



Meeting **BOARD OF STUDIES FOR THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE**
Place 3 West 3.9
Date Wednesday 15 January 2014 at 14:15

Present	Professor D M Bird	Dean of Science (Chair)
	Professor C Bowen	Faculty of Engineering and Design
	Mr S Burfiend	Students' Union (SU) Sabbatical Officer (Activities)
	Dr A D Burrows	Department of Chemistry
	Dr H R Corradi	Department of Biology and Biochemistry
	Dr J Doughty	Department of Biology and Biochemistry
	Dr M A Freitag	Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Professor I G Graham	Head of Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Mr A Hayes	Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching), Department of Computer Science
	Dr F Laughton	Department of Physics (alternate for Professor S J Bending)
	Dr G Mathlin	Department of Physics
	Professor E O'Neill	Head of Department of Computer Science
	Dr J Power	Department of Computer Science
	Dr H Schwetlick	Department of Mathematical Sciences
In attendance	Mrs M Hallett	Faculty of Science (Secretary)
	Ms A L Harper	Faculty of Science (Observer)
Apologies	Mr D J Bence	School of Management
	Professor S J Bending	Head of Department of Physics
	Ms S Chordekar	Postgraduate taught student representative
	Ms E Craddock	Postgraduate research student representative
	Professor M G Davidson	Head of Department of Chemistry
	Professor R S G Jones	Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
	Professor J C Knight	Associate Dean (Research)
	Miss R McMahon	Department of Computer Science (undergraduate student representative)
	Dr S J Roser	Chair of the Natural Sciences Programmes Committee
	Dr N B J Vollaard	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Ms M Woodward	Learning Partnerships Office	

5678 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board approved the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2013 (Paper 90).

ACTION

5679 MATTERS ARISING

M5654 STUDENT INTAKE NUMBERS AS AT 30.09.2013

The Board noted that the Dean was currently liaising with Lee Hennessy with a view to making it possible to obtain real time data on UCAS A level tariff intakes during confirmation and clearing.

DMB

5680 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

Changes approved to UG NFAAR

The Board noted that, following a review of the UG NFAAR, Senate had approved (on 4 December) some substantial changes to the UG NFAAR. These changes will be rolled out for new entrants from 2014/15; the only changes to take effect immediately will be those that do not disadvantage current students. The changes include reducing the amount of failure condonable in the final year at Honours level from 30 to 18 credits, the abolition of Ordinary Degrees (of which some exist within the Faculty) and the creation instead of exit awards in the form of Cert/Dip HE for all programmes. The Board noted that it is possible to apply for exemptions to these revised regulations, and that this may be an option explored by the Department of Mathematical Sciences. The Board noted that an institutional timetable for the application of exemptions had not yet been set.

The Board noted that consultation for the PGT NFAAR Review, led by Professor Michael Mayer, School of Management, had just started; the deadline for feedback is 3rd February. The Board agreed that the Faculty may wish to highlight for review the current requirement for students to achieve 70% or above in both taught and research elements in order to achieve a Distinction overall.

Undergraduate applications

The Board noted that Faculty undergraduate applications have increased by 11% this year, while the average across the sector has decreased. Overall, recruitment is pleasing both within the Faculty and across the institution; it is expected that the increased recruitment targets will be met. The Board noted in particular that to date the new BSc (Hons) Biomedical Sciences degrees have attracted 460 Home and EU applications, and 62 overseas applications.