University of Bath   **Minutes of Meeting**
Faculty of Science

Meeting	**BOARD OF STUDIES FOR THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE**
Place	Microsoft Teams
Date	Tuesday 13 July 2021 at 14:15

Present		
	Professor N Brook	Dean of Science (Chair)
	Dr F Bisset	Learning Partnerships Office
	Dr R Bradford	Department of Computer Science
	Professor A Burrows	Head of Department of Chemistry
	Dr S Flower	Department of Chemistry
	Dr N Fotaki	Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
	Professor M Fraser	Department of Computer Science
	Professor M Hejmadi	Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching)
	Dr R James	Head of Department of Physics
	Professor M Jones	Department of Chemistry
	Mr K Maharaj	Undergraduate student representative
	Professor T Mays	Faculty of Engineering and Design
	Professor N McHugh	Head of Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
	Professor P Milewski	Head of Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Dr F Qin	School of Management
	Dr P Rogers	Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology (in addition to Professor N McHugh)
	Dr T Shardlow	Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Professor S Ward	Associate Dean (International)
	Professor J White	Head of Natural Sciences
	Dr M Wright	Department of Computer Science

In attendance		
	Mrs M Hallett	Faculty Assistant Registrar (Secretary)
	Ms A L Harper	Faculty of Science (Observer)
	Mrs S Paine	Programmes Manager (Operations) (Observer)

Apologies		
	Mr T Cheung	PGT student representative
	Professor C Frost	Deputy Dean of Science
	Dr A Gorbach	Department of Physics
	Miss F Jackson	Students' Union Sabbatical Officer (Community)
	Professor A Preston	Department of Biology and Biochemistry
	Professor J Sivaloganathan	Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Dr G Stothart	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
	Professor D Tosh	Department of Biology and Biochemistry
	Professor C Wilson	Associate Dean (Research)

Action

7169   MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
The Board approved the minutes of the previous meeting of the Board held on 29 June 2021 (Paper 232), and there were no matters arising.

7170   CHAIR'S BUSINESS
The Chair expressed thanks to Professor Andrew Preston and Dr Stephen Flower for their

contribution to the Board for the past 3 years. This will be their last meeting as they are stepping down from BoS and will be replaced by Dr Zoe Burke and Dr Gan Shermer respectively.

The Chair also noted that this year's graduation ceremonies had been cancelled.

7171 SEMESTER 2 SCALING REPORT AND ERRORS IN EXAMINATION PAPERS

The Board considered scaling of unit marks (Paper 233A) and errors in examination papers (Paper 233B) in Semester 2 2020/21.

There had been 29 instances of scaling (compared to 38 in Semester 2 last year); 10 in Biology & Biochemistry (1 last year), 1 in Chemistry (4 last year), 3 in Computer Science (8 last year), 11 in Maths (15 last year), 2 in Pharmacy & Pharmacology (9 last year) and 2 in Physics (1 last year), including 10 units (7 in Maths, 1 in Physics, 2 in Biology & Biochemistry) where the mean marks were not atypical, and 72 instances (excluding IFY units) of means that were atypical but not scaled (compared to 79 last year).

The Chair encouraged Departments to review units with small cohorts and consider whether it is appropriate for these to continue, especially units with <10 students registered. Professor Burrows commented that some units which appear to have small cohorts are shared (delivered jointly to two year groups), e.g. CH3/4 units, and one of the units is bespoke to MSci Nat Sci. The Chair noted that CM20220, which was scaled in 2018/19 and 2019/20 and in the atypical range in 2017/18, would not run in future years. Professor Fraser commented that CM10310 would be kept under review as a new unit with a mean of 72.74. Dr Rogers reported that PA40259 had only 1 student registered this year because it is a bespoke research project unit for incoming Erasmus students. Professor Milewski commented that, like Chemistry, some units which appear to have small cohorts are shared, e.g. MA3/40059 Mathematical Methods 2. Dr Shardlow added that the Department had improved examination setting which had resulted in fewer units with means in the atypical range compared to this time last year.

The Board agreed that the report on errors in examination papers (Paper 233B) did not identify any unusual problems or issues.

