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

Meeting	**FACULTY LEARNING, TEACHING AND QUALITY COMMITTEE**
Place	Microsoft Teams
Date and Time	Wednesday 8 December 2021 at 16:00

Present	Professor M V Hejmadi	Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching) (Chair)
	Miss L Beaven	Centre for Learning and Teaching (CLT)
	Dr J Benardis	Department of Computer Science
	Mr J Dean	Postgraduate Taught student representative (Department of Computer Science)
	Mrs G Eggleston	Academic Registry
	Dr M Harney	Curriculum Transformation Committee (CTC) member
	Professor M Jones	Department of Chemistry
	Dr F R Laughton	Department of Physics
	Mr K Maharaj	Undergraduate student representative (Department of Computer Science)
	Mr G Mathlin	Natural Sciences programmes
	Dr K Mattacks	Centre for Learning and Teaching (CLT)
	Mr J Ogunyemi	Undergraduate student representative (Natural Sciences)
	Dr P J Rogers	Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
	Dr T Shardlow	Department of Mathematical Sciences
	Dr G Shermer	Department of Chemistry
	Dr C M Todd	Department of Biology and Biochemistry
	Professor S Ward	Associate Dean (International)
In attendance	Mrs M Hallett	Faculty Assistant Registrar (Secretary)
Apologies	Dr F Bisset	Head of Learning Partnerships
	Miss M Crossman	Students' Union (SU) Sabbatical Officer (Community)
	Dr F Nemetz	Department of Computer Science
	Dr J Troyer	Curriculum Transformation Committee (CTC) member

Action

The Chair welcomed the following extraordinary FLTQC members: Dr Marion Harney (CTC member) and Mrs Georgina Eggleston (Registry rep).

3079 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Committee approved minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee held on 24 November 2021 (Paper 29), and there were no matters arising.

3080 CURRICULUM TRANSFORMATION: PHASE 2 for transformed courses starting in 2023/24

The Committee noted that the final version of the documentation would need to be signed off by the scrutineer and extraordinary FLTQC members. HoD approval (of marketing copy of Course Description and Phase 2 unit summary information) would be completed post-FLTQC (and saved to a specified SharePoint folder).

Natural Sciences

BSc (Hons) Natural Sciences

MSci (Hons) Natural Sciences

For the following, visit: Docs for FLTQC 24.11.21 - All Documents (bath.ac.uk)

Dr G Mathlin presented this item, and all members scrutinised.

The Committee considered the following Phase 2 documentation:

- Rationale for course design:

Professor Hejmadi highlighted the deviation in plan from Phase 1, i.e. that Chemistry would become core, with only 2 pathways offered. The Committee enquired as to the rationale for this change in plan. Dr Mathlin explained that the Phase 1 plan involved the removal of important pathways. However, student feedback since has revealed that if the Phase 1 concept had been offered to current students, they would not have chosen to come to Bath. The accreditation process highlighted that students like how the programmes are structured currently, with clearly defined, specific pathways. Nat Sci does not want to move out of the market it is in now, and into a market in which it would not be competitive. Dr Mathlin agreed to provide a written explanation of the change in approach to CTC for the meeting on 10 December (for subsequent approval by APC).

- Course level information, including Course Description (Annex 3):

The Committee recommended making clearer the 5 or 6 main pathways available to students, in particular the Life Sciences stream, and the approximate balance of the different subjects. Dr Mathlin stated that a useful explanatory document about the pathways had been produced for accreditation which he could use to inform Annex 3. The Chair highlighted the need to make clear that students have choice with regard to the pathway they choose (depending on their A levels), but that once the pathway has been chosen, choice within the pathway is limited. Dr Mathlin agreed to revise Annex 3 and 4 for review by the Committee. Dr Mathlin also agreed to review the current course description and to liaise with Marketing as to whether there is flexibility with the 'Course Approach' character limit, given the complexity of Natural Sciences. Mr Dean suggested including a diagram of the course structure, or a link to another webpage which provides more detail. The Committee noted that diagrams can sometimes cause accessibility problems.

The Committee recommended making clearer the distinction between the BSc and MSci, e.g. the 30 credit MSci research project in either physics, chemistry or biology.

Professor Jones questioned the appropriateness of reference to 'blended delivery'. Mrs Eggleston explained that an institutional position on this is currently being developed.

Professor Jones highlighted the need to ensure that the numbers regarding assessment are broadly accurate, e.g. 25% of the MSci is coursework but Annex 3 gives a range of 10-25% coursework. Dr Mathlin suggested that it might be more appropriate to remove the numbers given the structure of the programme, i.e. the variety of possible routes with the different combinations of units and the way that they will be delivered.

Dr Mathlin confirmed that the VIP is not in the penultimate year of the MSci; it will not feature in the MSci at all. Dr Mathlin agreed to amend Annex 3 and 4 to reflect this.

- Course structure (Annex 4):

Dr Harney highlighted that there is only one 5 credit unit which means the year cannot add up to 60 credits. Dr Mathlin agreed to review this.

- Phase 2 unit summary information (Annex 7):

Professor Jones noted that the Nat Sci portfolio units contain lab work in the different subject areas and highlighted the need to establish a mechanism (e.g. in SAMIS) to ensure that students take the right elements according to their pathway, e.g. to meet prerequisites. Dr Mathlin explained that the Nat Sci portfolio units would provide a core of commonality, thereby engendering cohort cohesion, as well as different pre-determined skills-based components (possibly with some limited choice) that students will take depending on the pathway they have chosen. The Committee noted that student transcripts would need to accurately reflect what they have undertaken, e.g. computing, extra labs, or analytical chemistry in Year 2.

- Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILO) mapping (Annex 5).
- Oversight and Feedback (Annex 6).

The Committee agreed to approve the Phase 2 documentation, subject to the action points above being addressed. Professor Hejmadi recommended that the Nat Sci Team meet regularly with the service departments going forward.

3081 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.