

HSS Board of Studies

Unreserved Business

Wednesday, 20th May 2026 10:15 am

Teams | HSS Board of Studies

Attendees

Deborah Wilson (Chair)
Gail Forey
Peter Lambert
Andrew Weyman
Monica Greco
Katrín Roberts
Joanna Syrda
Richard Joiner
Polly McGuigan
MariCarmen Gil Ortega
Matteo De Tina
Megan Rowbottom

In attendance

Rachel Acres
Meg Rowbottom

Apologies

Gervene Teoh
Louis Wickersham
Pieter Van Ellewee
Ajit Mishra
David Galbreath
Michael Stimmelmayer
Maria Clutterbuck
Javier Rivas
Sarah Jones
Lizzi Milligan
Mariana Bonnouvrier
Xiao Lan Curdt-Christiansen
Matthew Wickens
Yixian Sun
Haydn Morgan

5222.0 Welcome and Quorum

The Chair welcomed members and attendees.

5223.0 Declarations of Interest

No conflicts of interest were raised.

5224.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting - HSS25/26 - 87

The minutes of the previous meeting of H&SS Board of Studies held on **23 April 2026** were approved.

5225.0 Actions and Matters Arising - HSS25/26 - 88

The action log was considered.

The open action on finding out from student services whether key information on assessment types for students with DAPs (e.g., if a student can't do a certain assessment type) can be recorded in SAMIS to assist unit convenors, has now been actioned and could now be closed. Any further updates on this will be reported to the committee.

5226.0 Chair's Business

The Chair raised several points of business:

Late DAPs

It was noted that during the semester 2 assessment period, the Faculty received 178 late DAPs which had been very challenging to implement.

Thanks were given to professional services colleagues and all involved for their work during this time.

Key issues noted were:

- The need to set clear and consistent messaging for invigilation
- The lack of clear deadlines had caused significant additional work and inconsistency across the University
- It was noted that looking at best practice would be useful at improving the current system and comparing to other Faculties/School to get a better idea of similarities or differences in volume.
- The issues raised will be taken forward by the Faculty Dean and FARs. A report will be

written and submitted to the next Board of Studies and then to the Pro-Vice Chancellor for Student Experience addressing the key process issues and the need for stricter guidance.

Update on visit to Beijing Normal University

The Dean gave an update on a recent trip to Beijing Normal University to explore the potential of a dual degree model at the Zhuhai campus.

- The degree programmes being explored were in Education, Psychology and Sports Science.
- The broader aims of this partnership would include opening up different recruitment channels for the University.

BoS Elections:

The Chair reminded members that elections for BoS were coming up and there was an opportunity for members to put themselves forward for next year. It was noted that new representatives for Health and Psychology were needed for next year.

5227.0 New Course Proposal - BEng/MEng Biomedical Engineering (including Health units) HSS25/26-89

HSS Board of Studies considered the Stage 1 proposal for the new full-time undergraduate programmes in Biomedical Engineering, based in the Faculty of Engineering and Design to commence in 2028/29. The owning Department would be the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering and would use existing units and one new unit from the Department for Health.

In providing feedback to the Faculty of Engineering and Design and Academic Programmes Committee, HSS Board of Studies noted the following points:

Some minor content issues:

- a) a second-year Health unit is included in the course specification which will no longer exist as it is to be phased out and there will be a new anatomy unit which could be incorporated.
- b) there were a number of existing Biomechanics units which had not been included and could provide a unique offering to the course.
- c) a Behavioural Science element had previously been proposed which had not been included in the current proposal.
- d) in the rationale, the Department is referred to as the Faculty of Health and Sport Sciences (it should be the Department for Health within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences).

HSS Board of Studies confirmed that this proposed new course did sit within the strategic priorities of the Faculty but could not confirm yet that it had capacity to deliver the required units to the student numbers planned, for two key reasons:

- (i) current constraints on teaching laboratory space and no confirmation of the required

additional space being ready for 2028/29.

- (ii) no proposed increase in Health academic staffing: it was noted that the only income for the Department for Health would be through service teaching. Subject to these two issues (funding for teaching and lab space) being satisfactorily agreed, the Board would support this proposal.

5230.0 Sub-Committee minutes HSS25/26 - 90

The following sub-committee minutes were noted:

Staff Student Liaison Committees

SSLC Sports Management held on 23.04.26

MSc CAP held on 14.04.26

Econ UG held on 29.04.26

PGT Politics held on 22.04.26

PGT Languages held on 24.04.26

To note that SPS PGT SSLCs had to be cancelled as no student representatives attended - the Director of Teaching was aware and contacting them for feedback on how to ensure better attendance.

Faculty Executive Committee

Faculty Executive Committee held on 20.04.26.

Faculty Research Committee

Faculty Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee held on 22.04.26

Faculty Learning Teaching Quality Committee

Faculty Learning Teaching Quality Committee held on 25.03.26

MRes Programme Policy Committee held on 24.04.26

5231.0 Any Other Business

No other business was raised.

