Senate

10/27 A meeting of the Senate was held in The Nike Theatre, Agriculture Building, Earley Gate, on Thursday 24 June 2010 at 2.30 pm.

Present: 

The Vice-Chancellor

Professor N W Arnell
Revd Dr T R Astin
Professor M A Baker
Professor S E Belcher
Professor D C Berry
Professor J C Bignell
Dr I M Bland
Professor G Brooks
Dr S P Burke
Professor M Clark
Dr B Cosh
Dr J D Creighton
Dr T C Davies
Professor S Dentith
Professor T A Downes
Professor C J H Duggan
Professor S I Edwards
Professor J A Ellis
Professor R H Ellis
Professor P R Ghandhi
Dr P J Giddings
Dr M J Gooding
Mr C B Hardman
Professor R G Harrison
Professor B Heuser
Professor C J Hilson
Professor W P Hughes
Professor U S Kambhampati
Dr M-M Kleinhans
Professor P M Leopold
Professor G Marston
Dr P Miskell
Professor G R Mitchell
Professor S J Mithen
Mrs J H Munro
Professor S Nortcliff
Professor R Palmer
Dr J R Park
Professor J Pemberton
Mr T Pitman

Dr C Print
Ms A C Quinn
Professor R L Robson
Mr D M Roch
Dr I F Roe
Dr V F Ruiz
Dr J E Setter
Ms E A Smith
Professor P J Stratton-Lake
Professor C M Sutcliffe
Mr P G Swallow
Dr F Tallett
Mrs G Taylor
Professor J R Tiffin
Professor S F Walker
Dr K H White
Professor A C Williams
Professor C M Williams
Dr P E Woodman

The University Secretary

Students:

Ms A Barnes
Ms E Bell
Ms S Brennan
Ms H. Bryant
Mr S Combstock
Ms M Pennyfather

In attendance:

Dr R J Messer
Mr C Robbins
Mr D C L Savage
The Vice-Chancellor paid tribute to the following who had died since the last meeting of the Senate.

**Dr C. Bell**: Christopher Bell had been appointed as a post-doctoral Research Assistant in NCAS-Climate within the Department of Meteorology in January 2009. He had died on 20 June 2010 as the result of a road traffic accident.

**Emeritus Professor A.G.N. Flew**: Antony Flew had been appointed Professor of Philosophy in May 1973 and had retired in 1982.

**Dr J.G.W. Jones**: John Jones had been appointed Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Agriculture in 1970. He had been accorded the personal title of Senior Lecturer in 1975 and had retired in 1995.

* 10/28 The Minutes (10/01-10/20) of the meeting held on 10 March 2010 were confirmed and signed.

10/29 **Birthday Honours List**

It was reported that the following appointment had been made in the Birthday Honours List:

CBE – Mr George O’ Grady, Chief Executive of the Professional Golfers’ Association European Tour and a graduate of this University (BA, Sociology, 1970), for services to sport.

10/30 **Report of the Careers Advisory Board (Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2009) (Item 2(b))**

* The Senate received the Report of the Careers Advisory Board (Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2009).

10/31 **Reports of Committees of Selection** (Item 2(c))

The Senate received the following reports of Committees of Selection:

* (i) Readership in Law
* (ii) Second Readership in Law
* (iii) Joint Meteorological Office Professorship of Weather Systems
* (iv) Professorship of Philosophy
* (v) Professorship of Real Estate Finance & Investment
* (vi) Professorship (part-time) of Finance.
Elections (Item 2(d))

(i) Election of five Professors to the Senate: Three nominations had been received, those of:

Professor R.W. Chapman
Professor H. King
Professor C. Newdick.

Accordingly, Professor Chapman, Professor King and Professor Newdick had each been elected to serve for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013.

Subsequently, one further nomination had been received, that of:

Professor I.C. Rutherford.

The Vice-Chancellor, acting on behalf of the Senate, had agreed that Professor Rutherford additionally be deemed elected to serve for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013.

In consequence, one vacancy remained. The Vice-Chancellor now reported that one further nomination had recently been received, that of:

Professor M.E. Hodson

and the Senate agreed that Professor Hodson be deemed elected to serve for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2012.

(ii) Election of four members of the Academic and Academic-related Staff, excluding Professors, to the Senate: Seven nominations had been received and in the ensuing ballot votes were cast as follows:

Mrs J.H. Munro  216
Ms R.J. Richards  215
Mr D.M. Roch  209
Dr S.L. Jury  167
Mr T. MacFadyen  145
Dr P. Kruschwitz  116
Eur Ing Dr R.S. Sherratt  77.

