

Faculty of Engineering & Design

Meeting: FACULTY BOARD OF STUDIES
Date and Time: Wednesday 25 February 2015 at 2.15 pm
Venue: 2 East 3.4

Present:

Prof Gary Hawley (Chair) JGH	Dean
Dr Tom Arnot	Dept. of Chemical Engineering
Dr Ivan Astin	Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
Dr Emma Brandon Jones	School of Management
Dr Steve Cayzer	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering
Dr Sally Clift	Associate Dean – Graduate Studies
Dr Jos Darling	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
Dr Adrian Evans	Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
Dr Mark Evernden	Dept of Arch & Civil Engineering
Dr Jeff Gavin	Dept. of Psychology, Faculty of H&SS
Mr Paul Goodstadt	Education Officer, Students' Union
Mr Jack Hawker	Postgrad Taught Rep
Dr Andrew Heath	Associate Dean – Learning & Teaching
Prof Tim Ibell	Associate Dean - Research
Dr Tim Mays	Dept. of Chemical Engineering
Dr Marcelle McManus	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering
Prof Tony Miles	Dept of Mechanical Engineering
Ms Charlotte Russell	Undergraduate Rep
Dr Peter Shepherd	Dept of Electronic & Electrical Engineering
Mr David Stacey	Faculty Librarian
Mr Matthew Wickens	Dept of Arch & Civil Engineering

In Attendance: Mrs Rachel Summers Faculty Assistant Registrar

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Mr Nikhil Bhalla, Ms Ruth Burdett, Dr Nigel Johnston, Mrs Jane Phippen, Professor Pete Walker, Dr Mike Wilson.

ACTION

926 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed Dr Emma Brandon Jones (representative from the School of Management) to the Board. Apologies as detailed above were noted.

927 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (FE2014-15/091)

The unreserved minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies held on 14 January 2015 were approved. Dr Mays commented in respect of minute 904 d) that the

Dept. of Chemical Engineering had in fact raised its entry tariff for 2016 entry to A*AA.

928 CHAIR'S ACTION (FE2014-15/093)

The Board noted Chair's Actions as detailed in paper FE2014-15/093.

929 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

The Chair had no items of business to report to the Board.

930 FACULTY LEARNING TEACHING & QUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2014-15/096)

The unreserved minutes of the Faculty Learning Teaching & Quality Committee meetings held on 17 December 2014 were received and noted.

931 FACULTY GRADUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE (FE2014-15/098)

The unreserved minutes of the Graduate School Committee held on 3 February 2015 were received and noted.

932 FACULTY RESEARCH STUDENTS COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2014-15/099)

The unreserved minutes of the Faculty Research Students Committee meeting held on 3 February 2015 were received and noted.

933 REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATE DEANS & DEPARTMENTS

a) Dr Heath (Associate Dean for Learning & Teaching) reported news from the Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering on behalf of Professor Walker. The Department's undergraduate programmes in civil engineering were being reviewed as part of the five yearly Degree Scheme Review cycle – the review panel meeting was scheduled for Thursday 26 February. The Dept. had recently hosted a review visit by HEFCE regarding the new MSc in Modern Building Design, which had been supported by HEFCE funding. The Architects Registration Board (ARB), one of the professional bodies with responsibility for 'prescribing' qualifications in architecture, had recently reviewed the Department's Architecture programmes (BSc, MArch and PG Cert) and had confirmed the renewal of their 'prescribed' status. In staff news Dr Marion Harney had won the prestigious John Brinckerhoff Jackson Book Prize for 2015 for her book *Place-Making for the Imagination: Horace Walpole and Strawberry Hill*. With regards to Learning & Teaching news, Dr Heath reminded colleagues that the National Student Survey (NSS) is underway and that final year undergraduates have until the end of April to complete the survey. Dr Heath noted that the deadline for 'expressions of interest' for the University's Teaching Development Fund (TDF) closed earlier in the week and that the next phase would be consideration of them by ULTQC. Nominations were invited for the University's annual Learning & Teaching Awards – closing date 20 March 2015.

b) Professor Ibell (Associate Dean Research) advised that the 2020 Faculty REF team had been launched at the Faculty Away Day event held on the 10 February. The team's primary focus is to provide training workshops for all academic staff in the Faculty on how to review and rate published papers using the REF criteria.

The team is also looking at the 'impact' element of REF. Prof Ibell reminded the Board that from 1 May 2015 there will be a requirement for any beneficiary of funding from the EPSRC to make their data available for public consumption.

c) Professor Miles (HoD Mechanical Eng.) reported that, although an official announcement had not yet been made the Dept. has been awarded 3 Innovate UK Awards to the value of approximately three-quarters of a million pounds. The Dept. is currently recruiting to two academic positions – a Senior Lecturer in the 'design' area and a Lecturer in control systems engineering.

d) Dr Mays (Chem Eng) was pleased to report that Professor Jan Hofman would shortly be joining the Dept. as the Chair of the recently established Water Innovation Research Centre. Dr Mays congratulated colleagues in the Dept. who had recently been awarded major research grant funding; Drs Darrell Patterson and Davide Mattia have been awarded an EPSRC five-year programme grant of £900k (as Co-Investigators in a £4 million programme) on synthesis, fabrication and function of advanced membranes. Dr Patterson is also the P.I on a five-year ERC Consolidator Grant (1,977k Euro) on advanced tuneable membranes. Dr Tina Duren has also been awarded a five-year ERC Consolidator Grant of 1,739k Euros on novel metal-organic framework (MOF) systems. A team from the Dept, led by Dr Mattia, has made it to the full proposal stage with a £2 million EPSRC Equipment Grant for Membrane Laboratory facilities in 9 West.

e) Dr Evans (HoD Electronic & Electrical Eng) was pleased to report that Professor Peter Wilson would be joining the Department on the 1st April as Professor of Electronic Systems Engineering. With a number of staff retirements in the pipeline the Department is currently seeking to recruit to a range of academic positions in the field of Electrical Power Engineering. Dr Evans was pleased to report that Dr Manuchehr Soleimani had recently been promoted to Reader.

f) Dr Clift (Associate Dean Graduate Studies) reported that the University had received the latest tranche of Doctoral Training Grant funding from the EPSRC. It is likely that the Faculty's allocation will provide sufficient funding for up to 5 PGR studentships in the Dept of Mechanical Engineering but that the 'pots' available to Chemical and Electronic & Electrical Engineering will fall below the total value (approx. £78k) which is required to fund a four year studentship. Both Departments will therefore need to 'top up' the funding to the level of a full award. Dr Clift also reminded colleagues that 10% of the value of the training fund has to be matched by CASE funding. Dr Clift advised that the University is running a 'Three Minute Thesis' competition which is open to all PGR students (post confirmation but who have not yet submitted their thesis).

934 LIBRARY MATTERS

Mr Stacey advised that the bi-annual library survey was currently being carried out and that all students and staff were encouraged to complete the on-line survey.

935 STAFF STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEES (FE2014-15/101-102)

The Board received the minutes of the following Staff Student Liaison Committee meetings

- (i) Graduate School PGR SSLC meetings of 16 December 2014 & 22 January 2015

936 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Consultation on the Shape of the Academic Year. The Board noted that consultation on the future shape of the academic year had been extended in order to allow more time for staff and students to contribute. Mr Goodstadt commented that feedback from students suggested that there was a degree of anxiety and concern about the element of uncertainty which any changes to the academic year structure might bring about. There were no items of other business and therefore the Board moved onto white FOIA business.