

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Board of Graduate Studies

Minutes of the Board of Graduate Studies meeting held on Thursday 22 November 2012.

Present: Professor J Labbe (Chair), Ms A Chowcat, Ms J Cooper, Dr A Cristea, Dr R Dias, Dr A Dowd, Professor R Earle, Professor D Leadley, Professor R Napier, Ms O Salau, Professor D Steinberg, Dr P Taylor, Ms N Tosun, Professor M Wills.

Apologies: Professor R Aldrich, Dr C Bilton, Professor S Brammer, Mr C Drake, Professor F Griffiths, Dr J Kidd, Professor J Neelands, Dr J Parkinson, Dr A Phillips, Dr J Vickery.

In attendance: Dr O Guriunova (for item 18/12-13), Ms K Gray (for item 12/12-13), Mr N Hull (for item 11/12-13), Mr R Leng (for item 17/12-13), Professor C Lury (for item 18/12-13), Mr D Pearson, Ms K Weir, Mrs R Wooldridge Smith.

29/12-13 Minutes of the last meeting

CONSIDERED:

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 10 October 2012.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 10 October 2012 be approved.

30/12-13 Matters Arising on the Minutes

(a) Membership of the Board 2012/2013 (minute 2/12-13 referred)

REPORTED:

- (i) That, at its meeting on 15 October 2012, the Steering Committee, acting on behalf of the Senate, approved the appointment of Professor Deborah Steinberg to serve on the Board of Graduate Studies as one of the representatives from the Faculty of Social Sciences as one of eight members of academic staff, two appointed by each of the Boards of the Faculties of Arts, Science, Medicine and Social Sciences, normally from amongst the members of the Graduate Studies Sub-Committees (SC minute 35 (c)/12-13 referred);
- (ii) That Mr J Entwistle, the Education Officer, would sit on the Board of Graduate Studies as the second co-opted student in addition to the Students' Union's Postgraduate Sabbatical Officer;
- (iii) That Mr J Leggett and Ms Z Kristensen would share the

responsibility of sitting on the Board of Graduate Studies as the student representative appointed by the Board of Faculty of Medicine, noting that Dr S Rupani had been incorrectly reported at the meeting as the student appointed by the Medicine Faculty;

- (iv) That Mr C Drake would sit on the Board of Graduate Studies as the postgraduate student appointed by the Board of Faculty of Science from amongst the departments in the Faculty;
 - (v) That Ms O Salau would sit on the Board of Graduate Studies as the postgraduate student appointed by the Board of Faculty of Social Sciences from amongst the departments in the Faculty;
 - (vi) That Ms N Tosun would sit on the Board of Graduate Studies as the postgraduate student appointed by the Board of Faculty of Arts from amongst the departments in the Faculty.
- (b) Membership of Sub-Committees (minute 5/12-13 referred)

Graduate Awards and Nominations Sub-Committee

REPORTED:

- (i) That Dr A Cristea would serve as the member of the Board from the Faculty of Science;
- (ii) That Professor R Earle would serve as the member of the Board from the Faculty of Arts;
- (iii) That the Faculty Graduate Studies Committees, at their last meetings, nominated the following to serve as Faculty Selectors on the Graduate Awards and Nominations Sub-Committee:

(A) Faculty of Arts

- (1) Dr D Lines;
- (2) Dr R Dias.

(B) Faculty of Medicine

- (1) Professor G Hartshorne;
- (2) Professor J Davey.

(C) Faculty of Science

- (1) Dr K Neailey;
- (2) TBC.

(D) Faculty of Social Sciences

- (1) Professor P Poellner;
- (2) TBC.

RESOLVED:

- (iv) That Board members from the Faculties of Social Sciences and Medicine be approached via email to serve on the Graduate Awards and Nominations Sub-Committee;
- (v) That the nomination of Faculty Selectors from the Faculty Graduate Studies Committees need to be finalised in anticipation of the Scholarships Competition closing in January 2013, and that Chairs of Graduate Studies Committees should encourage outstanding appointments to be made as soon as possible.
- (c) Nomination of student member on the University Research Ethics Committee (minute 7/12-13 referred)

REPORTED:

- (i) That the Students' Union supported the re-appointment of Mr Lieberg to serve as student member on the University Research Ethics Committee in 2012/13;
- (ii) That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, subsequently took action to approve the nomination of Mr Lieberg to serve on the University Research Ethics Committee.
- (d) PGR Annual Reports

REPORTED:

That Directors of Graduate Studies had been provided with a list of supervisors within their department who had not yet gained access to e-Vision and those who had gained access but had not yet completed their sections of students' annual report forms, it being emphasised that staff engagement with the Annual Review process in its new format was now crucial.

