A meeting of the Senate was held in The Nike Theatre, Agriculture Building, Earley Gate, on Thursday 28 June 2012 at 2.15 pm.

Present:

The Vice-Chancellor

- Professor R K Auchmuty
- Dr J W Bell
- Professor D C Berry
- Professor J C Bignell
- Professor J Board
- Professor G Brooks
- Dr L T Butler
- Dr D M Carter
- Professor R W Chapman
- Dr G K Cook
- Professor A D T Cromartie
- Professor T A Downes
- Professor J A Ellis
- Professor R H Ellis
- Professor P R Ghandhi
- Professor V A Gibson
- Professor R L Gilchrist
- Professor M J Gooding
- Professor A C Goodwyn
- Professor S D Green
- Dr P E Hatcher
- Dr M-M Kleinhans
- Dr S Knox
- Professor K Liu
- Professor P Luna
- Mr A M Macfadyen
- Professor G Marston
- Dr R McBain
- Professor G P Meen

The University Secretary

Students:

- Mr B Haines
- Ms S Johnson

In attendance:

- Dr R J Messer
- Mr D C L Savage

(* in margin denotes that a copy of the document has been inserted in the Minute Book.)

The Vice-Chancellor paid tribute to the following who had died since the last meeting of the Senate:

Sir James Hamilton, KCB, MBE, who had been appointed to the Council in 1984 and had served as its Vice-President from 1986 until 1995.
Dr Patrick Hughes who had been appointed to the University in 1967 and had retired as Senior Lecturer in Educational Psychology in 1988.

Emeritus Professor Bill Lockwood who had been appointed to the University in 1966 and had retired as Professor of Germanic and Indo-European Philology in 1982.

Dr John Thomas who had been appointed to the University in 1963 and had retired as Senior Lecturer in Geochemistry and Metamorphic Petrology in 1997.

*12/26 The Minutes (12/01-12/24) of the meeting held on 14 March 2012 were confirmed and signed.

**Items of Report**

12/27 Reports of Committees of Selection (Item 2(b))

The Senate received the following Reports of Committees of Selection:

* (i) Professorship of Sustainable Futures in the Built Environment
* (ii) Professorship of Sustainable Technologies in the Built Environment
* (iii) Professorship of Human Gut Microbiome Studies
* (iv) Professorship of Multilingualism and Cognition
* (v) Professorship (part-time) of Real Estate and Planning
* (vi) Senior Lectureship in Business Informatics
* (vii) Professorship of Accounting and Financial Management
* (viii) Professorship of Palaeoclimatology and Archaeology
* (ix) Professorship of Weather Processes
* (x) Reader in Biomedical Sciences.

12/28 Elections (Item 2(c))

(i) Election of five Professors to the Senate: It was reported that one nomination had been received, that of Professor Yelena Kalyuzhnova.

Accordingly, Professor Kalyuzhnova had been elected to serve for the period from 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2015.

It was reported that four vacancies remained, three for the period 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2015 and one for the period 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2013.

(ii) Election of six members of the Academic and Academic-related Staff, excluding Professors, to the Senate: It was reported that four nominations had been received, those of
Ms Helen Bilton  
Dr Ian Bland  
Dr Paul Glaister  
Mrs Susan Mott.

Accordingly, Ms Bilton, Dr Bland, Dr Glaister and Mrs Mott had each been elected to serve for the period from 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2015.

Subsequently, two further nominations had been received, those of:

Dr Amy Smith  
Dr Carol Fuller.

The Vice-Chancellor, acting on behalf of the Senate, had agreed that Dr Smith additionally be deemed elected to serve for the period 1 October 2012 to 31 July 2014 and that Dr Fuller additionally be deemed elected to serve for the period from 1 October 2012 to 31 July 2013.

12/29 Report of the Vice-Chancellor (Item 3)

(a) The Vice-Chancellor described his first six months in post as busy, varied and stimulating. A period of consultation with staff across the University in relation to refreshing the University Strategy was drawing to a close and the Vice-Chancellor had been gratified by the levels of interest and engagement he had encountered. Colleagues had, he felt, confronted opportunities and threats alike with both frankness and honesty. The next step would be to reflect on the many constructive views expressed prior to submitting a draft Strategy to the Council by the end of 2012 for consideration and adoption.

