

Membership of the Senate - Session 2026-2027

Ex Officio Members		
Principal and Vice-Chancellor		
Professor Nola Hewitt-Dundas	Chair of the Senate	
Vice-Principal and Provost		
Professor Steve McLaughlin	Vice-Chair of the Senate, Vice-Principal of the University and Provost (UK)	
Deputy Principals		
Professor Chris Turney	Deputy Principal for Research and Innovation, Chair of University Committee for Research and Innovation	
Professor Tadhg O'Donovan	Deputy Principal for Education and Student Life, Chair of University Committee for Learning and Teaching	
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	Academic Dean	31/03/29
Dr Barbara Keating	Academic Dean	31/07/29
Ms Jenny Coady	Academic Dean	31/10/28
Heads of Primary Academic Units		
Mr Matthew Smith	School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure and Society (Interim)	
Professor Angus Laing	School of Business, Design and Social Sciences	
Professor Igor Guz	School of Engineering and Physical Sciences	
Professor Sara Lombardo	School of Mathematical and Computer Sciences	
Professor Anna Fenge	Heriot-Watt Global College	
Chairs of Senate Committee(s) and Joint Committees of the Court and Senate		
Dr Yvonne McLaren	University Committee for Quality and Standards	31/07/29
Dr Yvonne McLaren	Ordinances and Regulations Committee	31/07/29
Professor Mehdi Nazarinia	University Discipline Committee	31/12/26
Student Members		
Mr Mo Ali Khazali	Student Union President	31/05/27
Ms Kirsty McKeating	Student Union Vice-President for Community	31/05/27
Ms Joey Hunter	Student Union Vice-President for Education	31/05/27
Mr Shreyash Phatak	Dubai Student Council President	31/05/27
Ms Zeina Albakri	Dubai Student Council Academic Executive	31/05/27
Mr Soo Wu Ken	Malaysia Student Association President	31/05/27
Mr Kerim Ovezgylyjov	Malaysia Student Association Academic Vice-President	31/05/27
TBC	Student Union Postgraduate Research Member of Parliament	31/05/27
TBC	Student Union Postgraduate Taught Member of Parliament	31/05/27

TBC	Student Union Undergraduate Student Representative	31/05/27
-----	--	----------

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 Alex MacLaren	31/07/29	Serving second successive term
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	
Dr Sahar Mirzaie	31/07/29	
Dr Kamaljit Singh	31/07/29	
School of Engineering and Physical Sciences 23 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
Professor Paul Dalgarno	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
Dr Tze Chuen Yap	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
Dr Ruairaidh 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 Jing Liu	31/07/29	

School of Business, Design and Social Sciences

21 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
Dr Britta Kalkreuter	31/07/27	Serving second successive term
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 Shereen Nassar	31/07/27	
Dr Florian Scheuring	31/07/27	
Dr David Cavallaro	31/07/27	
Dr Lucy Robertson	31/07/28	Serving second successive term
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	
Dr Syed Andrabi	31/07/28	
Dr Dima Alkawadri	31/07/28	
Dr Lucy Bolton	31/07/29	

School of Mathematical and Computer Sciences

12 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
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 Nazia Talat	31/07/27	
Ms Judith Gorham	31/07/28	
Ms Goh Sze Ching (Rachel)	31/07/29	
Dr Shahenda Shehata	31/07/29	
Ms Adriana Lipka	31/07/29	
Ms Asharina Alwi	31/07/29	
Ms Funda Karaoglan	31/07/29	

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

- Ms Ruth Moir, University Secretary and Vice Principal (Governance and Operations)
- 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 Fiona Armstrong, Global Director of Research Engagement
- Ms Kirsty Scanlan, Director of Strategic Planning, Performance and Projects
- Mr Fraser Muir, Global Director of Information Services
- Ms Megan Morgan, Senior Governance Officer

Notes on composition and membership

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:

- (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
- (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

The present structure delivers capacity for 106 Senators, comprised of:

17 ex officio positions;
10 members who are elected by the Students from among the Students; and
79 members who are elected by the academic Staff from among the academic Staff in Schools.

There are currently three vacancies within the student membership category, resulting in a current membership of **104 Senators**.