



Statement of the role and responsibilities of the Senate

1. The Senate is responsible to the Council for academic governance, and specifically for regulating, in accordance with the Charter and Statutes,
 - (a) the admission of students;
 - (b) the curriculum and assessment;
 - (c) the maintenance and enhancement of academic standards;
 - (d) the award of degrees and other qualifications.

2. In respect of other areas of the University's work, the Senate's role is advisory rather than decisive; and it also has a role in serving as a two-way channel of communication, thus underpinning collegiality. The Senate is responsible in particular for advising the Council on academic and related strategies. In addition, the Senate
 - (a) may discuss and declare an opinion on any matter whatsoever relating to the University;
 - (b) shall be consulted about the allocation of general revenue;
 - (c) shall be given the opportunity to comment on proposed policies or modifications to policies, and on major business proposals affecting the academic work of the University;
 - (d) shall be consulted about any material modifications to the constitutional and organisational structure of the University.

3. In accordance with precepts enshrined in the University's Code of Practice on Corporate Governance, members of the Senate are regarded as members in their own right. Individual members are not delegates of the constituencies from which they are drawn, and nor is their role that of advancing the interests of those constituencies: members are appointed or elected in an individual - or personal - capacity, and are expected to take a University-wide perspective on issues before them. Notwithstanding this point, and having regard to the Senate's role in underpinning collegiality, members are also expected to provide a two-way channel of communication by canvassing the views of colleagues on matters of particular interest prior to meetings of the Senate and reporting back subsequently.