Accordingly, Mrs Munro, Ms Richards, Mr Roch and Dr Jury had each been elected to serve for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013.

(iii) Election of one person other than the Head of School by and from amongst the members of the Academic Staff of each
School: It was reported that arrangements for these elections were to be set in train, where necessary, once the configuration of Schools for the coming Session has been determined by the Senate.

(iv) Election of one member of the Senate to the Council: It was reported that arrangements for the election of one member of the Senate to the Council (vice Professor P.M. Leopold) for the period to 31 July 2013 were to be set in train once the composition of the Senate for the coming Session has been settled in consequence of the elections at (iii) above.

10/33 Report of the Vice-Chancellor

(a) The Vice-Chancellor reported that he had appointed Professor G.H. Tucker to be Acting Head of the School of Languages and European Studies for the period from 1 October 2010 to 31 July 2011.

(b) The Vice-Chancellor explained that it was not yet possible to divine the effects on individual institutions of the most severe public spending cuts of modern times as recently announced in an Emergency Budget. For now, there existed the possibility that universities could lose up to one-quarter of their public funding over a five-year period, but more detailed information awaited the announcement on 20 October 2010 of the outcomes of a Comprehensive Spending Review. Nonetheless, rumours abounded as to the future shape and scale of the higher education sector, and the coming years would clearly be difficult to negotiate. The Vice-Chancellor reassured the Senate that the University would manage its way through this period in the same calm and reasonable manner as had served it well throughout its history.

(c) Against this uncertain background, the Vice-Chancellor spoke from personal experience of the unfortunate reputation that UK higher education appeared to be earning abroad for being a system perceived as in crisis. He urged colleagues to remain positive if a self-fulfilling prophecy were not to ensue.

(d) The Vice-Chancellor thanked those Schools, units and individuals who had participated to date in the University’s newly developed public affairs programme. Influential opinion formers had been attracted to the University and evidence suggested that they had been impressed by all that they had seen and heard. The University’s capital programme continued apace and a number of revenue-raising initiatives were under active consideration.
The Senate received the report of the meeting of the Strategy and Finance Committee held on 7 June 2010 and deferred substantive discussion of the matters contained therein until Item 4(b) below.

The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Senior Management Board held on 22 February, 8 and 22 March, 19 April, 4 and 17 May and 1 and 14 June 2010.

In regard to item 1 (Reshaping of the University), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, as Chairman of the Project Board for the Reshaping of the University, explained to the Senate the means by which certain recommendations had come about and the overall context in which they were being made.

In specific regard to reshaping in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, the Senate was informed that, on the basis of a Report from the Senior Management Board, it was to be recommended by the Strategy and Finance Committee to the Council that:

(a) within the Department of Film, Theatre & Television there be a reduction of two Academic Staff (one in Film and one in Television) and that, in consequence, the matter be remitted to the standing Restructuring Committee established in line with Statute XXXIII Part II and the University’s Review and Restructuring Policy, with a view to the reduction taking effect by 31 July 2012; and

(b) within the Department of Classics there be a reduction of one in the Academic Staff and that, in consequence, the matter be remitted to the standing Restructuring Committee established in line with Statute XXXIII Part II and the University’s Review and Restructuring Policy, with a view to the reduction taking effect by 31 July 2012.

The Head of the School of Arts, English and Communication Design and the Head of the School of Humanities spoke of the paradoxical situation in which they found themselves managerially, collegially and, in one case, personally. Some members of the Senate urged a more expeditious approach to reshaping in order to minimise uncertainty, whilst another advocated less haste. Student representatives expressed regret at a situation which they believed could impoverish the distinctive student experience within the disciplines in question. The Heads of the School of Construction Management and Engineering spoke from experience of the benefits he and his colleagues had derived from an earlier restructuring exercise. Noting the savings that had already accrued from the
voluntary departure of staff, Dr Bland urged that the prospect of compulsory redundancies be ruled out altogether at this stage; and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor explained, in response to a suggestion to the contrary from Revd Dr Astin, the congruence of the reshaping process with the University's Review and Restructuring Policy.