7172 NEW PROGRAMME PROPOSALS:

MSc Computer Science and Entrepreneurship

Professor Mike Fraser presented this item. Professor Fraser explained that there is demand amongst students for Entrepreneurship programmes and the documentation demonstrates that there is a market. The CM units in the programme are existing units so there is a relatively low overhead in developing, but there will be some overhead in delivering, which is costed in the documentation. The programme is designed to attract students interested in spin-outs / start-ups in the technical domain by bridging the gap between entrepreneurial and technical skills. When the programme went to UEB a query was raised about the extent to which advanced business orientated applicants would be interested in the basics of learning to program. However, the existing degree apprenticeship includes similar units and the Department has developed expertise in delivering to candidates who are already substantially involved in business activity. The Department is therefore confident in its ability to calibrate the challenge involved. The undergraduate student representative enquired as to why the Department had withdrawn its BSc (Hons) Computer Science with Business. Professor Fraser explained that this was due to insufficient market. There is a specific PGT constituency / applicant pool interested in entrepreneurship and starting and exploring new areas for business, rather than traditional Computer Science with Business degrees which typically focus on companies at the interface between IT and business, e.g. KPMG, IBM.

Professor Fraser added that 1.5 FTE positions are associated with the proposal; a full-time research active position and a 0.5 teaching active position. The School of Management, with which the programme will be split 50/50, had requested the same.

The Board considered the following documentation:
- UEB minute extract and response from Department (Paper 234A).

- Rationale (Paper 234B).
- QA3.1 Resource Implications (Paper 234C).
- QA3.2 Programme Specification (draft) (Paper 234D).
- QA3.3 Market Information (Paper 234E).

The Board agreed Stage One Initial Approval (prior to consideration by APC) of the proposal for a new MSc Computer Science and Entrepreneurship programme in the Department of Computer Science and School of Management, for commencement from 2022/23.

MSc Artificial Intelligence Degree Apprenticeship
The Chair explained that a tender call had gone out that the Department was keen to be involved with, given the existing partnership with the employer. Dr Michael Wright presented this item. Dr Wright explained that, approx. 18 months ago, the Institute of Apprenticeships had approved an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Masters level degree apprenticeship standard; the Department is proposing to deliver to that standard using the online MSc AI as a template. The new degree apprenticeship will be delivered through blended learning, in which apprentices will be based in their company and will engage with course material online, with weekly webinars. 1.5 FTE academic staff positions are associated with the proposal, increasing to 3.5 FTE. The Chair highlighted that these would be teaching and research positions in order to attract appropriate candidates. Dr Wright added that the positions would be industry focussed, and would involve driving research out into industry for the benefit of both the apprentices and the University. In addition, the proposal requests a 1.0 FTE Business Development Officer. Dr Bisset was asked to comment given the recent review of degree apprenticeships at the University, which she chaired. Dr Bisset flagged that Ofsted had recently taken over oversight of all apprenticeships. Dr Wright concurred and noted that there was a 0.5 FTE request included to oversee and support the degree apprenticeship programmes across the University, e.g. support for Ofsted inspection. The Chair reported that a similar 0.5 FTE request had been included with the new Clinical Psychology degree apprenticeship proposal which would result in a 1.0 FTE position overall. Professor Fraser highlighted that the proposal also requested bespoke apprenticeship management software 'Bud' which embodies, and will help streamline, the apprenticeship regulations.
The Board considered the following documentation:
- UEB minute extract (Paper 235A).
- QA3.1 Resource Implications (Paper 235B).
- QA3.2 Programme Specification (draft) (Paper 235C).
- QA3.3 Market Information (Paper 235D).

The Board agreed Stage One Initial Approval (prior to consideration by APC) of the proposal for a new MSc Artificial Intelligence Degree Apprenticeship in the Department of Computer Science, for commencement from 2022/23.
The Chair reported that another new PGT course would be considered by UEB this Friday. The Board agreed that it would be willing to consider approval of the new course by email, prior to APC.

7173 FACULTY RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE COMMITTEE
The Board noted the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2021 (Paper 236).

7174 FACULTY DOCTORAL STUDIES COMMITTEE (FDSC)
The Board noted the minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2021 (Paper 237).

7175 STAFF STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE (SSLC) MEETINGS
The Board noted the minutes of the meeting held on:
Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology 28 April 2021 (Paper 238).

7176 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.