

**Faculty of Engineering & Design**

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**Meeting: FACULTY BOARD OF STUDIES**

**Date and Time: Wednesday 21 May 2014 at 2.15 pm**

**Venue: 2 East 3.4**

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Present:	Prof Tim Ibell (Chair)	TJI	Associate Dean, Research
	Dr Tom Arnot	TCA	Dept of Chemical Engineering
	Dr Ivan Astin	IA	Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
	Dr Steve Cayzer	SC	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
	Dr Alex Copping	AGAC	Dept of Architecture & Civil 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 Jeff Gavin	JG	Dept of Psychology
	Mr Peter Hachfeld	PH	Education Officer, Students' Union
	Dr Andrew Heath	AH	Associate Dean, Learning & Teaching
	Dr Nigel Johnston	NJ	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
	Mr Sahand Malek	SM	PGR Student Representative (Mech Eng)
	Dr Tim Mays	TJM	Dept of Chemical Engineering
	Dr Marcelle McManus	MM	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
	Prof Tony Miles	AWM	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
	Dr Peter Shepherd	PS	Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
	Mr David Stacey	DS	Faculty Librarian
	Dr Mike Wilson	MAW	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
In Attendance:	Mrs Rachel Summers	RS2	Faculty Assistant Registrar
	Ms Ruth Burdett	RB	Graduate School Manager
	Mr Iain Forster	IF	Director of Administration

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Dr David Bence, Mr Elliott Campbell, Dr Sally Clift, Dr Mark Evernden, Prof Gary Hawley, Mrs Jane Phippen, Prof Rob Scheichl, Professor Pete Walker, Mr Matthew Wickens and Mr Manoj Yaji.

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**ACTION**

**799 WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed Mr Iain Forster as the recently appointed Director of Administration for the Faculty, replacing Mrs Lucie Pursell who is leaving the University. The Chair warmly thanked Mrs Pursell on behalf of the Board for her contribution to the Faculty. The Chair also thanked student representatives on the Board and the Students' Union officer for whom this was their last meeting. Apologies as detailed above were noted.

## **800 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (FE2013-14/126)**

The unreserved minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies held on 16 April 2014 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings. The Chair noted that further to minute 778a) the Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering was moving forward with its plans to establish a Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in the Decarbonisation of the Built Environment. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

## **801 CHAIR'S BUSINESS**

The Chair advised that the deadline for nominations for the elected members of the Board was Friday 6 June – nominations to be sent to the Assistant Registrar.

## **802 GRANTS & CONTRACTS REPORT - QUARTER 3 (FE2013-14/128)**

The Board received the Grants & Contracts report for Quarter 3 (1 Feb – 30 April 2014) and noted the strong performance across all departments. Research income across the Faculty is likely to achieve the year end target of £14 million.

## **803 RESEARCH CENTRES (FE2013-14/129-130)**

- i. Review of the Centre for Advanced Sensor Technologies (CAST), Dept. of Electronic & Electrical Engineering (FE2013-14/129). The Board considered the review report for the Centre for Advanced Sensor Technologies (CAST) which had already been reviewed by Faculty Research Committee (FRC) at its meeting of 27 March 2014 (FRC minute 364 refers). The Board noted the Director's frank evaluation and appraisal of the issues facing the Centre in the short, medium and longterm and in particular the Director's concerns regarding progression planning given the impending retirement of key members of the Centre. Professor Miles commented that new academic appointments in the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering were likely to have natural affiliations with the Centre's research. The Chair noted that FRC had agreed to align the review cycle of all of the Faculty's Research Centres so that going forward they will all be simultaneously reviewed. CAST was the last Centre to be reviewed under the old cycle but would be required to submit a further review in 18 months time when the 'new' cycle is introduced. The Board noted that this would be a timely opportunity for a 'health check' to be conducted and for the question of the Centre's long term future and viability to be revisited. The Board **APPROVED** the continuation of the Centre for Advanced Sensor Technologies (CAST).
- ii. Establishment of new Research Centre: Centre for Energy and the Design of Environments (EDEn), Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering (FE2013-14/130). The Board considered the proposal from the Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering for the establishment of a new research centre, the Centre for Energy and the Design of Environments (EDEn) to be led by Professor David Coley. The proposal had been reviewed and recommended for approval by Faculty Research Committee (FRC minute 363 refers) subject to enhancements to the original proposal document; the changes had been incorporated and approved by the Chair of FRC. The proposed Centre will bring together the Department's research in building physics and energy modelling and its establishment is timely given the creation of the Centre for Doctoral Training in Decarbonisation of the Built Environment (DBE). The Board queried whether academic members of the Centre based at the

University of Exeter could be considered as 'full' members of the Centre. The Chair noted that the FRC had not felt this to be an issue particularly given the collaboration between the Universities of Bath, Bristol, Exeter and Cardiff under the GW4 umbrella. The Board **APPROVED** the establishment of the Centre for Energy and the Design of Environments (EDEn).

