

Membership of the Senate - Session 2025-26

Ex Officio Members		
Principal and Vice-Chancellor		
Professor Richard A Williams	Chair of the Senate	
Vice-Principal and Provost		
Professor Steve McLaughlin	Vice-Chair of the Senate	
Deputy Principals		
Professor Gillian Murray	Deputy Principal for Enterprise and Business	
Professor Chris Turney	Deputy Principal for Research and Impact	
Professor Tadhg O'Donovan	Deputy Principal for Education and Student Life	
Professor Mercedes Maroto-Valer	Deputy Principal for Global Sustainability	
International Campuses		Appointed to:
Professor Mushtak Al-Atabi	Vice-Principal and Provost Heriot-Watt University Malaysia	31/07/27
Professor Dame Heather McGregor	Vice-Principal and Provost Heriot-Watt University Dubai	31/07/27
Elected Deans of the University		
Dr Yvonne McLaren-Hankin	'Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences'	31/03/26
Dr Alistair McConnell	'Science and Engineering'	31/12/26
Ms Jenny Coady	'Pan-University Constituency'	28/10/28
Heads of Primary Academic Units		
Mr Matthew Smith	School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure and Society (Interim)	
Professor Angus Laing	School of Social Sciences	
Professor Igor Guz	School of Engineering and Physical Sciences	
Professor Sara Lombardo	School of Mathematical and Computer Sciences	
Professor Fiona Grant	School of Textiles and Design (Acting)	
Professor Anna Fenge	Heriot-Watt Global College	
Chairs of Senate Committee(s) and Joint Committees of the Court and Senate		
Professor Fiona Waldron	University Committee for Quality and Standards	31/07/26
Professor Mehdi Nazarinia	University Discipline Committee	31/12/26
Professor Fiona Waldron	Ordinances and Regulations Committee	31/07/26
Student Members		
Mr Cameron Fields	Student Union President	31/05/26
Vacant	Student Union Vice-President for Community	31/05/26
Ms Holly McAdams	Student Union Vice-President for Education	31/05/26
Mr Kevin Antony Sahayaraj	Dubai Student Council President	31/05/26
Ms Hannah Ann Kurian	Dubai Student Council Academic Executive	31/05/26
Ms Pearlyn Tee	Malaysia Student Association President	31/05/26
Ms Sabrina Syed	Malaysia Student Association Academic Vice-President	31/05/26
Mr Ben Gustafson	Student Union Postgraduate Research Member of Parliament	31/05/26

Mr Theo Koppenhöfer	Student Union Postgraduate Taught Member of Parliament	31/05/26
Mr Harrison Porritt	Student Union Undergraduate Student Representative	31/05/26

Elected Staff Members

School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure and Society

17 Senators permitted to be elected from this Primary Academic Unit

Senator's Name	Elected to	Notes
Dr Demitrios Cotsovos	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Dr Yasemin Nielsen	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Dr Rabee Rustum	31/07/26	Serving second successive term
Dr Alex MacLaren	31/07/26	
Dr George Vasdravellis	31/07/26	
Dr Craig Kennedy	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
Dr Hassam Chaudhry	31/07/27	
Dr Taha Elhag	31/07/27	
Dr Noor Zainab Habib	31/07/27	
Dr M Shadi Mohamed	31/07/27	
Dr Hai Chen Tan	31/07/27	
Professor Michel Kaiser	31/07/28	
Dr Karen Alexander	31/07/28	
Dr Hannah Menke	31/07/28	
Ms Ruzanna Abd Rahman	31/07/28	
Dr Manuel Cresciani	31/07/28	
Mr Matthew Myers	31/07/28	

School of Engineering and Physical Sciences

22 Senators permitted to be elected from this Primary Academic Unit

Senator's Name	Elected to	Notes
Dr Florence Chiao Mei Choong	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Professor Martin McCoustra	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Dr Richard McCracken	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Dr Hendrik Nahler	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Dr David Ellis	31/07/26	
Professor Paul Dalgarno	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
Dr Tze Cheun Yap	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
Dr Ruaraidh Mcintosh	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
Dr Yun li Go	31/07/27	
Dr Adnan Ilyas	31/07/27	
Dr Barbara Keating	31/07/27	
Dr Mohammed Saleh	31/07/27	
Dr Robin Westacott	31/07/27	
Dr Carlos Ferreiro-Rangel	31/07/28	
Dr Farnaz Mohsenpour	31/07/28	
Dr Vahid Razaviarani	31/07/28	