31/12-13

Chair's Business

- (a) Summer recall of library books from PG students

REPORTED:

That an anomaly existed in the University's policy relating to the vacation recall of library books, allowing undergraduate students to retain books over vacation periods but requiring postgraduate students to return these to the Library upon recall.

CONSIDERED:

Possible recommendations for the policy to be amended to either extend the privilege to all students, or remove it entirely, noting that this would need to be considered by the Information Policy and Strategy Committee.

RECOMMENDED (to the Information Policy and Strategy Committee):

That consideration be given to amending the policy that requires postgraduate students to return books recalled to the Library during vacation periods.

- (b) Fee structures for visiting postgraduate research students from strategic global partner institutions

CONSIDERED:

A proposal to support the waiving of fees for visiting postgraduate research students from strategic global partner institutions, noting that the proposal was regarding institutional rather than individual departmental and research group partnerships.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal be supported in principle, subject to:

- (i) Further consideration being given to the proposal by the Academic Resourcing Committee ;
- (ii) The central service charge being waived where a department hosted a visiting student from an institutional partner for a period exceeding ten weeks;

- (c) Update on Monash-Warwick Joint PhD

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Chair on the progress of the Monash-Warwick Joint PhD.

REPORTED:

- (i) That courses had been approved for the Faculties of Arts and Science, and that the requisite proposals were being finalised by the Faculties of Social Sciences and Medicine;
- (ii) That recruitment to the Joint PhD would commence in January/February 2013.
- (iii) That a website specifically focused on the recruitment of students to the Monash-Warwick Joint PhD would be developed by the Project Officer (Postgraduate Recruitment).

(d) Update on Scholarships Competition Reform

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Chair on the progress of proposed reform to the process of allocating PGR studentships via the Central Scholarship Competition.

REPORTED:

- (i) That engagement with Faculties was currently being undertaken;
- (ii) That a working group consisting of the Chairs of the Faculty Graduate Studies Committees would be established to consider whether the existing structure should remain, or whether it should be devolved to Faculty level;
- (iii) That the recommendations made by the Working Group would be reported back to the Board in time for any changes to be enacted for the academic year 2013-14.

32/12-13 Reports from the Chairs of the Graduate Studies Committees

RECEIVED:

Oral reports from the Chairs of the Graduate Studies Committee.

REPORTED:

(by the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science):

- (a) That the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science had considered PTES data in the areas of assessment and feedback and requested details of practices within Medicine and Social Sciences to enable the Science Faculty to learn from best practice;
- (b) That the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science had discussed the PGR Annual Review process and requested that the Board of Graduate Studies clarify to students that the Review was a progress monitoring tool not an assessment exercise upon which they should expect feedback;
- (c) That the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science requested that the Board of Graduate Studies consider renaming the PGR Annual Review the PGR Annual Report.

(by the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Arts – by correspondence):

- (d) That the Faculty had considered the outcome of PTES and in particular the sections regarding feedback, noting that more detailed investigation of the advertised and actual feedback schedules was being undertaken;

- (e) That the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Arts requested further clarification regarding the 'organisation and management' section of the PTES survey, noting that the meaning was unclear.

33/12-13 Postgraduate Forum and the Students' Union

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Postgraduate Officer.

34/12-13 Progress towards Strategy Targets and Planning Business for 2012/2013

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Chair of the Board discussing the current position on entry requirements for postgraduate study at Warwick.

CONSIDERED:

- (a) Whether the minimum entrance requirement of a 2:2 for postgraduate courses was in-keeping with the message the University wished to convey via its marketing regarding quality of intake, noting that it was inconsistent with the University's approach to admissions at undergraduate level;
- (b) The impact of potentially limiting admission onto postgraduate courses to 2:1 students and the resultant need for special cases being considered for the admission of 2:2 students, including the associated workload that this would generate for the Chair of the Board.

