

Faculty of Engineering & Design

Meeting: FACULTY BOARD OF STUDIES

Date and Time: Wednesday 24 March 2021 at 2.15 p.m.

Venue: Via TEAMS

Present:

Professor Gary Hawley	Dean (<i>Chair</i>)
Professor John Chew	Dept. of Chemical Engineering
Dr Sally Clift	Associate Dean (International)
Dr Marianne Ellis	Dept. of Chemical Eng.
Prof. Stephen Emmitt	Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering
Dr Adrian Evans	Dept. of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
Dr Sabina Gheduzzi	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering
Dr Vaggelis Giannikas	School of Management
Dr Tristan Kershaw	Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering
Prof. Gary Lock	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering
Dr Francis Robinson	Dept. of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
Mr David Stacey	Faculty Librarian
Dr Mike Wilson	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

In Attendance: Mrs Rachel Summers Faculty Assistant Registrar (Secretary)

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Dr Kirill Cherednichenko, Dr Jos Darling, Dr Marion Harney, Dr Carmelo Herdes Moreno, Prof. Tim Ibell, Dr Nigel Johnston, Ms Simmi Kansagra, Prof. Davide Mattia and Mr Tom Sawko.

1927 APOLOGIES & DECLARATION OF INTERESTS ACTION

Apologies as detailed above were noted. The Chair asked for any declarations of interest which were not going to be declared during subsequent discussions. There were none

1928 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (FE2020-21/084)

The unreserved minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies held on 24 February 2021 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings. There were no matters arising

1929 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

The Chair congratulated Dr Clift on her appointment as Associate Dean (International). Dr Nigel Johnston had been appointed to the role of Director of Doctoral Studies for the Faculty and had been co-opted to the Board of Studies.

1930 CLOSURE OF FACULTY RESEARCH CENTRE (FE2020-21/085)

APPROVED: On the recommendation of the Faculty Research Committee, the closure of the Powertrain & Vehicle Research Centre, Department of Mechanical Engineering. The Board noted that the research activities of the PVRC had been superseded by IAAPS.

1931 REPORT FROM STUDENTS' UNION / STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Secretary's Post-meeting note: Mr Sawko (SU Officer) provided a brief report on the following items

1. Elections for Faculty Student Representatives for the 2021/22 academic year had been held. Ms Francesca Marchetti (MEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering with Manufacturing & Management) and Ms Mansi Ahuja (MEng (Hons) Electrical & Electronic Engineering) had been elected.
2. Plans for the return of students to campus. Students were very much looking forward to the return of outdoor sports from the 29th March, which would provide really valuable opportunities for in-person interaction.
3. The SU's monthly survey of student wellbeing showed improvement in the general student mood in February but students were still worried about the lack of opportunities to meet people and try new things, plus continued concerns about future employability and disrupted sleep patterns/habits.

1932 REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATE DEANS & DEPARTMENTS

- a) Professor Ibell (Associate Dean L&T) had provided an update on the following (shared with the Board via the Teams chat function)
 - i. Week 4 survey 'you said, we did' responses from departments will go out by 12 April.
 - ii. Skills gaps for incoming first years in 2021/22: We are working with the Skills Centre to come up with various ideas for how we might plug skills (subject-specific and generic study skills) before the start of next academic year - also for second years!
 - iii. Our Faculty has chosen all its exams to be 24 hours in length in semester 2.
 - iv. An online extension-request system is being trialled - Mech and Elec have signed up to it.
 - v. Departments are presently filling in the template for next academic year (due by the end of March), which provides information about how the three areas of the Bath Blend will be combined.
 - vi. FLTQC received two CT MSc proposals recently (MSc in Environmental Engineering, and a suite of MSc programmes related to auto). Both were excellent, and FLTQC enthusiastically preliminarily approved both subject to various minor changes which need to be made.
 - vii. Decolonising the Curriculum gathers pace, brilliantly. There is a University-wide event on Thursday, partly hosted by Decolonise Architecture, and student reps in EEE are wanting to create a BAME Engineers Society. These initiatives deserve our strongest support.
- b) Prof Stephen Emmitt (HoD Architecture & Civil Engineering) had no business to report.
- c) Dr Adrian Evans (HoD Electronic & Electrical Eng.) was pleased to report that Dr Martin Fullekrug had been awarded £177k for a 24 months EU Horizon 2020 Marie

Skłodowska-Curie award, with collaborators the British Antarctic Survey UK, the Institute of Atmospheric Science of the Czech Republic and the University of Bergen.

- d) Prof Gary Lock (HoD Mechanical Engineering) advised that the re-opening of teaching labs had been successful and well received by students (especially finalists).
- e) Dr Marianne Ellis (HoD Chemical Engineering) advised that the Department had been awarded five Sustainable Technologies Business Acceleration Hub Awards (STBAH).
- f) Dr Sally Clift (Associate Dean International) noted that the University had been ranked 173rd in the QS World University Rankings 2020-21 and 25th of UK Universities. The Faculty had also been ranked in the top 100 in some subject disciplines – detailed analysis of the data is being undertaken. The Chair commented that he would be inviting nominations from colleagues for Visiting Professors from top-rated International Institutions.

1933 LIBRARY MATTERS

Mr Stacey provided an update on Library matters;

- The Library façade had been illuminated on 23rd March to mark the anniversary of the first UK Lockdown.
- The Library had been notified of its material budget which had seen a decrease of 9%. This will have an inevitable impact on the procurement of materials and resources particularly in terms of meeting e-text book requests.
- There have been a number of issues with students using the Library or other bookable study spaces of either not observing the expectations of quiet study or not adhering to COVID guidance. Library staff have been reminding users of the rules for using study space.

1934 FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2020-21/086)

The unreserved (unconfirmed) minutes of the Faculty Executive Committee meeting held on 22 February 2021 were received and noted.

1935 FACULTY DOCTORAL STUDIES COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2020-21/087-88)

The unreserved minutes of the following Faculty Doctoral Studies Committee meetings were received and noted.

- (i) 11 November 2020 (FE2020-21/087)
- (ii) 9 December 2020 (FE2020-21/088)

1936 BOARD OF STUDIES (DOCTORAL) COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2020-21/089 -93)

The unreserved minutes of the following Board of Studies (Doctoral) Committee meetings were received and noted.

- (i) 16 September 2020 (FE2020-21/089)
- (ii) 14 October 2020 (FE2020-21/090)
- (iii) 4 November 2020 (FE2020-21/091)
- (iv) 2 December 2020 (FE2020-21/092)
- (v) 20 January 2021 (FE2020-21/093)

1937 STAFF STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2020-21/094)

The unreserved minutes of the Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering SSLC meeting held on 8 December 2020 were received and noted.

1938 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

There were no other items of business.