An additional meeting of the Senate was held on 18 January 2011 to consider the draft of the University’s Academic Development Proposal (ADP) for 2012-15.

The draft ADP was formulated after an extensive and iterative process, involving all Faculties, that was consultative and transparent. Earlier versions of the ADP had been discussed at several rounds of meetings of the Resource Allocation Committee (RAC) with the Deans of Faculties, when the priorities were also determined. The draft ADP was self-reflective and evaluative in nature, which was in accordance with the evaluation criteria and assessment methodology set by the UGC for the ADP process. The draft ADP has also incorporated the strategies for the competitive bid for first-year-first-degree (FYFD) places reflecting a consensus among the stakeholders.

The main features of the draft ADP included an emphasis on broad-based education with University Core Requirements, Faculty Package and a common first-year curriculum and experience, the introduction of broad-based admission where appropriate, more new streams within a major programme, the planned new programmes that were all interdisciplinary and cross-Faculty in nature, as well as specifically designed 2-year programmes for the bidding of senior year places for articulation by sub-degree graduates. In regard to new programme proposals, there was a balance between disciplines in the sciences/technology and humanities/social sciences, and a reflection of the University’s areas of strengths and of societal needs.

The draft ADP for 2012-15 was endorsed for approval by the Council, noting that the ADP would be submitted to the UGC by its deadline of 15 February 2011.