RESOLVED:

That a working group consisting of representatives from each Faculty be established to consider the wider issues surrounding whether the minimum 2:2 entry requirement for postgraduate courses should be raised to a 2:1.

35/12-13 Postgraduate students undertaking undergraduate modules

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Assistant Registrar (Graduate School) proposing an amendment to assessment methods for postgraduate students taking undergraduate modules (paper BGS 24/12-13).

RESOLVED:

That postgraduate students taking undergraduate modules should be assessed against distinct postgraduate assessment methods and learning outcomes, to differentiate them from the way that undergraduates were assessed on the same modules.

RECOMMENDED (to the Academic Quality and Standards Committee):

That the policy relating to postgraduate students taking undergraduate

modules be amended as set out in paper BGS 24/12-13, noting that further consideration would need to be given to whether students would be permitted to take multiple undergraduate modules once clear learning outcomes were set at postgraduate level and that some consideration may need to be given to the administrative implications of setting up modules with differentiated learning outcomes.

36/12-13 Plagiarism cases resulting in an award of a lower degree

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Assistant Registrar (Graduate School) on departmental policy for the referral of plagiarism cases to the Investigating Committee of the Senate (paper BGS 25/12-13).

RECOMMENDED (to the Academic Quality and Standards Committee):

- (a) That where a finding of plagiarism may result in a student not being permitted to resubmit their piece of work, and therefore they may not achieve the award for which they were registered, the student case should be referred to the Investigating Committee of the Senate as standard;
- (b) That whilst acknowledging that referral to the Investigating Committee of the Senate may cause delays in the overall assessment and progression of a student, it was considered that such delays would be acceptable as arising from the University's desire fully to consider student cases where the impact of plagiarism being found could be the award of a lower degree or a decision not to make an award.

37/12-13 External Examiners' Reports

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Assistant Registrar (Graduate School) and the Administrative Officer (Exams) on the non-submission of external examiners' reports (paper BGS 26/12-13).

RESOLVED:

That the Board supported the current policy of terminating the appointment of external examiners where they failed to submit reports relating to the examination of postgraduate taught students in a timely fashion and of withholding any payments, whether for travel expenses or fees, in such cases.

38/12-13 Pass Mark on Taught Postgraduate Courses

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Deputy Academic Registrar proposing the harmonisation of PGT examination conventions governing the award of Master's degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas and Postgraduate Certificates (paper BGS 27/12-13).

RESOLVED:

That the pass mark of 40% for the fourth year of an integrated undergraduate Master's degree be amended to 50%, to bring this in line with the pass mark applied to stand-alone Master's courses with effect from the academic year 2013 for new entrants.

RECOMMENDED (to the Academic Quality and Standards Committee):

That a working group be established with immediate effect to address the harmonisation of postgraduate examination conventions relating to Master's degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas and Postgraduate Certificates, as set out in BGS paper 27/12-13.

39/12-13

Student recruitment from Chinese universities and application deadlines

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Senior Assistant Registrar (Postgraduate Admissions) (paper BGS 28/12-13), on the following areas:

- (a) The breakdown of current students recruited from Chinese universities and the potential impact for the University in limiting recruitment from lower tiers;
- (b) Application deadlines and visa processing times.

REPORTED:

(by the Senior Assistant Registrar (Postgraduate Admissions)):

- (c) That the International Office had ranked Chinese universities into five tiers and advised that the top three tiers included institutions from which the University could confidently make offers of postgraduate study;
- (d) That students from the fourth and fifth tier institutions should receive closer scrutiny from the Chair of the Board before offers were made to them, noting that some fourth tier institutions produced strong students in certain disciplines who could be accepted for study with greater confidence;
- (e) That the University was in the minority amongst Russell Group Universities in not having an application deadline for postgraduate taught students, noting that such a deadline may be regarded as indicative of the quality of the University;
- (f) That an application deadline for all postgraduate taught students would enable the Postgraduate Admissions team to process their applications in a timely manner, enabling further demonstration to external agencies such as the UK Border Agency that full consideration had been given to the student's likelihood of achieving a visa in time for enrolment;
- (g) That a reasonable deadline for international students would be 31 July, to allow the additional time required for visa applications to be made

successfully; and that for EU and home students, a deadline of mid-September would enable the University's decision-making process to be satisfactorily concluded.

