**UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER**

**MEETING OF URGENCY COMMITTEE OF SENATE**

**Minutes of a meeting held on
Tuesday 30 May 2023 in Haldane Room, Fielding Johnson Building**

**Present:** Nishan Canagarajah (Chair)

Phil Baker

Sarah Davies

Liz Jones

Tom Robinson

**In attendance:** Geoff Green (Registrar and Secretary), Rebecca Lord (Assistant Secretary), Andrew Petersen, Joe Suffield (Governance Office)

**Apologies for absence** were received from Henrietta O’Connor and Nuala Devlin

**UNRESERVED BUSINESS**

**23/M10** **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

**23/M11** **INVOCATION OF SENATE REGULATION 13**

The Urgency Committee of Senate **considered** the proposal for a meeting of the Urgency Committee. It was **agreed** that it was necessary for the Urgency Committee to meet as immediate action was required to mitigate the impact of the assessment and marking boycott on a small cohort of students. The following factors were considered, as per Senate Standing Order 10:

* The potential number of students and modules impacted was assessed and considered not to be of such significance that a special meeting of Senate should be called.
* It would be inappropriate to wait for the matter to be brought to the next scheduled meeting of the Senate on 14 June 2023 as this would not have provided sufficient time for mitigating administrative action to be taken prior the marks entry deadline. This could lead to students being unable to graduate, take up employment or commence their next year of study.

The Urgency Committee **considered** the option to invoke Senate Regulation 13, which would enable minor adjustments to assessment methods, progression and award requirements, in light of the industrial action. The impact of industrial action was not widespread and significant work had been undertaken in schools to mitigate the impact upon students. Invocation of Senate Regulation 13 would provide additional options for Schools in the very small number of cases where mitigation had not been confirmed. The situation was fluid and therefore the student numbers that were potentially impacted would likely fall.

The Urgency Committee **noted** that if the decision was delayed, this would impact the information available to Panels of Examiners for the purpose of confirming module outcomes and subsequently disrupt further processes to award degrees. In order to allow Boards of Examiners to take place and students to graduate marks had to be confirmed by the end of June. There was no option to delay this.

The Urgency Committee **noted** that even in a worst-case scenario, a very small proportion of the student body would be affected. Even for the small number of students affected, it was anticipated that none would have more than one module affected and the mitigation work continued in schools which would likely result in a reduction in the final number impacted.

The Urgency Committee **noted** that none of the modules affected carried external accreditation. Final year projects had been prioritised to ensure all were appropriately marked, and all quality assurance processes would be met.

The Urgency Committee **approved** the invocation of Senate Regulation 13.

**23/M12** **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Senate **noted** the final meeting date scheduled for 2022-23 as follows:

* Wednesday 14 June 2023 at 2pm

CHAIR

Duration of meeting: 20 minutes