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**Meeting:** FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
LEARNING, TEACHING AND QUALITY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time:** Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 13.45

**Venue:** 1WN3.8

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**Present:** Dr C Wilson, Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching), (Chair)  
Ms E Barratt Hacking, Department of Education  
Dr A Bush, Department for Health  
Dr N Hinvest, Psychology  
Dr R Joiner, Department of Psychology  
Dr E Keogh, Associate Dean (Graduate Studies) (for item 1461 (4))  
Dr A Krause, Department of Economics  
Dr R Maconachie, Department of Social and Policy Sciences  
Dr S Martin, Department of Education  
Dr P McGuigan, Department for Health  
Dr A Mondon, Department of Politics, Languages and International  
Studies  
Miss I le Patourel, Learning and Teaching Enhancement Office  
Dr M de Tina, Department of Economics  
Ms M Ward Goodbody, Director of ASC  
Dr K Woodthorpe, Department of Social and Policy Sciences

**In Attendance:** Miss S E Jacobs, Assistant Registrar (Secretary)  
Dr J Brice, Graduate School Manager (for item 1461 (4))  
Ms L Gibson, Undergraduate Manager  
Mrs A Stacey, Deputy Graduate School Manager  
Dr M Dickson, Department of Social and Policy Sciences (for item  
1461 (4))

**Apologies:** Dr F Bisset, Learning Partnerships Office  
Dr M Garcia, Politics, Languages and International Studies  
Miss J Medland, Faculty Student Experience Officer  
Mr J Kenny, President Students' Union  
Miss I Righi, Student  
Mr T Sun, Student  
Ms S Bundock, Student

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**ACTION**

**1458. MINUTES**

The Committee approved the minutes of the Faculty Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016 (paper 165), subject to a correction of the date to 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in minute 1447. (2).

**1459. MATTERS ARISING**

**(1) Minute 1447 (1): PTES Results Recommendations**

The Chair reminded Directors of Learning and Teaching that they will be expected to report on their discussions in relation to the five PTES Results recommendations discussed at the previous meeting at the meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

**DoLTs**

**(2) Minute 1449: QA9 Teaching undertaken by Students**

The Chair reported that she had discussed the variety of practice across the Faculty in relation to the organisation of postgraduate student teaching with the Directors of Learning and Teaching. At this meeting it had been agreed that an example of good practice was the recently drafted SPS Handbook for PG Students who teach and that this will be circulated to the other DoLTs for information.

**KW**

**(3) Minute 1450: Assessment Offences**

The Chair reported that she had agreed to organise a meeting of Directors of Studies twice per year to discuss the range of assessment offences and how they are dealt with in different departments, with a view to sharing best practice and to achieving greater consistency.

**1460. STUDENT BUSINESS**

There was no student business as there were no students present at the meeting.

**1461. UNIT AND PROGRAMME CHANGES**

**(1) Department of Economics**

The Committee approved changes to postgraduate units and programmes for implementation in 2016/17 (Paper 171):

- ES50073 Research Methods for Economics and Finance: change in title and availability
- ES50057: suspension of unit for 2016/17
- ES50088: suspension of unit for 2016/17
- MSc Economics: addition of options in Semester 2
- MSc Economics and Finance: removal of ES50051 as an option

The Committee noted that while reference is made in the QA4.1 document for ES50088 to there being changes also to ES50061 Dr Krause confirmed that the changes were at a level which did not require any change to be made to the Unit Description.

**(2) Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies**

**i** The Committee approved changes to postgraduate units and programmes for implementation in 2016/17 (Paper 172):

- New unit: PL5XXXX The Cultures of Globalisation
- PL50750 International Terrorism: re-instatement of unit
- PL50869 Scopes and Methods of Politics and International Relations: change to assessment
- New unit: PL5XXXX Russian Politics in Comparative Perspective

The Committee noted that in comparison with Postgraduate units on other Masters programmes in the Faculty the scope of these 6 credit units, and their assessment load, appeared to be demanding. Dr Mondon reported that the

assessment of these units was in line with other existing units in the Department but that the Department planned to review the assessment of postgraduate units when a plan for new PGT developments had been agreed.

- ii The Committee considered the updating of the Programme Specification (Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes) for the following programmes (Paper 173):
- MA Contemporary European Studies: Politics, Policy and Society,
  - MA Contemporary European Studies: Politics, Policy and Society (Transatlantic Track)
  - MA Contemporary Transatlantic Studies

The Committee approved the proposed changes subject to confirmation that the partners had been consulted and had approved the proposed changes.

PoLIS

*[Secretary's note: following the meeting it was confirmed that the proposed change to the programme aims does not constitute a material change and therefore that PAPAC approval would not be necessary.]*

**(3) Department of Social and Policy Sciences**

The Committee considered a proposal to suspend units following the decision to suspend recruitment to the MSc International Public Policy Analysis and the MSc Wellbeing in Public Policy and International Development (Paper 174). The Committee noted, however, that since the proposal had been submitted for consideration further discussion had taken place within the Department. The Committee therefore approved in principle the proposal to suspend units but agreed that the final list of units would need to be approved by Chair's action. The Committee queried whether any of the units which would need to be retained for a single part-time student who will continue his studies towards the MSc International Public Policy Analysis could be offered as an option to other programmes.

SPS

The Committee noted that updated programme descriptions for MIPPA and WIPPID for 2016/17, reflecting which units would continue to be offered, might be required.

**(4) MRes Programmes**

The Committee considered proposed changes to units and programmes for implementation in 2016/17 (Paper 175):

- MRes Health and Well-being
- MRes Global Political Economy
- MRes Security, Conflict and Justice
- MRes Environment, Energy and Resilience
- XX50202 Conceptual issues in security, conflict and justice
- XX50203 Contemporary debates about energy consumption, environmental uncertainties, sustainability and resilience

The Graduate School Manager explained that the proposed changes were driven by the re-bid to the ESRC for the SWDTP for funding for 1 + 3 students. The Committee noted that the paperwork was not complete and therefore that approval of the Committee in principle was being sought.

The Committee noted that there appeared to be no proposed changes to the aims and learning outcomes for those programmes for which a programme title change was being proposed. This would need to be clarified.

The Committee noted that it was not clear if the proposed changes to XX50203 changes had been discussed with Directors of Studies of all affected programmes.

The Committee noted that it is proposed that a Director of Studies approved unit would replace options which are now being removed from the MRes Health and Wellbeing, noting also that it is proposed that this would be a Designated Essential Unit. Dr Brice explained that it had been agreed in the SWDTC that all units would have to be passed (ie there would be no opportunity to condone a marginal fail) and therefore the designation of DEU had been agreed. The Committee agreed that if this is the only way to achieve the intended outcome within the NFAAR and in SAMIS this was acceptable.

The Committee agreed in principle to the proposed changes but agreed that the full documents would need to be presented for consideration under Chair's action. It was noted that the proposals for changes to programme/award titles would need to be forwarded for consideration by PAPAC.

**MRes  
DoS/  
PAPAC**

**1462. UNIT AND PROGRAMME CHANGES**

The Committee noted details of unit and programme changes which have been approved by Chair's action (Paper 176).

**1463. DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES**

The Committee noted the minutes of the following Department Learning, Teaching and Quality Committees:

- Department of Education, 24.2.16 (Paper 177)
- Department for Health, 13.1.16 and 24.2.16 (Paper 178)
- Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies, 23.2.16 (Paper 179)
- Department of Social and Policy Sciences, 2.3.16 (Paper 180)