(by Dr A Dowd, Academic Director of Graduate Studies, Warwick Manufacturing Group):

- (h) That a number of students had been accepted onto courses at Warwick Manufacturing Group in 2012 subsequent to the deadlines proposed in paper BGS 28/12-13, noting that an application deadline would have a significant impact on student recruitment.

(by the Chair of the Board):

- (i) That whether the introduction of application deadlines would result in the impact discussed by the Academic Director of Graduate Studies, Warwick Manufacturing Group, was difficult to ascertain in the absence of such deadlines being enforced.

RESOLVED:

- (j) That departments would benefit from receiving a greater level of information about the ranking of institutions to assist with department-level decisions regarding admissions, noting that the Senior Assistant Registrar (Postgraduate Admissions) was currently undertaking conversations that may enable this functionality to be developed within the admissions platform;
- (k) That the Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies would consider special cases for admission to the University from those students applying from universities categorised within the list Tier 5 list of institutions;
- (l) That in light of the range of views regarding the merits of setting a deadline for postgraduate applications, Board members should be invited to vote on the issue by correspondence, noting that a conclusive view could not be reached in the absence of a large number of Board members.

40/12-13 Review of course approval process

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Assistant Registrar (Teaching Quality) and Senior Assistant Registrar (Teaching Quality) on the on-going review of course approval processes (paper AQSC.24/12-13).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Board was supportive of the proposed course approval process, as set out in paper AQSC.24/12-13, noting that any measures which avoided duplication and could speed up the overall course proposal process would be welcomed;

- (b) That learning outcomes included within course proposal paperwork should be used when marketing courses to potential applicants.

41/12-13 Risk Assessment

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Senior Assistant Registrar (Governance and Risk) on risk identification and assessment within the scope of the Board's Terms of Reference (paper BGS 29/12-13).

RESOLVED:

That the Board was content with the current risk statuses identified in paper BGS 29/12-13.

42/12-13 Warwick Student Community Statement, (Minute 106/11-12 referred)

RECEIVED:

The finalised Warwick Student Community Statement, approved by the Senate/Vice-Chancellor (paper AQSC.101(revised 3)/11-12).

43/12-13 Learning & Teaching Strategy, (Minute 107/11-12 referred)

RECEIVED:

The finalised University Learning & Teaching Strategy for 2012-2017 (paper S.3/12-13).

44/12-13 Ramadan and Postgraduate Taught Examinations

RECEIVED:

A paper from the Assistant Registrar (Examinations) on the potential implication of Ramadan coinciding with standard University examination periods (paper BGS 30/12-13).

45/12-13 Student Assignment Management: Electronic Plagiarism Declaration

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Chair of the Board of Undergraduate Studies on a proposed Electronic Plagiarism Declaration for student assignment management (paper BGS 31/12-13).

REPORTED:

- (a) That a declaration of compliance with University rules on cheating and plagiarism, applicable to all departments and assignments, for completion by students submitting work electronically was in the process of being drawn up;

- (b) That a Working Group be established to prepare a draft for subsequent

approval by the Board, ideally including members of the Board.

RESOLVED:

- (c) That the Board was supportive of the creation of a University-wide declaration of compliance with the University rules on cheating and plagiarism;
- (d) That Dr A Dowd and Ms J Cooper volunteered to be members of the Working Group;
- (e) That the wording of the current draft be amended to state '...cheating in a University test *as described in...*' rather than '*contrary to*', recognising that the draft declaration would be subject to further amendment by the Working Group.

46/12-13

New Course Proposal

Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies

MA Digital Studies

TO CONSIDER:

A proposal from the Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies to introduce an 'MA Digital Studies', comprising;

- (a) Course proposal form (paper BGS 32/12-13);
- (b) Part two of course proposal form (academic fees and resources) (paper BGS 33/12-13);
- (c) Course specification (BGS 34/12-13);
- (d) Exam Board conventions (BGS 35/12-13);
- (e) Memo from Director of Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies (BGS 36/12-13);
- (f) Letter of support (BGS 37/12-13).

