PART A: UNRESERVED BUSINESS

10/1 Attendance

Noting the low attendance at the meeting (3 of 9 members present), the Joint Senate Committee decided that a note should be sent from the Chair to all members reminding them of the important governance role played by the Committee under delegated authority from the Senates of both universities.

10/2 Minutes

The unreserved minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2009 were approved.

Further to M09/26, it was decided to follow up with the Hull SU President his suggestion that the HYMS student representative on the Hull Senate should also be in attendance at meetings of the Joint Senate Committee.

10/3 Report from HYMS Joint Learning and Teaching Committee

The Committee considered the minutes from the meeting of the HYMS Joint Learning and Teaching Committee held on 26 November 2009.

Further to M09/33 (and within it reference to M09/17), it was agreed that this represented a misunderstanding. The Head of HYMS Administration clarified that a HYMS transcript had been produced, and that it would be supported by a Diploma Supplement issued by the universities.

Also in M09/33 (and within it reference to M09/22), the Joint Senate Committee queried the meaning of the phrase “refused and conditioned...”. It was decided to seek clarification from the Secretary of the Joint Learning & Teaching Committee (Stuart Gilkes, Quality Officer, Hull).
Report from Dean of HYMS

The Committee received a report from the Dean of HYMS, noting that this would have been the last meeting of the Joint Senate Committee for Professor Greer (M10/5 below refers). On behalf of the Joint Senate Committee the Chair offered thanks to Professor Greer for his work over the last two years and wished him well in his new post at the University of Liverpool.

With regard to the development of a new programme in Biomedical Science, it was noted that this proposal responded to the possibility that there might be an opportunity in future to bid to HEFCE for additional student numbers (ASNs). The Chair reported that elements of such a programme, which was vocational in nature, had been developed in other departments and that HYMS had been asked to take a lead in undertaking further preparatory work. In this context, the Chair also confirmed that the outcome from the HYMS long-term planning meeting held in York would be circulated to HYMS and other relevant departments in due course.

With regard to the new Postgraduate Centre, it was decided that in due course it would be useful for the Joint Senate Committee to receive further details about its research students (e.g. nature of research projects, locus of supervision, progression rates etc). It was noted that the new postgraduate programmes were governed by their own joint regulations and that these had been considered by the Pro-Vice-Chancellors for Research at both universities.

On the question of staff recruitment and in particular coverage for the area of ethics following the departure of the ethicist in HYMS (John McMillan), it was reported that the Dean of the Undergraduate School was drafting a job description for a role that would combine the curriculum areas of ethics, professionalism and fitness to practise. Mitigating actions (e.g. extended handover periods) were also being taken in response to the imminent retirement of a number of senior staff and the potential loss of associated corporate memory.

The Head of HYMS Administration reported on the current process to consider renewal of the teaching video link and associated lecture halls at both universities.

Recruitment of the next Dean

The Joint Senate Committee received for information a report setting out the arrangements for recruiting the successor to Professor Greer who was moving to a new post at the end of April 2010. It was reported that recruitment consultants were about to be appointed and that in the interim period Professor Ian Watt (HYMS/ Health Sciences) would serve as Acting Dean.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was noted as 6 May 2010 (10.00am).