election as the President of the Student Union. It was noted that we would shortly be saying goodbye to Catherine Manning whose sterling work as Head of Governance and Compliance to date had been much appreciated. Welcome to Bridget Alabi who joined the Governance Team on a temporary contract.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from Niamh Downing, Ana-Maria Pascal, Oliver Sterland, Oluwatanyosi Ibirogba Obiasi, Zubin Sethna and Catherine Manning.</p>	

3.	<p><b>Declarations of Interests</b></p> <p>No declarations of interest were made.</p>
4.	<p><b>Minutes of the previous meeting (30 March 2022)</b></p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 30 March 2022.</p>
5.	<p><b>Actions and Matters arising from the previous meeting (30 March 2022)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was confirmed that the AMR Summary Reports presented at the last LTSEC meeting had been shared with students.</li> <li>• Secretary will check to ensure that the Academic Committee's terms of reference are updated to reflect the newly agreed 3 meetings annually instead of 4.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Part A: Items for Discussion and / or Approval</b></p>	
6.	<p><b>Chair's verbal updates</b></p> <p><b>6.1 National Student Survey (NSS) Results – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July @ 9.30am</b></p> <p>The Chair confirmed Regent's NSS results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall satisfaction had increased to 82.5% - testament to the work of all staff and the resilience of our students during a very difficult time</li> <li>• This level of improvement is one year ahead of our Strategic Plan KPI</li> <li>• This result is 6% higher than the sector average and 5% higher than the benchmark set by the Office for Students (OfS). It's also an improvement of 4% on the result from 2021.</li> </ul> <p>The President of the Student Union acknowledged Regent's positive direction of travel and how, as a learning community, we are coming out of the pandemic stronger.</p> <p><b>6.2 Regent's University London's Degree Awarding Powers' deadline – August 2024</b></p> <p>The Chair updated the Committee on plans to prepare for Regent's application for indefinite Degree-Awarding Powers (iDAPs) from August 2024 onwards. Regent's is about to engage the services of an experienced, external consultant to act as a critical friend in our preparations for that process of scrutiny and assessment.</p> <p>The Committee <b>noted</b> the Chair's updates.</p>
7.	<p><b>Student Union Annual Report 2021/2022</b></p> <p>The President of the Student Union presented the above report to the Academic Committee and the presentation was well received.</p> <p>Salient points from the presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure of the team</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future Plans – Welcome week – Festival (22<sup>nd</sup> September)</li> <li>• Accomplishments</li> <li>• Restructure of Student Voice</li> <li>• Councils' accomplishments</li> <li>• Social events and academic events (link between Freshers' week and academic events)</li> <li>• Office move</li> <li>• New website</li> <li>• Ambition to improve communications</li> <li>• Determination to promote health and wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair expressed the committee's gratitude to the SU President and appreciation of all that had been accomplished post-pandemic.</p> <p>The Committee <b>noted</b> the report.</p>
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>Curriculum Model Project (update on key milestones/outputs)</b></p> <p>The Chair invited the Director of Learning &amp; Teaching to update the Committee on progress of the Curriculum Model project against key milestones. He reminded the Committee of the context: i.e., that the world our students are graduating into is increasingly uncertain and fast-changing (geo-politically, environmentally, technologically) and that Regent's educational experience needs to address this head on – through a balance of core subject knowledge, industrial connectivity and entrepreneurship plus a central suite of 'special electives' such on, for example, How to Think in a Post-Truth World or Blockchain &amp; the Crypto Revolution, on Professional Project Management or the Psychology of Emotions.</p> <p>The Director of Learning &amp; Teaching summarized progress and achievements across the workstreams. The President of Macromedia University expressed his admiration for the project and acknowledged its diverse and all-encompassing list of contributors. Referring to Work Stream 6, he asked how the University can be confident that it will be delivering what industry needs. In response, it was confirmed that alumni had contributed to the process as had industry partners. Indeed, hundreds of companies had been in touch via the digital platform. All this would be supplemented by the continuing input of Visiting Professors, Industry Panels and Distinguished Speakers.</p> <p>The Committee <b>noted</b> the paper.</p>
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>Regent's Access &amp; Participation Statement for OfS</b></p> <p>The Associate Provost spoke to the paper. Plans are already in place to improve academic skills in the Foundation Year but also in the attainment gap. It was noted that additional support will be required to identify where intervention will be needed. Several initiatives are already underway. The following colleagues will help take this proposal forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director of Learning &amp; Teaching</li> <li>• Director of Student Experience</li> <li>• Associate Provost</li> <li>• Provost &amp; Deputy Vice-Chancellor</li> </ul> <p>The Chair <b>thanked</b> everyone involved.</p>

<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Academic Policy Review / Academic Regulations / Academic Calendar 23/24 onwards</b></p> <p>The Head of Registry outlined the extensive meetings, consultations and collaborations with colleagues (and the Student Union) which started in August 2021. A 'Regulations Review Day' was initiated during which a thorough review was carried out to facilitate consistency, and make sure our regulations are fit for purpose going forwards.</p> <p>The Chair acknowledged all of the effort involved in this important piece of work.</p> <p>The Committee <b>noted</b> the paper.</p> <p>The shorter Easter Break was discussed in the context of wellbeing, capacity to take annual leave and 'catch-up' space for students. The Chair asked colleagues involved to consider the parameters one more time before approval via Chair's Action.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Risk Register</b></p> <p>The Chair spoke to the paper in the absence of the outgoing Head of Governance &amp; Compliance. The register had evolved both in terms of format and methodology, but also in some net risk reduction.</p> <p>The Committee <b>noted</b> the paper.</p>
<b>Part B: Items for Noting</b>	
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>LMS Policy for AC to note</b></p> <p>The Committee <b>noted</b> the paper.</p>
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Collection Development and Management Policy for AC to note</b></p> <p>The Committee <b>noted</b> the paper.</p>
<b>14.</b>	<p><b>Sub Committee Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p><b>Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee (extraordinary meeting) – 08 June 2022</b></p> <p>The Committee <b>noted</b> the minutes.</p>
<b>Closing Items</b>	
<b>15.</b>	<p><b>Confidentiality</b></p> <p>The Chair highlighted the confidentiality of our NSS results pending proper communication with all stakeholders.</p>
<b>16.</b>	<p><b>Communication from the committee</b></p> <p>No communications from the committee were noted.</p>

<b>17.</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
	No other items of business were noted.	
<b>18.</b>	<b>Next meeting</b>	
	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Deadline for Papers</b>
	18 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	04 <sup>th</sup> November 2022

Item	Action Required	Staff responsible	Due Date
<b>New Actions:</b>			
1	Work with Timetabling to review calendar/exam dates, and give final consideration to the length of the Easter break.	Director of L & T / Associate Provost / Associate Provost / Head of Registry / Director of HR / Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor	ASAP
<b>Closed Action:</b>			
AC 21/22 – 3.2	The Secretary to update the Academic Committee's Terms of Reference to reflect the agreement that there will usually be 3 meetings per year instead of 4.	Secretary	ASAP