In specific regard to the internal structure of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, the Senate:

(a) noted that, with effect from 1 August 2010, the Departments of French Studies, Italian Studies and German Studies were to be merged to form a Department of Modern Languages and European Studies within a School of Literature and Languages;

(b) agreed that, with effect from 1 August 2010, the Departments of English and American Literature and Applied Linguistics be merged into a Department of English Language and Literature within a School of Literature and Languages;

(c) agreed that, with effect from 1 August 2010, the Department of History of Art and Architecture and the Department of Fine Art be merged into a Department of Art within a School of Arts and Communication Design.

In specific regard to the Report of the Project Board for the Reshaping of the University (April 2010), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor reminded the Senate that this was the third such report it had seen. Target figures contained therein took no account of the further cuts recently foreshadowed by Government that had not, as yet, been quantified.

In specific regard to the reshaping of the School of Human and Environmental Sciences, Professor Nortcliff spoke, as Acting Head of School, of the potential for positive change offered by the present reshaping programme.

In specific regard to the reshaping of the School of Management, Professor Palmer expressed the hope that the intended reshaping view of the School would be evidenced-based and would seek contributions not only from himself but also from an external perspective. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor assured the Senate that this would be so.

At the conclusion of a lengthy discussion, the Vice-Chancellor reminded the Senate that it was invited to formulate a collective comment on the recommendations relating to the Department of Film, Theatre and Television and the Department of Classics for transmission to the Council. The Senate determined by a majority of 38 to 22 that it did not wish to proceed to a vote in the matter of its comment and the Vice-Chancellor undertook, in accordance
with convention, to convey to the Council the diversity of view that had been expressed.

In regard to item 2 (School of Mathematics, Meteorology and Physics), the Senate approved a recommendation that the School of Mathematics, Meteorology and Physics be named the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences with effect from 1 August 2010.

In regard to item 3 (School of Economics and School of Politics and International Relations), the Senate approved a recommendation that the School of Economics and the School of Politics and International Relations be merged into a School of Politics, Economics and International Relations with effect from 1 August 2011. It further agreed that from 1 August 2010 a shadow School be established for planning purposes and that the Vice-Chancellor proceed to recommend the appointment of a Head of School-designate through the Senate to the Council.

In regard to item 4 (University Board for Research and Innovation), the Senate agreed to recommend to the Council alterations to Ordinance XLVI (University Board for Research) to provide for the replacement of the University Board for Research with a University Board for Research and Innovation.

In regard to item 5 (Report from the Information Strategy Committee), the Senate agreed to recommend to the Council:

(a) approval of the University Information Framework 2010-14;  
(b) approval of a revised Acquisition and Disposal Policy for the Object Collections of the Museum of English Rural Life; and  
(c) approval of the transfer of a collection of metamorphic rocks to the University of Oxford in accordance with the University’s Collections Acquisition and Disposal Policy.

In regard to item 7 (Three-Year Plan Report 2010-13), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor explained in response to a question from Professor Marston that the Working Party on Research Platforms was imminently to reconvene. Dr Bland observed that a 1% increase in Support Staff vote represented a real terms cut but was reminded by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor that the extent of this relied in part on the eventual scale of the salary settlement due for implementation on 1 October 2010.

10/36 Report of the University Board for Teaching and Learning (Item 5(a))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the University Board for Teaching and Learning held on 22 April and 3 June 2010 and agreed to recommend to the Council:
(a) an alteration to Ordinance II (Matriculation) to exclude reference to a minimum age at which students are permitted to matriculate;

(b) alterations to Ordinance V (Degrees of Master and Doctor awarded by Thesis), to:

(i) remove the provision for the award of LLM in respect of a thesis submitted for a PhD; and

(ii) specify that a student registering for a higher degree by research shall initially be registered for the degree of PhD and, in due course, be subject to a formal assessment of progress, the outcome of which shall be either the confirmation of a student as ‘PhD’, the assignment of their registration to ‘MPhil’ or the referral of the student to the procedures set out in Ordinance XVII;

(c) alterations to Ordinance XLV (University Board for Teaching and Learning) to specify a revised membership of the Board;

(d) an alteration to the heading of Ordinance LV (Degrees of Master (Postgraduate)) which, by deleting the parenthetical reference to ‘Postgraduate’, would remove the implication that some Masters degrees are not postgraduate awards; and

(e) alterations to Ordinance LV (Degrees of Master (Postgraduate)), Ordinance LVI (Degree of Master of Philosophy (awarded by Examination)), Ordinance LXI (Postgraduate Diplomas) and Ordinance LXII (Postgraduate Certificates), which would make formal provision for re-examinees on taught postgraduate programmes to be eligible for classifications of Distinction and Merit.

