



Executive summary of Senate on 10th March 2016

Outcome requested:	Council is asked to note the executive summary of the meeting of Senate held on 10 th March 2016.
Executive Summary:	The summary provides Council with an update on business considered by Senate.
QMUL Strategy: strategic aim reference and sub-strategies [e.g., SA1.1]	n/a
Internal/External regulatory/statutory reference points:	n/a
Strategic Risks:	n/a
Equality Impact Assessment:	n/a
Subject to prior and onward consideration by:	n/a
Confidential paper under FOIA/DPA YES/NO*	n/a
Timing:	n/a
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Date:	18 March 2016
Senior Management/External Sponsor	Jonathan Morgan, Academic Registrar and Council Secretary

SENATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A full set of the minutes will be available online (following confirmation at the next meeting of Senate) at the following URL: <http://www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/Senate/index.html>

Alternatively, contact the Secretary of the Committee: Jane Pallant j.pallant@qmul.ac.uk

Date of meeting: 10 March 2015

Main items discussed:

1. Public engagement

Senate received a presentation from Charlotte Thorley, Executive Officer for Public Engagement and Manager of the Centre for Public Engagement, on public engagement activity at QMUL.

2. QMUL's response to the government's green paper

Senate received QMUL's response to the government's green paper. Members noted the resource implications of the proposed Teaching Excellence Framework and the proposed subscription model for funding the Office for Students.

3. Teaching Recognition Project

Senate received a report from the Centre for Academic Practice and Professional Development on the Teaching Recognition Project. The Project was established to meet the Student Experience, Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategy (SETLA) objective 3.1, indicator 1 for 100% of staff with teaching responsibilities to hold or be working towards a recognised teaching qualification by 2018-19. Members noted that the benchmark for teaching qualifications at QMUL was the Higher Education Academy fellowship, further noting that that alternative or overseas qualifications would be considered for eligibility on a case-by-case basis.

4. Academic governance review

Senate considered the updated report of the academic governance review, having received the initial report at its meeting in June 2015. Senate approved the outstanding recommendations following the review which related to decision making and the need to monitor alignment with the Academic Governance Framework approved in 2010. It was agreed that the Academic Governance Framework would be updated for 2016 and circulated to all boards, committees and groups with a view to reporting on compliance to Senate at the end of the academic year. Council will receive the report of the academic governance review and its recommendations at its meeting in April 2016.

5. QMUL Freedom of Speech Policy

Senate approved some revisions to the Freedom of Speech Policy (formerly the Freedom of Expression Policy). Members noted that the updates related to legislative context within which the policy operates and references mechanisms that are in place to ensure that QMUL's legal obligations and duties are fulfilled.

6. Student casework reports

Senate considered the reports on student casework for 2014-15. These reports are also submitted to Council for consideration at its meeting on Tuesday 5th April 2016.

7. QMUL and Barts Health NHS Trust Research Management Policies

Senate approved a revised set of Joint Clinical Research policies. Members noted that the policies had been developed to enable QMUL and Barts Health to adopt an even more coherent and collaborative approach to managing their research activities. The Joint Research Management Office had reviewed the policies and made revisions to ensure that there is a transparent policy framework which addresses regulatory and legal requirements for research managers and research active staff in both organisations as equitably and as consistently as possible. Senate made recommendations for additional strands to the policies to include a policy on the release of data, clinical trial compensation and additions to the Intellectual Property Policy. These additional issues would need to be developed into new policies and considered at a future meeting of Senate.

8. Suspensions of Regulations

Senate considered the report on requests for suspensions of the Academic Regulations from December 2015 to February 2016. Members noted that the volume of requests had increased in comparison with the same period in the previous year, with the majority of recent requests having been submitted by the Blizard Institute. A task and finish group had been formed to examine the approach to suspensions of the regulations for the future; this group would report to the June 2016 meeting of Senate.

Jane Pallant
Deputy Academic Registrar
March 2016