(b) In relation to research, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Williams) continued to lead the Academic Investment Project (AIP) alongside preparation for the Research Excellence Framework (REF). The AIP was proceeding apace with nine appointments already made, others under negotiation, several approaching interview and the second phase of recruitment due to get underway later in the summer. REDACTED S.43

(c) The University was justly proud of its commitment to high quality teaching and learning. The Access Agreement for 2013-14 had recently been submitted and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Brooks) was co-ordinating arrangements for the University’s Institutional Review by the Quality Assurance Agency in September and November 2012. At this stage of the cycle, the University’s admissions statistics for entry in October 2012 appeared broadly comparable with previous years but new and unpredictable dynamics, not least in relation to those students holding grades of AAB+ at confirmation, had added a layer of complexity to the exercise. Nonetheless, an attendance approaching 8,000 at the University’s first Open Day of the year suggested that students and
their parents remained keenly interested in seeing for themselves what the University had to offer.

(d) At its meeting on 9 July 2012, the Council was expected formally to approve the establishment of the University of Reading Malaysia. Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mithen) continued to travel widely in the University’s name, forging alliances and fostering initiatives that were enabling Reading to position itself as a truly global force.

(e) Driven by the need to ensure the accuracy and integrity of its annual return to the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), the University was following others of its kind in classifying its staff according to the nature of their academic contribution. The Vice-Chancellor stressed that this did not entail any change to individual contracts of employment: rather, the very flexibility inherent in those contracts was being applied more explicitly than hitherto to recognise the equivalence of contribution made by those staff who were expected to undertake research and those who were not.

(f) The Council had agreed to condone a significant projected operating deficit for the financial year ending 31 July 2013, recognising that many of the costs of the Academic Investment Project would be incurred before compensating income streams began to yield. The University would, however, be expected to return to surplus in the financial year ending 31 July 2014, primarily through a combination of increased overseas student numbers and reductions in the overall cost base. Despite these perturbations, the University’s underlying financial wellbeing, rooted in its investment and property holdings, remained strong.

(g) The University was enjoying an increasingly positive public profile, having attained a top 25 ranking in both the *The Times* and *The Guardian* University league tables and in being able to demonstrate that its economic impact on the Reading area was, in monetary terms alone, some £650m a year.

(h) In conclusion, the Vice-Chancellor thanked the Senate, and the University more generally, for the warmth of the welcome he had received and looked forward, in a spirit of optimism tempered by realism, to working to secure and enhance the University’s reputation both nationally and internationally in the years ahead.

12/30 Report of the Senior Management Board (Item 4(b))

* The Senate received the Report of the meetings of the Senior Management Board held on 27 March, 8 and 21 May, and 6 June 2012 and approved the recommendations contained therein.
In regard to item 2 (Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology) the Senate agreed to recommend to the Council that an application be submitted to the Arts Council England for the re-accreditation of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology.

12/31 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 21 March, 30 April, 21 May and 14 June 2012 and agreed to recommend to the Council approval of:

(a) alterations to Ordinance XVII (Conduct and Discipline, Neglect of Work and Unsatisfactory Progress, Academic Misconduct and Performance in Examinations, and Fitness to Practise) and to Regulations to Conduct to formalise the position, agreed earlier, of the Standing Committee on Fitness to Practise and those matters within its remit;

(b) alterations to Ordinance III (degrees, Diplomas and Certificates) to provide for the introduction of the degree of Doctor of Agriculture and Food (DAgrifood) and to formalise the position of the Degree of Doctor of Statistics (DStat), approved earlier;

(c) two new Ordinances (Postgraduate Diplomas awarded jointly with other institutions and Postgraduate Certificates awarded jointly with other institutions) specifically to provide for the introduction of a Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate programme in Food Quality and Health awarded jointly with the University of Birmingham;

(d) alterations to Ordinance V (Degrees of Master and Doctor awarded by Thesis) and to Ordinance LX (Degree of Professional Doctorate) to introduce a requirement that the electronic deposit of full-text final versions of PhD theses be mandatory for all PhD students registering on or after 1 October 2012.

In welcoming the appointment of Dr Carter as Co-Director of Teaching and Learning for the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Science, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Brooks) thanked Dr Kleinhans for her many achievements in this role and wished her well as she took up the full-time post of Vice-Provost (Academic), University of Reading Malaysia.

