

Faculty of Engineering & Design

Meeting: FACULTY BOARD OF STUDIES

Date and Time: Wednesday 16 April 2014 at 2.15 pm

Venue: 2 East 3.4

Present:

Dr Andrew Heath(Chair)	AH	Associate Dean, Learning & Teaching
Dr Tom Arnot	TCA	Dept of Chemical Engineering
Dr Ivan Astin	IA	Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
Dr Jos Darling	JD	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
Dr Marianne Ellis	ME	Dept of Chemical Engineering
Dr Adrian Evans	AE	Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
Dr Mark Evernden	ME	Dept of Architecture & Civil Engineering
Mr Peter Hachfeld	PH	Education Officer, Students' Union
Dr Nigel Johnston	NJ	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
Dr Tim Mays	TJM	Dept of Chemical Engineering
Dr Peter Shepherd	PS	Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
Mr David Stacey	DS	Faculty Librarian
Professor Pete Walker	PW	Dept of Architecture & Civil Engineering
Mr Matthew Wickens	MRW	Dept of Architecture & Civil Engineering
Dr Mike Wilson	MAW	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
Mr Manoj Yaji	MY	PGT Rep (Dept of Arch & Civil Eng)

In Attendance: Mrs Rachel Summers RS2 Faculty Assistant Registrar

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Ms Ruth Burdett, Mr Elliott Campbell, Dr Steve Cayzer, Prof Gary Hawley , Prof Tim Ibell, Mr Sahand Malek, Dr Marcelle McManus, Prof Tony Miles, Mrs Jane Phippen and Prof Rob Scheichl

ACTION

770 APOLOGIES

Apologies as detailed above were noted.

771 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (FE2013-14/101)

The unreserved minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies held on 26 February 2014 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings subject to a minor correction to minute 750d). There were no matters arising from the minutes.

772 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

The Chair advised that Dr Sally Cliff had been appointed to the position of Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, replacing Professor Ibell who has moved to the role of Associate Dean for Research.

773 REGULATION 16 – CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS (FE2013-14/103)

The Board considered proposals for amendments to Regulation 16 'Admissions Regulations and Conditions for the Award of Higher Degrees' sections 16.1, 16.2 and 16.5. Regulation 16 covers students registered for postgraduate taught programmes or research degrees and the amendments detailed in the proposal seek to clarify those aspects of the Regulations which apply specifically to students undertaking higher degrees by research and similarly those which apply to students on postgraduate taught programmes. The Board noted that the Faculty Graduate School Committee had not yet had the opportunity to review and comment on the proposals and the Board requested that the Grad School Committee consider the paper and also provide feedback to Registry. The Board noted the following,

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- a) Point 2.6 of the supporting paper refers to 'occasions on which it is appropriate not to permit a second attempt'. Student representatives on the Board felt that it would have been helpful if additional detail or examples of the nature and type of 'occasions' when a student would not be permitted a second attempt had been included in the paper.
- b) Proposed changes to 16.5 b i) and ii) which have the effect of limiting the number of attempts at transfer /confirmation to a maximum of *two*. Members of the Board felt that in order to be consistent with the inclusion of 'normally' in the preceding sentence 'Candidates shall normally be permitted to seek transfer from MPhil to PhD on two occasions', the succeeding sentence should also include a normally e.g. '*A third attempt will not normally be permitted*'.
- c) The Board found it difficult to evaluate the impact of the proposed change to the wording in 16.5b i) and ii) with respect to the range of recommendations available to the Board of Examiners following a first attempt at transfer/confirmation. It was not clear what situations the use of the word 'exceptionally' was meant to cover? It was also unclear, as a consequence of this re-wording, whether recommendations 3 and 4 would remain available to the Board of Examiners following a second attempt.

774 ACCREDITATION SUB-COMMITTEE (FE2013-14/104)

The Board noted the revised membership of the Faculty Accreditation Sub-Committee for 2013/14 as detailed in paper FE2013-14/104.

775 FACULTY LEARNING TEACHING & QUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2013-14/107)

The unreserved minutes of the Faculty Learning Teaching & Quality Committee meeting held on 5 February 2014 were received and noted.

776 FACULTY GRADUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2013-14/109)

The unreserved (unconfirmed) minutes of the Faculty Graduate School Committee meeting held on 18 March 2014 were received and noted.

777 FACULTY RESEARCH STUDENTS COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2013-14/110)

The unreserved (unconfirmed) minutes of the Faculty Research Students Committee meeting held on 18 March 2014 were received and noted.

778 REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATE DEANS & DEPARTMENTS

a) Professor Walker (HoD Architecture & Civil Engineering) reported that Monika Grusova, a PhD student in the Dept. had won second prize at the Young Researchers' Conference 2014, hosted by the Institution of Structural Engineers. The Department's bid for CDT funding in the area of decarbonisation of the built environment had not been selected for EPSRC funding however the Department still plans to develop its activities/provision in this area. Professor Walker was pleased to report that Dr. Julianna Holley has been appointed as a Lecturer in Architecture (starting 1 May).

b) Dr Wilson (Mech Eng) reported that Dr Alicia Kim had been awarded a 5 year EPSRC Fellowship worth approximately £1.2m.

c) Dr Evans (HoD Electronic & Electrical Eng) reported that, along with other colleagues from the Faculty, he will be joining the University's delegation to CERN later this month. The Faculty already has established links with CERN (a number of placement students have already benefitted from opportunities at CERN) and as part of the visit the two parties will formally sign off a collaborative research project in the field of tomography and imaging, which will be led by Dr Manuchehr Soleimani.

d) Dr Mays (HoD Chem Eng) was pleased to report that the Dept. has been awarded an EPSRC SUPERGEN Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Challenge grant of approx. £925K due to start in May. Dr Mays is the PI and he will be working with Professor Chris Bowen & Dr Alicia Kim (Mechanical Engineering) and Dr Andy Burrows (Chemistry). The project will employ three PDRAs (one each in Mech Eng, Chem Eng, and Chemistry) and benefits from a £45k contribution from an industrial partner, EPL Composite Solutions Ltd, Loughborough, as well as a three-year Large Grant URS to start in October. The Department has also recently appointed a new Professor of Chemical Engineering, Dr Tina Düren, who will join the Dept. in August.

e) Dr Heath (Associate Dean Learning & Teaching) reported that the latest data from the 2014 National Student Survey (NSS) indicated that response rates in a number of programmes in the Faculty were still below the 50% completion or at least 10 students threshold, particularly for smaller cohort programmes.

779 STAFF STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEES (FE2013-14/111-115)

The Board received the minutes of Departmental and Graduate School Staff Student Liaison Committee meetings as follows;

- i) Arch & Civil Eng SSLC meeting of 26 November 2013
- ii) Chem Eng SSLC meetings of 29 November 2013 and 28 February 2014
- iii) Elec Eng SSLC meeting of 4 December 2013
- iv) Mech Eng SSLC meetings of 3 December 2013 and 25 February 2014
- v) Graduate School SSLC meetings of 3 December 2013 and 19 February 2014

780 LIBRARY MATTERS

Mr Stacey reported on the following matters,

- a) Images of the Faculty's research are in the process of being displayed on the 3rd floor of the library.
- b) The normal loan arrangements for University vacation periods are in operation for the Easter holidays.
- c) Katie Evans (Research Analytics Librarian) has attended various Departmental and Faculty fora to brief colleagues on SCIVAL.

781 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items of business and therefore the Board moved onto white FOIA business.