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Robson) was pleased to announce the appointment of Dr John Creighton as a National Teaching Fellow.

10/37 Report of the University Board for Research (Item 5(b))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meeting of the University Board for Research held on 1 June 2010.

10/38 Report of the University Board for Enterprise (Item 5(c))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meeting of the University Board for Enterprise held on 20 May 2010.
10/39 Report of the Management Board of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities (Item 5(d))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Management Board of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities held on 28 April and 26 May 2010.

10/40 Report of the Management Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences (Item 5(e))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Management Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences held on 29 April and 27 May 2010.

The Vice-Chancellor informed the Senate that, REDACTED S.40(2), Professor Berry had been elected to serve as Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences for the period from 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2011.

10/41 Report of the Management Board of the Faculty of Life Sciences (Item 5(f))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Management Board of the Faculty of Life Sciences held jointly with the Management Board of the Faculty of Science on 18 March and 28 May 2010, and separately on 21 April 2010.

10/42 Report of the Management Board of the Faculty of Science (Item 5(g))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Management Board of the Faculty of Science held jointly with the Management Board of the Faculty of Life Sciences on 18 March and 28 May 2010, and separately on 29 April 2010.

10/43 Report of the Management Board of the Henley Business School (Item 5(h))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Faculty Management Board of the Henley Business School held on 17 March, 28 April and 25 May 2010.

10/44 Report of the Joint University/UCU Committee (Item 5(i))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meeting of the Joint University/UCU Committee held on 19 May 2010 and, subject to minor drafting amendments, agreed to recommend to the Council approval of a revised Code of Practice on Intellectual Property, Commercial Exploitation and Financial Benefits.
10/45 Report of the Advisory Board for Library Services (Item 5(j))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meeting of the Advisory Board for Library Services held on 11 May 2010.

On behalf of the Chair of the Advisory Board, the Librarian drew attention to a paper detailing support for Postgraduate Research Students and invited additional contributions. The Senate noted that the Advisory Board had appointed Dr M.-M. Kleinhans to be its Chair in succession to Professor Chapman with effect from 1 August 2011.

10/46 Report of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees (Item 5(k))

* The Senate received and, for its part, approved the Report of the meeting of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees held on 7 June 2010.

10/47 Report on behalf of the Standing Disciplinary Committee on disciplinary sanctions imposed in the Spring Term 2010 (Item 5(l))

* The Senate approved the Report on behalf of the Standing Disciplinary Committee on disciplinary sanctions imposed in the Spring Term 2010.

10/48 Appointments to Committees and other bodies (Item 6(a))

The Senate:

(a) appointed Professor C.M. Williams (vice Professor D.C. Berry) to be Chair of the Standing Committee on Academic Misconduct to serve until 31 July 2012.

(b) appointed Professor F.H.M. Le Saux (vice Professor C.G. Guy) to the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on the Arts to serve until 31 July 2013.

(c) re-appointed Professor P.R. Lansley as a member and appointed Dr F. Tallett (vice Professor P. John) as an alternate member to the Committee appointed to hear appeals against decisions of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Personal Titles to serve until 31 July 2012.

(d) appointed Dr P.J. Almond (vice Professor P.M. Leopold) as an alternate member to the Standing Disciplinary Committee to serve until 31 July 2013.
(e) appointed Dr D. Carter (vice Dr F. Tallett) as a non-professorial member and re-appointed Mrs P.M. Hardman as a non-professorial alternate member on the nomination of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities to the Standing Committee on Examination Results to serve until 31 July 2013.

(f) re-appointed Professor M.H. Gordon as a professorial member and Professor R.M. Bennett as a professorial alternate member on the nomination of the Faculty of Life Sciences to the Standing Committee on Examination Results to serve until 31 July 2013.

(g) re-appointed Dr R.A. Frazier as a non-professorial member and Dr E. McSorley as a non-professorial alternate member on the nomination of the Faculty of Life Sciences to the Standing Committee on Examination Results to serve until 31 July 2013.

(h) appointed Professor E.G.N. Borg, Dr M.J. Gooding, Professor S.J. Graham and Professor R.B. Potter (vice Professor R.W. Chapman, Professor C.J.H. Duggan, Professor K. Patel and Professor R.W. Stainthorp) to the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees to serve until 31 July 2012.