RESOLVED:

That the proposal be approved in principle, noting the following:

- (g) That consultation would be required with other departments within the University regarding existing provision of modules that could be utilised with this course;
- (h) That there needed to be a clearer sense of the type of students the course may attract and how the course would compare to other, similar offerings at other Universities, both in the UK and internationally;
- (i) That further thought needed to be given to the title of the course and how best this could accurately reflect its content, noting that 'digital' should be clarified to ensure that this translates meaningfully within the proposed Asian market ;

- (j) That consideration be given to assigning a nominal credit value to the proposed un-assessed core Research Lab module, to ensure that this was undertaken by students.

47/12-13 Chair's Action

RECEIVED:

A report on items approved by the Chair on behalf of the Board (paper BGS 38/12-13) as follows:

(a) Faculty of Science

(i) Politics and International Studies

Revision of MA in Globalisation and Development and
MA in Politics

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that a proposal to change the title of 'MA in Globalisation and Development' to 'MA in International Development' and the title of 'MA in Politics' to 'MA in Research in Politics and International Studies', as set out in paper GFSS 19/12-13, be approved.

REPORTED:

That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, has taken action to approve the proposal to revise the change the title of 'MA in Globalisation and Development' to 'MA in International Development' and the title of 'MA in Politics' to 'MA in Research in Politics and International Studies', as set out in paper GFSS 19/12-13 (available online).

(ii) MOAC DTC

Postgraduate Certificate in Transferable Skills in Science for
Postdoctoral Researchers

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting at its meeting on 24 November 2011, the Board considered a proposal from MOAC DTC to introduce a new course entitled 'Postgraduate Certificate in Transferable Skills in Science for Postdoctoral Researchers', as set out in paper SGS 4/11-12, and resolved that the proposal be approved, subject to clarification from the course leader about the relationship with the existing course, projected numbers and associated funding model.

That clarification regarding the relationship with the existing course, projected numbers and associated funding model has been received and that the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, has subsequently taken action to approve the introduction of the Postgraduate Certificate in Transferable Skills in Science for Postdoctoral Researchers.

(b) Faculty of Social Sciences

School of Health and Social Studies

Entry requirement for the MA in Social Work

REPORTED:

That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, has taken action to approve the entry requirement for the MA in Social Work being amended so that it is in line with the national entry requirement of a 2.1, as opposed to a 2.2.

48/12-13 New course proposals

A paper setting out recommendations for the approval of new courses (paper BGS 39/12-13), as follows:

(a) Faculty of Science

(i) Warwick Manufacturing Group

Postgraduate Certificate in Industrial Research and Technology Management

REPORTED:

(A) That, at its meeting on 30 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science recommended that the proposal for a Postgraduate Certificate in Industrial Research and Technology Management to be delivered in collaboration with Yildiz Technical University and its associated TechnoPark in Turkey, as set out in papers SGS.8-10/12-13, be approved;

(B) That, at its meeting on 30 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science recommended that the proposal that the WMG MSc Exam Board Guidelines be revised, as set out in paper SGS.18/12-13, be approved, noting the statement for the convention on remedying failure especially in relation to projects are consistent with the spirit of the University's guidelines.

CONSIDERED:

- (C) The proposal for a Postgraduate Certificate in Industrial Research and Technology Management to be delivered in collaboration with Yildiz Technical University and its associated TechnoPark in Turkey, as set out in as set out in papers SGS.8-10/12-13;

RESOLVED:

That the proposal be approved, subject to clarification of non-standard entry requirements and evidence of consultation with Finance regarding the fee structure.

- (D) The proposal that the WMG MSc Exam Board Guidelines be revised, as set out in paper SGS.18/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal be approved, subject to correction of the pass mark for the Postgraduate Diploma and removal of the convention allowing a standard recorded mark of 45.

