

## ELECTIONS TO THE SENATE

May 2017

### SCHOOL of ENERGY, GEOSCIENCE, INFRASTRUCTURE and SOCIETY

There are **EIGHT** candidates standing for the **THREE** vacancies for Senators from the School (in reverse alphabetical order):

Candidate	Nominated by:	
<b>Dr Harpreet Seth</b>	Prof Wael Mualla	Dr Olisandwendu Ogwuda
<p>Heriot-Watt has been ranked in the top 1% as the University with the most international outlook, successfully providing a global learning platform for students. This same international outlook is important within the Senate with an approach towards active integration of diversity of campus representation, experience, areas of expertise and gender of the Senate members. As a female architect/urban designer I joined Heriot-Watt in 2013 working in the Architectural Engineering Program introducing innovative studio and project based teaching. The aim being to facilitate deep learning approaches and their application to real life examples, bridging the gap from surface to a deep learners. I was instrumental with colleagues from Edinburgh in establishing and launching the new Architecture program at Heriot-Watt Dubai Campus as the Director of Studies. My approach to designing and planning learning and material for Architecture courses was based on culturally responsive and inclusive teaching and learning, given Heriot-Watt's commitment to valuing and respecting everyone, fostering global thinking and worldwide influence.</p> <p>My 25 years' experience in design industry combined with 15 years of teaching experience will add a dimension to the approaches and strategies of the Senate in maintaining consistent international academic standards. I view industry experience as one of the key components to high quality student teaching and learning from first-hand experience as a Masters student when I received a grant from the "University Grants Commission" (UGC) in India and my doctoral studies from UK. I can actively contribute to the promotion of learning and teaching through my broad knowledge base and experience as an academician, work in industry and Fellow of Higher Education Academy (FHEA) playing a key role in shaping the future direction of the University in academic settings where the only constant is change and our preparedness to that change.</p>		
<b>Dr Khalik Sabil</b>	Dr Tan Hai Chen	Mr Teh Bin Sin
<p>I am standing for election to Senate to represent the voices of our colleagues from international campuses. As a 'distinctly global' University, I believe it is vital to have global representatives to ensure any decision made by the Senate will take into account the differences and similarities across campuses. As the Associate Head for the School in Malaysia since the beginning, and my experience dealing with a number of difference programmes offer by the School and others, I believe I have the experience and views that can influence any decision made by the Senate for a distinctly global educational, welfare and recreational opportunities for all students and staff. I feel with your support, I will be able to excel in this role.</p>		
<b>Dr Gina Netto</b>	Mr James Morgan	Dr Harry Smith
<p>I have been Reader/Associate Professor in the School since 2012, and would like to represent EGIS on the Senate to ensure that decisions made in relation to academic standards, learning and teaching, research and student discipline are consistent with its aspirations for excellence and fairness in all of these areas. This requires not only familiarity with existing systems and processes, but awareness of current strengths and areas for improvement, and crucially, in a School such as EGIS, extensive experience of multi-disciplinary working. I am standing because I want to help contribute to enabling academics, students, support services and senior management to deliver their full potential during a politically uncertain and challenging financial period. As a former Commissioner with the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland, and Chair of its Equality and Diversity Group and current member of the Scottish Government's Labour Market Strategy group, I have specialist experience and expertise in issues related to equality and diversity, and will draw on this experience as it applies to both students and staff. If you believe this is important, please vote for me.</p>		

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Nominated by:</b>	
<b>Dr David Jenkins</b>	Dr Gillian Menzies	Dr Frédéric Bosché
<p>Having been at Heriot-Watt for 12 years as researcher and lecturer, I feel I have developed a thorough understanding of how we function, where we have succeeded in the past, and how we should move forward – particularly in these times of considerable change. Senate is immensely valuable for overseeing and scrutinising the way the University is governed, and ensuring both students and staff are meeting the standards, and receiving the support, expected for a successful university.</p> <p>Throughout my time at Heriot-Watt, I have developed a track record in nationally recognised research (through research council and Scottish/UK Government work), led the work emanating from our Urban Energy Research Group, and successfully developed a number of courses in EGIS. With this background in both research and teaching, I would be able to use my experience as a Heriot-Watt academic to help maintain, and enhance, our standards in a way that reflects the views and concerns of academics throughout EGIS.</p>		
<b>Professor Teresa F Fernandes</b>	Prof Susan Dewar	Dr Derek Jamieson
<p>I am standing for Senate and I seek your support. Given Senate's role, I am very keen to contribute directly to the future of HWU in the areas of teaching, research, knowledge exchange and scholarship. Although academia face challenging times, HWU has key strengths that we must capitalise on by continuing to invest in areas where we have the edge over competitors. We must continue to strengthen our links with our UK campuses, as well as Dubai and Malaysia, particularly extending our research and strengthening our teaching in areas that fit with local demand.</p> <p>I joined HWU 6 years ago, after spending 17 years at another UKHEI. At the previous institution I was a member of Senate and Court, and since joining HWU I was a member of Senate from 2012-2015. Therefore, I am very familiar with the role of Senate and what staff members can do to guide future University direction.</p> <p>I am the Director of the new Life and Earth Sciences Institute (ILES) within EGIS and this role brings exciting opportunities in the development and implementation of a new scientific area and its integration across EGIS and within the University. I believe that ILES' staff can work in synergy with colleagues across EGIS and the wider University to address relevant HWU strategic goals particularly via Global Challenges research funding. I am currently PI on a range of European and NERC funded grants, have spent 10 years as a member of EC Scientific Committees, and was previously UG/PG program leader, so I am fully aware of the challenges and opportunities we face in academia, and in our liaison with different stakeholders.</p> <p>I believe I have the required knowledge, skills and experience to have a strong and effective role in influencing decision-making at HWU and fully representing EGIS at Senate.</p>		
<b>Professor Patrick Corbett</b>	Prof Sebastian Geiger	Dr Rink van Dijke
<p>I'm one of the current Senate representatives from EGIS and I am standing for a second term. In this capacity, and as a current Senate representative on Court, I try to engage fully with the academic oversight of the University. I have had a good attendance record at Senate and have endeavoured to make a positive contribution wherever possible.</p>		
<b>Dr James Buckman</b>	Prof Sebastian Geiger	Prof Thomas Wagner
<p>Vote for me and I promise to do the best that I can.</p>		
<b>Dr Ibrisam Akbar</b>	Ms Aluyah Bt Sipi	Mr Ankesh Anupam

**Notes:**

- Nominations were sought between 26 April 2017 and 12 May 2017.
- All candidates had the opportunity to submit statements in support of their candidacy.
- The election contest shall be held according to the stipulations of Ordinance C1.
- Ballot papers and instructions on the election have been emailed to all eligible voters.
- All completed ballot papers must reach [Kate Wright](#) by **Wednesday 31 May 2017 (4.00pm UK time)**.
- John McDermott can provide more information on request