



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

Date and Time: Wednesday 20th March 2019 at 13.45

Venue: 1WN3.20

Present: Dr C Wilson, Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching), (Chair)
Dr A Bush, Department for Health
Mrs M Clutterbuck, Learning Partnerships Office
Prof R Joiner, Department of Psychology
Dr S Martin, Department of Education
Dr S Moore, Department of Social and Policy Sciences
Dr K von Oppen, Department of Politics, Languages and International
Studies
Dr C Winnett, Department of Economics
Mr S Garcia, Undergraduate Student
Miss K Pickett-McAttackney, Students' Union Officer

In Attendance: Miss S E Jacobs, Assistant Registrar (Secretary)
Dr A Schaeffer, Department of Economics
Ms A Theilgaard, Student Engagement Manager

Apologies: Dr F Bisset, Learning Partnerships Office
Ms E Merker, Programmes Manager
Miss E Alcock, Students' Union President
Mr Z Chen, Postgraduate Student
Miss H Newing, Undergraduate Student

ACTION

1705. MINUTES

The Committee approved the minutes of the Faculty Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee meeting held on the 6th February 2019 (paper 71).

1706. MATTERS ARISING

a) Minute: 1693 Unit Evaluations

The Chair reported that Ms Merker had undertaken a review of current practice in the Faculty with regard to the availability of unit evaluation reports to students. This had identified a number of differences in practice and some areas where unit reports are not as easily accessible as they might be. The Committee noted that QA51 indicates that

reporting of unit evaluations 'should be completed and uploaded to the department's unit evaluation Moodle repository by the relevant unit convenor.'

In discussion, it was suggested that very few students access the unit evaluation reports in Moodle and that it would be preferable to find a less resource intensive means to provide students access to the information. It was queried, for example, whether it might be possible to generate reports directly from SAMIS which would provide students with the numerical scores for each unit. It was also noted, however, that students are also keen to see unit assessment averages when they are considering which units to choose. It was also suggested that making unit Moodle pages generally open to all students might provide students with more useful information to guide them in making their option choices. Members of the Committee noted, however, that this might restrict the materials which unit convenors would be comfortable in providing.

The Chair indicated that she would discuss this matter further before circulating further advice to departments.

Chair

b) Minute 1694 c) ii: Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies, new unit assessment

The Committee noted that Dr von Oppen had not yet received the information from the unit convenor regarding the formative assessment for The Global Politics of Cyberspace so would report on this to the next meeting.

KvO

1707. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

a) Graduate Outcomes Survey

The Committee noted the guidance on-line regarding the New Graduate Outcomes Survey, which has replaced the Destination of Leavers from HE survey:

<https://www.bath.ac.uk/guides/graduate-outcomes-information-for-staff/>

It was also noted that Ms Jayne Hacker, Destinations Survey Manager, had requested that staff are encouraged to communicate a number of messages to current final year students, who will be invited to respond to the survey 15 months after having left Bath.

The Chair pointed out the importance of the destination information for TEF.

b) Curriculum Transformation

The Committee noted that Phase 1 documents for undergraduate programmes must be submitted to the relevant folders in the Departmental Sharepoint spaces created for this purpose by the 1st April 2019.

The Chair explained that an external facilitator has been contracted to deliver half-day Change Management workshops, to follow up on the day-long workshops which took place recently, for each Department CT team. Directors of Teaching are asked to encourage appropriate members of their teams to attend these.

The Chair reported that draft Phase 2 and Phase 3 template documents were considered at ULTQC on 20.3.19 and that these will now be considered by Senate.

1708. TEACHING PRACTICE: Banning Laptops

Dr Ioannis Costas Batlle, Department of Education, attended the meeting for this item. Members of the Committee had seen an article from the THE in which Dr Costas Battle explained his experiences in relation to banning students from bringing laptops to his teaching sessions (paper 72). Dr Costas Battle explained that despite some initial negative student reactions, because of their fear of not being able to take notes for future reference, the experience has been overwhelmingly positive, with students being more engaged and able to think critically. He also explained that the needs of students with a DAP are accommodated.

The Committee commended this as an example of an innovative style of teaching, which is also being practiced by several members of staff in the Department of Social and Policy Sciences, noting that through the current Curriculum Transformation activities staff are being encouraged to consider non-traditional teaching methods in order to better meet diverse student needs and to enable students to develop a wider range of skills.

Mr Garcia reported that students had discussed this innovation at the recent Faculty Forum and had raised a number of questions in relation to students preferred methods of working and taking notes, as well as the potential difficulties for students with a DAP and students for whom English is not their first language.

The Committee noted that there is no intention to introduce this style of teaching across the board but that it is an example of an innovation which others may wish to employ where appropriate. It was noted, for example, that it may not be appropriate for large cohorts or when the intention is to deliver a lot of information.

1709. UNIT AND PROGRAMME CHANGES FOR 2019/20

In accordance with QA4

(<http://www.bath.ac.uk/quality/documents/QA4.pdf>), the Committee considered proposed unit and programme changes.

Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies

The Committee approved the following new undergraduate unit (paper 81), to replace the existing PL20883 Parliament in Modern British Politics in BSc Economics and Politics, BA Language and Politics and BSc Politics with Economics with effect from 2019/20:

Parliamentary Studies (link to proposal in CMIS:

<https://cmis.sp.bath.ac.uk/SitePages/unitproposal.aspx?Request=11723>)

The Committee noted that PL20883 would need to be suspended, rather than withdrawn.

1710. **UNIT AND PROGRAMME MATTERS APPROVED BY CHAIR'S ACTION**

The Committee noted unit and programme matters which have been approved by Chair's action:

- Changes to the MRes Advanced Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences (following questions raised at the 6.2.19 meeting of the Committee).
- Stage 2 proposal documents for the establishment of a CDT Integrated PhD in Accountable, Responsible and Transparent AI (Department of Computer Science, Department of Education and Department of Social and Policy Science)
- Removal of PS30185 from the BA Education with Psychology and introduction of Director of Studies approved option in Semester 2 of the final year to allow students choice.
- NFAAR:PGT exemption request to ULTQC for Masters programmes in Psychology (regarding the implementation of a 50% pass mark with effect from 2019/20)