(ii) School of Life Sciences

(A) MSc Integrative Bioscience and Business

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 30 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science recommended that the proposal to introduce a new MSc in Integrative Bioscience and Business, as set out in papers SGS.11-13/12-13, be approved, subject to:

- (1) Postgraduate diploma (120 credits) and postgraduate certificate (60 credits) being added to the box on page 6 of the Course Proposals, SGS.11/12-13;
- (2) Page 10 of the Course Proposals, SGS.11/12-13, being updated to state less than 5%, rather than more than 5%;
- (3) An option being added for a postgraduate award;
- (4) The School of Life Sciences considering whether to change the statement on remedying failure in the Exam Conventions SGS.13/12-13.

That the School of Life Sciences subsequently made the above amendments to the proposal.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to introduce a new MSc in Integrative Bioscience and Business, as set out in papers SGS.11-13/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved, subject to clarification of the length of the Postgraduate Diploma /Certificate when gained as an exit qualification and receipt of positive external evaluation.

(B) MSc.Integrative.Bioscience

REPORTED:

That at its meeting on 30 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science recommended that the proposal to introduce a new MSc in Integrative Bioscience, as set out in papers SGS 14-16/12-13, be approved, subject to:

- (1) Postgraduate diploma (120 credits) and postgraduate certificate (60 credits) being added to the box on page 6 of the Course Proposals, SGS.14/12-13;
- (2) Page 10 of the Course Proposals, SGS.14/12-13, being updated to state less than 5%, rather than more than 5%;
- (3) An option being added for a postgraduate award;
- (4) That the School of Life Sciences considering whether to change the statement on remedying failure in the Exam Conventions SGS.16/12-13.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to introduce a new MSc in Integrative Bioscience, as set out in papers SGS.14-16/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved, subject to clarification of the length of the Postgraduate Diploma /Certificate when gained as an exit qualification and receipt of positive external evaluation.

(iii) Department of Psychology

MSc.in.Psychological.Research

REPORTED:

That at its meeting on 30 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science recommended that the proposal to introduce a new MSc in Psychological Research, as set out in paper SGS.17/12-13, be approved, subject to:

- (A) The Department of Psychology checking whether 30 taught credits are sufficient for a taught Master's programme;
- (B) The submission of Exam Conventions and external opinion for the Chair's approval.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to introduce a new MSc in Psychological Research, as set out in paper SGS.17/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved, subject to confirmation that any Undergraduate option taken will be assessed at Master's level with Master's level outcomes.

(iv) Faculty of Science

Joint Warwick/Monash PhD

REPORTED:

That the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty of Science, acting on its behalf, took action to approve the proposal to introduce a new Joint Warwick/Monash PhD, as set out in papers BGS 42-44/12-13.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to introduce a new Joint Warwick/Monash PhD, as set out in papers BGS 42-44/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

(b) Faculty of Social Sciences

(i) Politics and International Studies

MA in Political and Legal Theory

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that the proposal to introduce a new course entitled 'MA in Political and Legal Theory, as set out in papers GFSS 171/11-12 (revised), GFSS 172-174/11-12 and GFSS 175/11-12 (revised), be approved.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal from Politics and International Studies to introduce a new course entitled 'MA in Political and Legal Theory' as set out in papers GFSS 171/11-12 (revised), GFSS 172-174/11-12 and GFSS 175/11-12 (revised).

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved, subject to correction of the Postgraduate Diploma pass mark in the conventions.

(ii) Institute of Education and Centre for Applied Linguistics

MA in Drama Education and English Language Teaching

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that the proposal to introduce a new course entitled 'MA in Drama Education and English Language Teaching' as set out in papers GFSS 12a-e/12-13, be approved, subject to clarification of the full-time and part-time course lengths;

CONSIDERED:

The proposal from the Institute of Education and Centre for Applied Linguistics to introduce a new course entitled 'MA in Drama Education and English Language Teaching' as set out in papers GFSS 12a-e/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

(iii) Centre for Applied Linguistics

Accredited Prior Learning for MA in English Language Teaching

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social

Sciences recommended that the proposal to introduce a new APL exemption for MA in English Language Teaching students with DELTA qualifications, as set out in papers GFSS 7a-d/12-13, be approved, subject to the receipt of revised documentation clarifying the number of exempt modules and their credit weighting.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal from the Centre for Applied Linguistics to introduce a new APL exemption for MA in English Language Teaching students with DELTA qualifications, as set out in papers GFSS 7a-d/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved, subject to consultation with Postgraduate Admissions.