(i) re-appointed Dr A.C. Smith on the nomination of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities to the Advisory Group for Information Technology Services to serve until 31 July 2013.

(j) re-appointed Professor R. Cramer on the nomination of the Faculty of Life Sciences to the Advisory Group for Information Technology Services to serve until 31 July 2013.

(k) re-appointed Professor S.A. Williams on the nomination of the Faculty of Science to the Advisory Group for Information Technology Services to serve until 31 July 2013.

(l) empowered the Vice-Chancellor to appoint one member on the nomination of the Henley Business School to the Advisory Group for Information Technology Services to serve until 31 July 2013.

(m) re-appointed Professor P. Luna on the nomination of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities to the Advisory Board for Library Services to serve until 31 July 2013.

(n) appointed Ms E.M. McCrum (vice Professor R.W. Stainthorp) on the nomination of the Faculty of Social Sciences to the Advisory Board for Library Services to serve until 31 July 2013.
appended Professor M.W. Shaw (vice Professor P. John) to the Committee for the Museum of English Rural Life to serve until 31 July 2013.

(p) re-appointed Dr P.J. Almond, Dr A.E. Drewery and Dr R.A.R. Smith to the Research Ethics Committee to serve until 31 July 2013.

(q) re-appointed Professor G. Brooks to the panel from which the membership of a Tribunal is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII to serve until 31 July 2013.

(r) re-appointed Professor P.R. Ghandhi to the panel from which the membership of a Grievance Committee is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII to serve until 31 July 2013.

(s) re-appointed Professor G.R. Gibson and Professor C.M.S. Sutcliffe and appointed Professor R. Auchmuty (vice the late Professor N.J. Atkin) to the panel from which the membership of an Appeal Body is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII to serve until 31 July 2013.

(t) re-appointed Professor S. Nortcliff to the Joint University/UCU Committee to serve until 31 July 2011.

(u) appointed Dr A.S. Grandison (vice Mr R.A. Wilbey) to the NFU/Unigate Scholarship Fund Committee to serve until 31 December 2013.

10/49 Membership of the Senate (Item 6(b))

The Senate agreed that:

(i) Professor D.C. Berry, Director of Postgraduate Research Studies, be co-opted to membership of the Senate for the period 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013; and

(ii) Professor P. Grindrod, Director of Innovation and Knowledge Exchange, be co-opted to membership of the Senate for the period 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2013.

10/50 Retirement of Professors (Item 6(c))

The Senate agreed to recommend to the Council that under the provisions of Ordinance XXIV the title of Professor Emeritus be conferred on each of the following with effect from 1 October 2010 unless otherwise stated:
Professor F.A. Bisby
Professor S.I. Edwards
Professor P. John
Professor M. King
Professor P.M. Leopold
Professor D.S. Mottram
Professor J. Pemberton (1 August 2010)
Professor T. Rehman.

10/51  **Retirements** (Item 6(d))

The Senate noted that the following members of the Academic Staff were to retire from 30 September 2010.

The Senate agreed to recommend to the Council that those marked with an asterisk be accorded the title of Honorary Fellow (from 30 September 2010 unless otherwise stated) until their normal retirement date.

* Mrs A. Beasley
  Dr S.R. Bowlby
* Dr R.D. Brigden
  Dr M.J. Bryant
  Dr G.R. Crampton
* Mrs J. Davies
  Dr J. Field
  Dr E.A. Gaffan
* Mrs S. Gainey (30 June 2010)
  Dr S.R. Gowen
  Mrs J.V. Hattrick
  Mrs P. Hicks
* Mr L. Honour
* Dr S. O’Leary
  Mr R.H. Olley
  Dr J.P. Oversby
  Mr G.F. Pearce
* Mrs L. Rogers (30 June 2010)
* Mr I.M. Sainsbury
* Mr D. Shepherd
  Dr R.J. Stewart
* Dr A. Taylor (31 July 2010)
  Mr A. Toren
  Mrs H.J. Vines
  Ms S.M. Walmsley
  Dr M.J. Williams (30 June 2010)
  Dr T.M. Woodman.

The Head of the School of Systems Engineering drew attention to the unsurpassable length of service that had been given to the University by Mr Pearce, Chief Technician in the School. The Senate agreed, with acclaim, to convey a message of appreciation and good wishes.
The Senate received the final version of the list of meetings for 2010-11 for its information.