Professor Brooks drew attention of the Senate to the current under-reporting of grants relating to teaching and learning across the University and described the steps that were being taken to correct that position. Professor Berry stressed the importance of this and noted the role that such achievements had to play in the promotions process. In response to questions, the Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences was assured that neglect of work procedures applied mutatis mutandis to postgraduate research students; and Professor Bignell was assured, in the context of a requirement for electronic deposition of PhD theses, that cognate arrangements for non-textual material were under active consideration.
12/32  **Report of the University Board for Research and Innovation (Item 5(b))**

* The Senate approved the Report of the meeting of the University Board for Research and Innovation held on 31 May 2012.

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Professor Williams) was pleased to note the approval, and imminent dissemination, of a revised University Code of Good Practice in Research: a group led by the Dean of the Faculty of Science continued to give consideration to questions around the storage and sharing of research data and would report in due course. Further, Professor Williams drew that attention of the Senate to the increasing importance attached by funders to attainment of the various levels of the Athena SWAN Charter Award and urged that every effort continue be made in this area.

12/33  **Report of the Management Board of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Science (Item 5(c))**

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Management Board of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Science held on 25 April and 30 May 2012.

In a sentiment echoed by the Deans of the Faculties of Life Sciences and of Science, the Dean referred to the new arrangements for the support of Faculties, Deans and Faculty Directors of Teaching and Learning effective from 1 August 2012 and asked that thanks be recorded to those staff in the Faculty Offices who would, in consequence, be leaving the University.

12/34  **Report of the Management Board of the Faculty of Life Sciences (Item 5(d))**

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Management Board of the Faculty of Life Sciences held separately on 22 March and 25 April 2012 and of a meeting of the Board held jointly with the Management Board of the Faculty of Science on 30 May 2012.

The Dean noted the priority accorded within his Faculty to matters of health and safety and emphasised the ethos of continuous improvement which he and his senior colleagues sought to foster.

12/35  **Report of the Management Board of the Faculty of Science (Item 5(e))**

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Management Board of the Faculty of Science held separately on 21 March and 26 April 2012 and of a meeting of the Board held jointly with the Management Board of the Faculty of Life Sciences on 30 May 2012.
The Dean noted the significant opportunities afforded to the University by grant awards underpinning the Space@Reading initiative.

12/36 Report of the Management Board of the Henley Business School (Item 5(f))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meetings of the Management Board of the Henley Business School held on 21 March, 2 May and 20 May 2012.

The Dean referred to the notable success earlier in the week of the Diamond Jubilee Garden Party held at Greenlands and thanked all those who had contributed in any way.

12/37 Report of the Joint University/UCU Committee (Item 5(g))

* The Senate approved the Report of the meeting of the Joint University/UCU Committee held on 23 May 2012 and agreed to recommend to the Council:

(a) approval of a revised and modernised Recognition and Procedural Agreement between the University and Reading UCU; and

(b) revised arrangements for the conferment of Personal Titles in respect of promotions taking effect from 1 October 2013.

As Chairman of the Joint University/UCU Committee for the present Session, Dr Hatcher expressed his thanks to colleagues in Human Resources for their facilitative approach to the re-drafting of the Recognition and Procedural Agreement. In turn, the Vice-Chancellor thanked Dr Hatcher for the constructive manner in which he had chaired meetings of the Committee.

12/38 Report of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees (Item 5(h))

* The Senate, for its part, approved the Report of the meeting of the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees held on 11 June 2012.

The Vice-Chancellor reminded the Senate that the information contained within the Report should be regarded as strictly confidential until such time as the proposed recipients had accepted the University’s invitation.

12/39 Report on behalf of the Standing Disciplinary Committee on disciplinary sanctions imposed in the Spring Term 2012 (Item 5(i))

* The Senate received a Report on behalf of the Standing Disciplinary Committee of disciplinary sanctions imposed in the Spring Term 2012.
Appointments to Committees and other bodies (Item 6(a))

* (a) The Senate

   (i) appointed Dr A. Thorpe (vice Dr J. Gibbs who now served ex officio) to The Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on the Arts to Serve until 31 July 2015;

   (ii) re-appointed Dr S.P. Burke and Professor M.H. Gordon to the Careers and Employability Board to serve until 31 July 2015;

