

Faculty of Engineering & Design

Meeting: FACULTY BOARD OF STUDIES
Date and Time: Wednesday 11 October 2017 at 3.30 pm
Venue: 2 East 3.4

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| Present: | Dr Sally Clift (Acting Chair) | Dept. of Mechanical Eng, Director of Doctoral Studies |
| Engineering | Dr Chris Clarke | Dept. of Electronic & Electrical |
| | Dr Andrew Cookson | Dept. of Mechanical Eng. |
| | Dr Jos Darling | Dept. of Mechanical Eng. |
| | Prof. Stephen Emmitt | Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering |
| | Dr Adrian Evans | Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering |
| | Dr Jeff Gavin | Dept of Psychology |
| | Dr Vaggelis Giannikas | School of Management |
| | Prof. Gary Lock | Dept. of Mechanical Engineering |
| | Prof Tim Mays | Dept. of Chemical Engineering |
| | Ms Chloe Page | Students' Union Officer |
| | Mr Robert Tyrrell | UG Student Rep (IMEE) |
| | Dr Mike Wilson | Dept of Mechanical Engineering |
| | Mr Daniel Wong | Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering |
| In Attendance: | Mrs Rachel Summers | Faculty Assistant Registrar |
| Apologies: | Apologies for absence were received from Dr Florin Bisset, Dr Kirill Cherednichenko, Dr John Chew, Dr Alex Copping, Dr Marianne Ellis, Prof Gary Hawley, Prof. Davide Mattia, Dr Marcelle McManus, Mr David Stacey. | |

ACTION

1393 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed student representatives to the Board. Apologies as detailed above were noted.

1394 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (FE2017-18/009)

The unreserved minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies held on 24 May 2017 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings.

1395 CHAIR'S ACTION

The Board noted Chair's actions as detailed in paper FE2017-18/011.

1396 VACATION AND CHAIR'S POWERS (FE207-18/013)

APPROVED: Powers for the Dean to take Chair's Action on behalf of the Board and vacation powers for the Dean during the 2017-18 academic year.

1397 BOARD OF STUDIES MEMBERSHIP (FE2017-18/014)

The Board noted the Board of Studies membership for 2017-18. The Students' Union is currently finalising the election of a postgraduate taught (PGT) student representative it is hoped s/he will be able to attend the next meeting of the Board.

1398 FACULTY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2017-18 (FE2017-18/015)

The Board noted the composition and membership of Faculty Committees as detailed in paper FE2017-18/015.

1399 FACULTY LEARNING TEACHING & QUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2017-18/017)

The unreserved minutes of the Faculty Learning Teaching & Quality Committee meeting held on 3 May 2017 were received and noted.

1400 FACULTY RESEARCH STUDENTS COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2017-18/020)

The unreserved minutes of the Faculty Research Students Committee meeting held on 7 June 2017 were received and noted.

1401 FACULTY GRADUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2017-18/021)

The unreserved minutes of the Faculty Graduate School Committee meeting held on 10 May 2017 were received and noted.

1402 BOARD OF STUDIES (DOCTORAL) MINUTES (FE2017-18/022)

The unreserved minutes of the Board of Studies (Doctoral) meeting held on 6 September 2017 were received and noted.

1403 REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATE DEANS & DEPARTMENTS

- a) Prof Tim Mays (HoD Chemical Engineering) reported that Dr Jannis Wenk and Dr Carmelo Hertdes had successfully completed probation and two new academic staff had recently joined the Department - Dr Bernardo Castro Dominguez (Lecturer) and Dr Eleni Sikou (Teaching Fellow). With regard to recent Research successes he was pleased to report that Prof Davide Mattia had been awarded a five year EPSRC Established Career Fellowship worth

1.3 million and Prof Jan Hofman is part of the successful GW4 bid for NERC CDT funding. Prof Mays reported that both UG and PGT overall admissions targets had been met and particular thanks went to Dr Caroline McFarlane regarding the latter. Whilst the Dept. had recruited 15 new PGR students Prof. Mays suggested that this was below the level they would hope to achieve, which should be in the region of 25 new PGR each year (i.e. about 1 per academic per annum). The Dept. had not performed as well as previous years in recently published league tables and is currently looking at the metrics to identify areas for particular attention going forward. He noted that NSS results had also been less positive than in previous cycles. Prof May congratulated recent graduate Annabel O'Fee, who had been awarded a Salters' Graduate Prize. He was also pleased to report that the £150k absorption equipment had now been installed in the 9 West teaching labs.

- b) Prof Stephen Emmitt (HoD Architecture & Civil Engineering) was pleased to report excellent results in recently announced national league tables with Architecture placed first and Civil fourth in the Times Higher league table. Both UG and PGT student numbers were positive, in particular on the MSc in Modern Building Design which had a new cohort of 39 students (double previous intake). The Dept. currently has 3 civil eng vacancies with interviews scheduled for later this month; recruitment is also underway for 2 Professorial positions.
- c) Professor Gary Lock (HoD Mechanical Engineering) reported the very sad news of the death of Dr Robert Allen (Post Doc Research Associate) in a fishing accident. A memorial service will be held later this semester. In the recently published Sunday Times league table mechanical engineering had been placed 4th behind Cambridge, Imperial & Bristol – aero and manufacturing had similarly strong placings. The Dept. had met UG admissions targets and had a particularly strong performance for the MSc in Automotive Engineering – an intake of 44 compared to 18 in 2016. In staff news Dr Alan Hunter had successfully completed probation; Dr HaNa Yu from Bristol had joined the Department as a new Lecturer in Future Manufacturing Engineering on 1 October and Dr Jeremy Bonvoisin had been appointed as a Lecturer in Design and Innovation (due to start on 1 March 2018). A range of other academic posts are currently out to advert and interviews for an investment Chair are scheduled to take place in November. In Research news, Professor Linda Newnes (PI) had been awarded an EPSRC platform grant of £1.3 million, and Dr Evripides Loukaides had secured an award of £145k as part of an industrial consortium for UIK funding. Professor Andrew Plummer was congratulated on being made a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA) via the experiential route.
- d) Dr Adrian Evans (HoD Electronic & Electrical Eng.) was pleased to report that the Department's new MSc programme in Electronic Systems Design had recruited well in its first year (10 students). UG student numbers had also held up and the additional IMEE numbers had been filled with well qualified students. The Department had achieved the best results across the University in the NSS (96.75% satisfaction) and had been placed 11th in the Sunday Times Guide. PAPAC and Senate had approved the new UG Robotics programme and paperwork for the new MSc in Robotics and Autonomous Systems is expected to be submitted to PAPAC in November. Looking ahead to the next recruitment cycle Dr Evans expressed concern that the Dept. was unable to make UCAS offers and hold applicant visit days as the University had not yet agreed the Fees for 18/19. In Research news, Professor Mitchell had been awarded a NERC award of £648k.

- e) Dr Sally Clift (Faculty Director of Doctoral Studies) reported that URSA and EPSRC DTA studentship allocations for this year would be released shortly. It was hoped that the URSA allocation would be similar to previous cycles (around 15 awards). Early Career Researchers (ECRs), will again be prioritised but this will be challenging given the number of eligible ECRs and the limited number of studentships available. Two students previously allocated URSA studentships for 2017 entry had withdrawn at a late stage and Dr Clift had organised a mini competition to reallocate the awards. Actions plans in respect of the recent PRES results were in hand and Dr Clift thanked PGR Directors of Study for their input to this process.

1404 LIBRARY MATTERS

There were no library matters to report.

1405 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items of business