(iv) Economics

~~Master by Research/PhD in Economics~~

REPORTED:

(A) That at its meeting on 10 October 2012, the Board of Graduate Studies recommended that the proposal from the Department of Economics to introduce a Master of Research (MRes) in Economics, as set out in paper BGS 23/12-13, be approved in principle, noting the following:

- (1) That there needed to be clarification on the fees structure, which would be considered by the Academic Activities Sub-Committee;
- (2) That there was concern expressed regarding the intention to hold three taught modules over two terms, noting that a model of a Postgraduate Diploma rather than Taught Masters qualification may be more appropriate in the circumstances;
- (3) That the award of lower qualifications should be included at the progression exam board;
- (4) That the University's pass mark for Postgraduate Taught programmes is 50% and the taught components of the MRes should be amended in line with this policy.

(B) That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences considered the proposal to introduce a Master of Research (MRes) in

Economics, as set out in GFSS 46-47/12-13, noting that:

- (1) the Economics 2-year Master by Research course was a benchmark for the highest quality of Economics research training internationally;
 - (2) That the proposal represented an innovative approach designed to accommodate discipline-specific requirements;
 - (3) That the proposal was undergoing further review and would be ready for full scrutiny later in the autumn term;
 - (4) That, given the novel nature of the course proposal, it was proposed that a sub-group of the Committee be established to review the finalised proposal to facilitate timely conclusion of the approval process.
- (C) That the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences resolved that the Department of Economics be invited to submit a revised proposal for consideration by a sub-group of the Committee;
- (D) That the sub-group of the Committee considered the proposal and made the following suggestions:
- (1) That the credit attached to the dissertation be increased to 60;
 - (2) That students only be permitted to remedy failure in up to 1/2 of the total credit in line with the University Policy on Remedying Failure at PGT Level.
- (E) That the Department of Economics agreed to the suggestions of the sub-group of the Committee and subsequently the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences, acting on its behalf, has now taken action to recommend the Master of Research (MRes) in Economics to BGS for approval.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to introduce a Master of Research (MRes) in Economics, as set out in GFSS 46-47/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

A paper setting out recommendations for the approval of revisions to existing courses (paper BGS 40/12-13), as follows:

(a) Faculty of Arts

Centre for the Study of the Renaissance

MA in The Culture of the European Renaissance

REPORTED:

- (i) That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Arts recommended that the proposal to revise the 'MA in The Culture of the European Renaissance', as set out in papers AGSC 9 a-d/12-13, be approved, subject to the removal or amendment of the 30 CAT 'Renaissance Rivalries' module from the Course Structure section, as this is in fact only available as a 15 CAT module;
- (ii) That the removal the 30 CAT 'Renaissance Rivalries' module from the Course Structure section was subsequently agreed and that the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty of Arts, acting on its behalf, took action to recommend that the proposal to revise the 'MA in The Culture of the European Renaissance', as set out in papers AGSC 9 a-d/12-13, be approved.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to revise the 'MA in The Culture of the European Renaissance', as set out in papers AGSC 9 a-d/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved, subject to the provision of the course structure outline for part time students.

(b) Faculty of Medicine

MSc Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 24 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine recommended that the proposal to revise the MSc Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery, as set out in paper M&CPD SC 01/12-13 revised, be approved.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to revise the MSc Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery as set out in paper M&CPD SC 01/12-13 revised.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

(c) Faculty of Social Sciences

(i) School of Health and Social Studies

(A) MA in Social Work

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that the proposal to revise the MA in Social Work as set out in the papers GFSS 5a-d/12-13 be approved, subject to:

- (1) The receipt of an update course specification with the new accrediting body;
- (2) The clarification of the nature of the self-evaluation reports used in year 1 and 2 of the course, noting that there would be a significant quality issues if self-evaluated work contributed to M-level credit;

noting that an updated course specification would be submitted for approval as soon as Teaching Quality had added the HCPC as an accrediting body to the list available on the course specification database.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to revise the MA in Social Work as set out in the papers GFSS 5a-d/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved

