



**EXTRAORDINARY 'VIRTUAL' MEETING OF UNIVERSITY SENATE
THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2022, 9.30 – 11.00
AGENDA**

TO DISCUSS THE MOTION:

“Senate believes the recent reforms to the USS may be unnecessary, inadequate, and discriminatory. The changes may limit the University’s vision and aim to retain and attract staff that would create high impact academic outputs and international collaborations that are necessary to achieve its aim of being a top 50 global university.

We call on the University to publicly demand the USS conduct a new moderately prudent, evidenced-based valuation, or update the 2020 valuation in light of experience, and make an adequate, cost-effective offer for staff as a matter of urgency.”

	TITLE	LEAD/SPONSOR	ACTION	TIMINGS
1	Senators Motion in relation to USS	Dr Neil Davies	For discussion	9.30 (15 mins)
2	The University’s actions to date, and proposed action, in relation to USS	Chief Operating Officer – Robert Kerse	For discussion	9.45 (15 mins)
3	Questions/Debate*	Vice-Chancellor	Live Q&A	10.00
4	Vote**	Vice-Chancellor	For decision	

Please send apologies to: Governance Team (governance@bristol.ac.uk)

*** Conduct of debate**

The conduct of a debate will be determined by the Chair, who will not unreasonably refuse any member the right to speak. The Chair may require a member to leave a meeting in the event of his or her disruptive behaviour. Senate should proceed by consensus wherever possible, resorting to formal procedural mechanisms **only when all other solutions have been exhausted**.

The Chair has discretion to accept or reject for debate a formal motion, or an amendment to a formal motion, moved by a Senate member, and to determine the order in which amendments and motions are taken. Proceedings on any amendments must be completed before any decision is taken on the substantive motion [as amended]. Where there is more than one motion, the motion under consideration must be disposed of before proceedings on any subsequent motions are embarked upon.

The Vice-Chancellor may at any time put a motion to Senate whose effect will be to terminate the item of business under discussion at the time. A motion to this effect shall be decided upon without debate.

**** Voting procedure**

Decisions should normally be made on the basis of consensus by a simple majority. A formal vote can be held where the Chair deems it appropriate, or if requested by a Senate member. Only Senate members have the right to vote at Senate meetings unless they are precluded from doing so by a conflict of interest. Attendees who are not members of Senate may speak at Senate meetings to provide guidance, advice and opinion, but shall not be entitled to vote.

Voting on the issue will either be by an electronic poll in Zoom (the results of which will be shared in the meeting) or by making use of the 'thumbs up' icon (again, a count will take place and the results shared in the meeting). Decisions are taken by simple majority. The Chair may vote and has the right to exercise a casting vote if a vote is tied. The Secretary must record the number of votes cast for and against any proposition, and the number of abstentions, in the minutes of the meeting.