

# THE UNIVERSITIES OF HULL/YORK

## Senate

### HYMS Joint Senate Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2011

Present: Professor T Sheldon (**Chair**)  
Professor G Burgess  
Professor J Greenman  
Dr S Holland  
Professor T Kendrick  
Mr A Mersch  
Mr T Ngwena  
Professor G Parker  
Professor N Stafford

In attendance: Dr G Davidson  
Dr A Wilcox  
Dr P Evans, Secretary

Apologies for absence were received from Ms K Dodd and Ms R Royds.

#### **PART A: UNRESERVED BUSINESS**

##### **11/1 Minutes**

The unreserved minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2010 were **approved**.

Further to M10/3, it was **reported** that the intercalating PhD student had commenced her doctoral studies.

Further to M10/4, it was **noted** that further analysis of issues around progression and ethnicity would be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

Further to M10/7, it was **reported** that the HYMS governance review group had held its first meeting, with a second meeting scheduled in February 2011.

##### **11/2 Writing up/extension periods**

The Committee **considered** a recommendation from the Joint Learning & Teaching Committee that a policy setting out arrangements for writing up and extension periods for postgraduate research students be approved.

The Joint Senate Committee **approved** the policy, subject to the following:

- a) addition of a footnote to clarify further the nature of the sort of exceptional circumstances under which an extension might be granted (acknowledging that experimental failures might be legitimate grounds in lab-based work);
- b) addition of a paragraph about suspension of registration (York)/intercalation (Hull);
- c) confirmation that there was a legitimate reason for the proposed extension periods for full-time and part-time students being the same (i.e. not pro rata), and if not to revise the periods for part-time students.

### 11/3 Joint Learning & Teaching Committee

The Committee **considered** the unreserved minutes from the meeting of the Joint Learning & Teaching Committee (JLTC) held on 25 November 2010.

Further to M10/44 and M10/50, the Joint Senate Committee **approved** the terms of reference, membership and workplan of the JLTC.

Further to M10/56, it also **approved** the JLTC's recommendations with regard to the level for the MB BS award. Noting the potential relevance to student access to loans, HYMS management was advised to develop a protocol for re-consideration of the matter in timely manner in the event that this became necessary for the new post-2012 funding regime.

Further to M10/53 and M10/54, the Chair requested that the WP report and NSS action plan be circulated to the Joint Senate Committee for information.

### 11/4 Report from Dean of HYMS

The Committee **received** a report from the Dean of HYMS, noting in particular:

- comments and actions relating to the 2010 NSS outcome;
- postgraduate developments including joint planning consideration of new programmes and CPD activity (especially revalidation for doctors in 2012);
- research activity including new grants, research review days and seedcorn funding from the HYMS Research Strategy Committee;
- recruitment including new starters and leavers.

With regard to the low NSS response rate in 2010, the Joint Senate Committee acknowledged the difficulties caused by HYMS students being on clinical placements throughout the region during the survey period. It was suggested that HYMS might wish to organise special campus-based events at Hull and

York, with input from the respective student unions, at which completion of the NSS survey could be combined with social and other activities. It was agreed that holding such events would also contribute to a sense of collective identity among HYMS students.

On the matter of NIHR clinical lecturers and academic clinical fellows, the Dean clarified the routes and difficulties for junior doctors wishing to develop clinical academic careers. It was **noted** that individuals needed to be identified in advance and then specific clinical lectureship posts advertised that matched their research specialisms. The Joint Senate Committee agreed that this was important for developing the next generation of medical academics.

#### **11/5 Research Centres at Hull**

The Joint Senate Committee **considered** a proposal from the Dean for re-organisation and re-configuring of two HYMS research centres at Hull into a Centre for Cardiovascular and Metabolic Research and a Centre for Oncology. Noting that the proposal addressed the need to cluster staff around cognate research areas for translational reasons, the proposal was **approved**.

Noting that the proposal had been brought to the Joint Senate Committee on the recommendation of the Hull Vice-Chancellor and that it had been endorsed by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) at Hull, it was agreed that the Joint Senate Committee's endorsement of the proposal should be reported to the next meeting of the Hull Senate.

#### **11/6 Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was **noted** as Thursday 5 May 2011 (10.00am).