#### **804 FACULTY LEARNING TEACHING & QUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2013-14/131)**

The unreserved minutes of the Faculty Learning Teaching & Quality Committee meeting held on 19 March 2014 were received and noted.

#### **805 REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATE DEANS & DEPARTMENTS**

a) Dr Heath (Architecture & Civil Engineering) reported that the Department had been ranked 1<sup>st</sup> for Architecture and 3<sup>rd</sup> for Civil engineering in the Complete University Guide 2015. The Department has recently launched an innovative new MSc programme in Modern Building Design with the first intake due this September. Dr Lee Bryant will be joining the Department as a Prize Fellow in Water Engineering.

b) Professor Miles (HoD Mechanical Eng.) was pleased to report that the Technician Team in the Dept (Andy Green, Paul Dix, Rob Pepler & Andy Church) had won the 'Best Team in Support of Student Learning Award' in this year's University Teaching Awards. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the superb contribution of the Technical Support staff to the Dept's teaching and learning. Dr Irene Turner was congratulated on being awarded the TB Marsden Professional Award & Medal from the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3) Council. The award is in recognition of Dr Turner's outstanding service and contribution to the profession and the IOM3 of which she is an elected Fellow. The Department (Dr Sam Akehurst & colleagues) has been awarded a £1.2 million grant to support its automotive research and investment in the Advanced Propulsion Centre (APC). Professor Miles updated the Board on recent academic promotions and appointments – Dr Elies Dekoninck has been promoted to Senior Lecturer and Dr Alan Hunter will be joining the Department from the 1 August as Lecturer in Control sSystem Engineering. The Department has four academic positions out to advert – two Chairs, a Lectureship in Electrical Machines and Drives and a Senior Lecturer. Final year MEng Aerospace Engineering student Richard Jackson had been selected as a recipient of the Bath BP Centurion Awards for 2014 for academic excellence and his contribution to the life, academic reputation and general work of the University.

c) Dr Mays (HoD Chem Eng) congratulated Dr John Chew on receiving the 2014 Mary Tasker prize for excellence in teaching. Dr Mays was also pleased to report that Dr Laura Torrente Murciano has been awarded a 5 year EPSRC fellowship. Final year MEng Chemical Engineering student Jennifer Spragg had been selected as a recipient of the Bath BP Centurion Awards for 2014 for academic excellence and her contribution to the life, academic reputation and general work of the University. The Department currently has six academic position out to advert.

d) Dr Heath (Associate Dean Learning & Teaching) was pleased to report that all departments had done well in recently published league tables. He reminded colleagues of the need to get all marks into SAMIS in good time for the forthcoming unit and programme Boards.

e) Professor Ibell (Associate Dean Research) advised that the REF 2014 results were due to be published on 18 December. Consultation is already under way with

regards to the approach and metrics for the next REF cycle in 2020. Faculty Research Committee will be providing feedback on the consultation but any comments from colleagues were welcomed.

**806 STAFF STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEES (FE2013-14/134-138)**

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

- i) Arch & Civil Eng SSLC meeting of 18 February 2014
  - ii) Chem Eng SSLC meetings of 28 March 2014
  - iii) Elec Eng SSLC meeting of 5 March 2014
  - iv) Mech Eng SSLC meetings of 8 April 2014
- Learning Partnerships SSLCs (various)

**807 v) LIBRARY MATTERS**

Mr Stacey reported on the following matters,

- a) The Library is currently very busy with students revising for exams and we are maintaining our usual quiet study conditions, working to reduce desk hogging and making our staff meeting room available for revision purposes.
- b) Open Access Button. This is a tool created by the OA movement to raise awareness of obstacles to access to research papers. It maps out instances where researchers have been unable to access a paper - usually blocked by pay walls.
- c) The Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey 2014 ranked Bath joint first (with Falmouth) under the 'good library and library opening hours' attribute (one of 21 attributes in the survey). The University was ranked 2nd overall.
- d) The Library is hosting a training session on Euromonitor's Passport database which covers consumer and industrial market information (including Energy/Utilities, Real Estate/Construction, Food/Drink, Hi-Tech goods, etc) and data. If this is of interest to any staff in the Faculty, they are welcome to attend.

**808 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

GTA – Dr Darling commented that a number of teaching rooms, including lecture theatres, had been block booked out for use as student revision space during the assessment period. Dr Darling queried whether there was any evidence to demonstrate that students were making use of these facilities, particularly the tiered seated rooms, as the Dept. had had to use the Council Chamber for its BEP (which had not been ideal) as 4E 3.38 had been booked by timetabling for revision purposes.

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