



Meeting **BOARD OF STUDIES FOR THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE**
Place Wessex House, Council Chamber
Date Wednesday 23 May 2018 at 14:15

Present	Professor N Brook	Dean of Science (Chair)
	Ms M Aspbury	Undergraduate Representative (Natural Sciences)
	Dr R Bradford	Department of Computer Science
	Professor A D Burrows	Department of Chemistry
	Dr N Fotaki	Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
	Professor C Frost	Head of Department of Chemistry
	Dr S Gebhard	Department of Biology and Biochemistry
	Dr A Gorbach	Department of Physics
	Dr A Hayes	Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching)
	Dr P Snow	Head of Natural Sciences
	Dr G Stothart	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
In attendance	Mrs M Hallett	Faculty Assistant Registrar (Secretary)
Apologies	Dr F Bisset	Learning Partnerships Office
	Professor C Bowen	Faculty of Engineering and Design
	Professor F Burstall	Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Dr J Doughty	Department of Biology and Biochemistry
	Mrs A L Harper	Faculty of Science (Observer)
	Professor R S G Jones	Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
	Professor P Milewski	Head of Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Professor C Mundell	Head of Department of Physics
	Dr J Nordstrom	Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Professor E O'Neill	Head of Department of Computer Science
	Mr B Palmer	Students' Union (SU) Sabbatical Officer (Community)
	Miss H Parker	Postgraduate Taught Representative (Department of Biology and Biochemistry)
	Dr F Qin	School of Management
	Professor R J Scott	Head of Department of Biology and Biochemistry
	Professor S G Ward	Head of Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
	Professor C Wilson	Associate Dean (Research)

Action

6567 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board approved the minutes of the previous meeting of the Board held on 25 April 2018 (Paper 206) and there were no matters arising.

6568 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

The Chair reported the following:

- Curriculum transformation: The Faculty Curriculum Transformation Working Group met on 11 May to discuss possibilities for a staggered approach. These discussions helped to inform the agreed Faculty schedule. The Dean and Associate Dean L&T will propose to the PVC L&T that PGT programmes without shared units with

undergraduate programmes, e.g. Integrated Masters, are transformed in Wave 1 for launch in 2020/21, together with the MPharm (if requested by the Department). PGT programmes with shared units with undergraduate programmes and all other undergraduate programmes, will be transformed in Wave 2 for launch in 2021/22. The Chair explained that the staggered approach would enable the Faculty to benefit from lessons learned institutionally as the infrastructure for curriculum transformation evolves. The approach will also enable the undergraduate portfolio to be transformed simultaneously, necessitated by its interconnectivity, including Natural Sciences. Nevertheless, the Chair emphasised the need to maintain momentum by continuing to make progress in completing the groundwork for curriculum transformation. The Chair indicated that those Departments who wished to move ahead with the approval of the associated paperwork on the Wave 1 timescale should do so. The Chair requested that Department representatives on the Board ensure that curriculum transformation discussions remain ongoing in SSLCs, and to report back on this to the Secretary.

Dept reps

Post meeting note: The PVC (L&T) and Director of CLT supported the Faculty's approach but also stressed the need to maintain momentum.

- If the process is successful, the VC appointment should be known by the end of July; stakeholder groups will be convened in due course.
- Financial planning: Professional Services' plans have been approved and some Faculties are still working on plan iterations. Budgets will be signed off by University Executive Committee in June. While the University is in a stronger position financially than others in the sector, it will still be financially tighter next year as a result of undergraduate fees no longer taking into account inflationary rises, USS pension dispute resolution over the next 12 months, wage inflation pressures, and falling short of postgraduate overseas recruitment targets. Nevertheless, planned capital investments will still go ahead, e.g. the new Science building between 3WN and 5 West, the feasibility study report for which is due in September. Upfront investment for new programmes will also remain but the extent to which new programmes meet their success criteria will likely be subject to closer scrutiny, in particular the pace of return on the investment.

6569 ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRIZE

The Board approved the new Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) Prize for Best Placement Student (Paper 208). The Board noted that the prize winner would be selected based on panel scrutiny of the supervisory and placement reports. The Board agreed that the establishment of this prize would raise the profile of the RSC to the undergraduate body. The Department confirmed that Natural Sciences students would be eligible for the prize if they undertook a chemistry placement.

6570 STAFF STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE (SSLC) MEETINGS

The Board noted SSLC meeting minutes from the following Departments:

Department of Biology and Biochemistry 27 April 2018 (Paper 213).

Department of Chemistry 11 April 2018 (Paper 214).

Department of Computer Science 20 April 2018 (Paper 215).

Department of Mathematical Sciences 11 April 2018 (Paper 216).

Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology 11 April 2018 (Paper 217).

Department of Physics 2 May 2018 (Paper 218).

6571 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.