Dr Stephen Mansell	31/07/28	
Dr Mubbashar Mehmood	31/07/28	
Dr Senthil Muthukumaraswamy	31/07/28	
Dr Juan Casanova	31/07/28	
Dr Hebatallah Shoukry	31/07/28	
Dr Mesfin Woldetensay	31/07/28	
Dr Phil Renforth	31/07/28	

School of Textiles and Design

6 Senators permitted to be elected from this Primary Academic Unit

Senator's Name	Elected to	Notes
Dr Lucy Robertson	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Dr Euan Winton	31/07/26	
Dr Britta Kalkreuter	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
Dr David Cavallaro	31/07/27	
Dr Syed Andrabi	31/07/28	
Dr Dima Alkawadri	31/07/28	

School of Social Sciences

19 Senators permitted to be elected from this Primary Academic Unit

Senator's Name	Elected to	Notes
Dr Erkal Ersoy	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Professor Reza Kouhy	31/07/26	
Dr Katriona Myhill	31/07/26	
Dr Monica Tamariz	31/07/26	
Dr Ross Curran	31/07/27	
Dr Louise Delicato	31/07/27	
Dr Christopher Dodd	31/07/27	
Professor Joanna Drugan	31/07/27	
Dr April Henning	31/07/27	
Dr Ramon Inglada	31/07/27	
Dr Suzanne Lampert	31/07/27	
Dr Jia (Lucy) Lu	31/07/27	
Dr Shereen Nassar	31/07/27	
Dr Florian Scheuring	31/07/27	
Professor Ian Baxter	31/07/28	
Dr Rofayda ElHout	31/07/28	
Dr David Brown	31/07/28	
Dr Yasaman Sarabi	31/07/28	
Professor Mercedes Sheen	31/07/28	

School of Mathematical and Computer Sciences

15 Senators permitted to be elected from this Primary Academic Unit

Senator's Name	Elected to	Notes
Professor Lehel Banjai	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
Ms Andrea Sneddon	31/07/26	

Dr Kathrin Stark	31/07/26	
Professor Christian Saemann	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
Dr Thomas Methven	31/07/27	
Mr Adrian Nathai	31/07/27	
Dr Stefano Padilla	31/07/27	
Dr Marta Romeo	31/07/27	
Dr Ryad Soobhany	31/07/27	
Mr Karamjeet Singh K.Ranthir Singh	31/07/27	
Dr Marta Vallejo	31/07/27	
Professor Beatrice Pelloni	31/07/28	
Ms Jenny Coady	31/07/28	
Dr Abrar Ullah	31/07/28	

Heriot-Watt Global College

7 Senators permitted to be elected from this Primary Academic Unit

Senator's Name	Elected to	Notes
Dr Yousef Al-Gumaei	31/07/26	
Mr Andrew Hock Cheong Lee	31/07/26	
Ms Jasmine Low	31/07/26	
Ms Devanshi Sharma	31/07/26	
Mr Nader Shouly	31/07/26	
Dr Nazia Talat	31/07/27	
Ms Judith Gorham	31/07/28	

In Attendance*(can be varied from time to time)*

- Ms Ruth Moir, University Secretary
- Ms Samantha Kane, Global Director of Student Experience and Academic Registrar
- Professor Martha Caddell, Director of the Learning and Teaching Academy
- Dr Maggie King, Head of Academic Quality
- Ms Sue Collier, Global Director of Governance and Legal Services
- Ms Kirsty Scanlan, Director of Strategic Planning, Performance and Projects
- Ms Megan Morgan, Governance Officer (Clerk)
- Mr Fraser Muir, Global Director of Information Services

Notes on composition and membership

<p>In accordance with the Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Act 2016, and as provided for in Statute 5 and the Ordinances, the Senate should be constituted in such a way that:</p> <p>(a) more than 50% of its members are either persons appointed by being elected by the academic Staff from among their own number, or persons appointed by being elected by the Students of the institution from among the Students of the institution; and</p> <p>(b) at least 10% of its members are persons appointed by being elected by the Students of the institution from among the Students of the institution.</p> <p><i>The Ordinances & Regulations Committee is conducting a review of the Senate's composition to ensure that the requirement for (b) above can be met.</i></p>	<p>The present structure delivers capacity for 115 Senators, comprised of:</p> <p>19 ex officio positions;</p> <p>10 members who are elected by the Students from among the Students; and</p> <p>86 members who are elected by the academic Staff from among the academic Staff in Schools.</p>
--	---