   (iii) appointed Dr J.D. Creighton (vice Dr I.F. Roe) as an alternate member of the Standing Disciplinary Committee to serve until 31 July 2015;

   (iv) appointed Dr E. McCrum (vice Dr D.M. Carter) as a non-professorial member and Dr R. Foxley (vice Mrs P.M. Hardman) as a non-professorial alternate member on the nomination of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Science to the Senate Standing Committee on Examination Results to serve until 31 July 2015;

   (v) appointed Professor S.C. Chandler-Wilde (vice Professor R.G. Harrison) as a professorial member and Professor A. Wade (vice Professor S.N. Chandler-Wilde) as a professorial alternate member on the nomination of the Faculty of Science to the Senate Standing Committee on Examination Results to serve until 31 July 2015;

   (vi) appointed Dr R. Plant (vice Dr G.K. Cook) as a non-professorial member and Dr R.S. Sherratt (vice Dr R. Plant) as a non-professorial alternate member on the nomination of the Faculty of Science to the Senate Standing Committee on Examination Results to serve until 31 July 2015;

   (vii) appointed Professor E.J. Highwood, Professor P. Kruschwitz and Professor J.A. Ellis (vice Professor E.G.N. Borg, Professor M.J. Gooding and Professor R.B. Potter) and re-appointed Professor S.J. Graham to the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Honorary Degrees to serve until 31 July 2014;

   (viii) appointed Dr P.E. Woodman (vice Professor C.J.H. Duggan) to the Joint Standing Committee of Council and Senate on Personal Titles to serve until 31 July 2015;

   (ix) appointed Dr R. Everitt, Dr A.K. Ho and Mr N. Spinks (vice Dr A.E. Drewery, Dr T. Marinis and Professor S.C. Todd) and re-appointed Professor J.A. Lovegrove to the Research Ethics Committee to serve until 31 July 2015;

   (x) re-appointed Professor P.R. Ghandhi to the panel from which the membership of a Tribunal is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII to serve until 31 July 2013;
re-appointed Professor C.J. Hilson, Professor S.J. Graham and Professor A.C. Williams to the panel from which the membership of a Grievance Committee is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII to serve until 31 July 2015;

re-appointed Professor H.M. Colquhoun to the panel from which the membership of an Appeal Body is drawn under the terms of Statute XXXIII to serve until 31 July 2015.

(b) The Senate agreed to recommend to the Council approval of alterations to Ordinance XVII (Conduct and Discipline, Neglect of Work and Unsatisfactory Progress, Academic Misconduct and Performance in Examinations, and Fitness to Practise) to broaden the field from which the Chair of the Senate Committee on Academic Misconduct might in future be appointed. Subject to approval by the Council of these alterations, and on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor, the Senate appointed Professor D.C. Berry to be Chair of the Standing Committee on Academic Misconduct to serve until 31 July 2015.

12/41 Retirement of Professors (Item 6(c))

The Senate agreed to recommend to the Council that under the provisions of Ordinance XIV the title of Professor Emeritus be conferred on each of the following with effect from 1 October 2012:

Professor R W Chapman
Professor J Hendry
Professor F P McKenna
Professor R L Robson.

12/42 Retirements

The Senate noted that the following members of the Academic Staff were to retire with effect from 30 September 2012 unless otherwise stated.

Mr K Beard (31 May 2012)
Mr R Brown (30 June 2012)
Mr A Conisbee (31 July 2012)
Dr R Froud-Williams (31 July 2012)
Mr B Hillier (20 July 2012)
Mr R Hordern (8 June 2012)
Mrs G Jodrell (31 July 2012)
Mr D McMillan
Mrs D Matthews (30 April 2012)
Mrs S Raven
Dr I F Roe (31 July 2012)
It agreed to recommend to the Council that each be accorded the title of Honorary Fellow for a period of five years.

12/43  List of Meetings 2012-13

* The Senate received the final version of the list of meetings for 2012-13 for its information.

12/44  Institute of Education

In response to a question from Dr Macfadyen posed in the context of the recent launch event for the Institute of Education at London Road, the Vice-Chancellor confirmed that he had taken the opportunity to impress upon the Secretary of State for Education the view that higher education had a strong and enduring contribution to make to initial teacher education and to the continuing professional development of teachers.

Student representatives withdrew from the remainder of the meeting