(B) Post Graduate Taught examination conventions

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that a proposal to change the examination conventions of the School of Health and Social Studies, as set out in paper GFSS 14/12-13, be approved, subject to the receipt of the full version of examination conventions, amended to align with the University policy on

remedying failure at postgraduate taught level.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal to change the examination conventions of the School of Health and Social Studies, as set out in paper GFSS 14/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

(ii) Institute of Education

(A) Secondary PGCE English with Drama/MA Educational Innovation

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that a proposal to change the name of the Secondary PGCE English with Drama /MA Educational Innovation to Secondary PGCE English with Drama for Creative Learning/MA Educational Innovation, as set out in papers GFSS 6/12-13 and GFSS 16/12-13, be approved.

CONSIDERED:

The proposal from the Institute of Education to change the name of the Secondary PGCE English with Drama /MA Educational Innovation to Secondary PGCE English with Drama for Creative Learning/MA Educational Innovation as set out in papers GFSS 6/12-13 and GFSS 16/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

(B) MA in Advanced Teaching of Shakespeare

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that a proposal for the additional course entry routes onto the MA in Advanced Teaching of Shakespeare as set out in paper GFSS 8/12-13, be approved, subject to:

- (1) Clarification in the course specification and examination conventions of whether completion of the Postgraduate Award was a pre-requisite to progression on to the MA;

(2) Clarification of the right of students to resubmit.

CONSIDERED:

A proposal from the Institute of Education for the additional course entry routes onto the MA in Advanced Teaching of Shakespeare as set out in paper GFSS 8/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

~~(C) PGCE Primary (2-year part-time variant)~~

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that a proposal to discontinue the 2-year variant PGCE (Primary) as set out in paper GFSS 15/12-13, be approved.

CONSIDERED:

A proposal from the Institute of Education to discontinue the 2-year variant PGCE (Primary) as set out in paper GFSS 15/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

(iii) Philosophy

~~MA/Diploma in Philosophy and MA in Continental Philosophy~~

TO REPORT:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences recommended that a proposal to revise the examination conventions for the MA and Diploma in Philosophy and the MA in Continental Philosophy as set out in papers GFSS 18a-d/12-13 be approved, subject to:

(A) The receipt of revised examination conventions stating the appropriate pass mark for the Diploma;

(B) The receipt of revised examination conventions for the MA aligned with the University Policy on remedying failure at PGT level, and revised criteria for the award of Merit.

CONSIDERED:

A proposal from the Philosophy Department to revise the examination conventions for the MA and Diploma in Philosophy and the MA in Continental Philosophy, as set out in papers GFSS 18a-d/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved, subject to conditions set by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences.

(c) Faculty of Science

MSc in Digital Healthcare

TO REPORT:

That, at its meeting on 30 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Science recommended that a proposal to revise the MSc in Digital Healthcare, as set out in paper SGS.7/12-13, be approved.

TO CONSIDER:

A proposal to revise the MSc in Digital Healthcare, as set out in paper SGS.7/12-13.

RESOLVED:

That this proposal be approved.

50/12-13 Postgraduate Awards

RECEIVED:

A list of approved Postgraduate Awards (paper BGS 41/12-13) as follows:

Faculty of Social Sciences

REPORTED:

That, at its meeting on 23 October 2012, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences approved proposals to introduce the following new Postgraduate Awards (draft unconfirmed minute GFSS 14/12-13 refers):

- (i) Postgraduate Award in Working Therapeutically with Children and Young People;
- (ii) Postgraduate Award in Work Experience in Higher Education.

51/12-13 Any Other Business

Graduate School Strategic Plan

RECEIVED:

A draft version of the Graduate School Strategic Plan from the Deputy Academic Registrar (paper BGS 45/12-13).

52/12-13 Next meeting

REPORTED:

That the next meeting of the Board would be **Tuesday 15 January 2013** at 9.30am in the Council Chamber, University House

DP/KW 22.11.12

Records & Finance/BGS/2012-13/2012.11.22/BGS MINUTES November 12