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Meeting: SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT  
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF  
LEARNING, TEACHING AND QUALITY COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Wednesday 10 April 2024, 14.15pm

Venue: Remote – via MS Office TEAMS

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**Present:**

Dr T WAKELEY (Chair)  
Dr J ELLIS-BRUSH  
Dr S GUSTAFSSON  
Prof M HARNEY (CPAC representative)  
Mrs L HAYNES (CLT representative)  
Prof R JACKSON  
Dr R KAMM  
Ms I LE PATOUREL (Academic Registry representative)  
Mrs N MAHIL  
Dr T MCLAREN  
Dr S SHAW (CPAC representative)

**In Attendance:**

Ms K ELLIOTT, secretary to meeting, School Assistant Registrar  
Professor E THOMPSON, School Director of Doctoral Studies  
Ms F HARDING, School Quality Administrator

**Apologies for absence were received from:** Dr M SHULVER, Mr A FAHEEM (Student representative), Mr K EVJENTH (Student representative), Dr L STUBBS

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**ACTION**

**Part I Business**

**122 Declaration of Interest**

There were no declared conflicts of interest.

**123 Purpose of meeting**

An extraordinary meeting, for the approval of Curriculum Transformation (CT) Phase 2 proposals for MBA courses and Phase 2 and 3 proposals for MRes course, all to be implemented from 2025/26. The role of the committee was confirmed as detailed on the agenda including:

The F/SLTQC will consider at Phase 2 whether the material information provided on the CT course is coherent and robust, and therefore appropriate for inclusion in the prospectus. The Phase 2 submission should provide assurance that the course will deliver what is claimed in the text for marketing the course.

The F/SLTQC will consider at Phase 3 whether the course design has the necessary underpinning detail to provide assurance on the course and unit information forms a coherent whole.

## **124 Background documentation**

The Committee received background documents:

- CT Principles (Paper SLTQC23/24-035).
- Academic Framework (Paper SLTQC23/24-036).
- Guidance notes to F/SLTQC members (Paper SLTQC23/24-037).
- Subject benchmark statements:
  - Master's degree characteristics statement (Paper SLTQC23/24-038).
  - Business and Management (Paper SLTQC23/24-039b).
- Phase 1 documentation and CTC feedback for Full-time MBA (Paper SLTQC23/24-040).
- Phase 2 Forms A and B which lists School's interdependencies and any exemptions from Academic Framework (Paper SLTQC23/24-041).
- Assessment Taxonomy (Paper SLTQC23/24-042).

## **125 Phase 2 proposals for School of Management postgraduate courses**

### **a Full-time Master of Business Administration (Paper SLTQC23/24-043).**

The Director of Studies for the course, Prof R JACKSON introduced the redesigned course structure and noted that the new design has been created in response to stakeholder feedback. The content will better fit modern employment needs. Larger, more integrated, units have been created which result in an overall reduction in assessments. Similar to competitors the course will reduce the weighting of the projects to fit more into the course's core content. Skills for both the course but also future employment and personal development have been integrated into a credit-bearing unit. International opportunities to collaborate with companies on projects will be supplemented by an opportunity to take an optional unit at an exchange partner institution.

The Committee was informed that the candidates for the Full-time course usually have at least 3 years prior work experience, they tend to be international students. It was noted that whilst the School's marketing team had been involved in consultations and focus groups whilst the redesign was created, the marketing materials have not been full agreed at the time of this meeting. The Committee confirmed that the marketing materials need to be completed by July 2024 and that these must reflect the course design as approved by this Committee.

Committee members indicated that the documentation was clear and met the requirements for approval.

In response to a query from a member, it was confirmed that the School wishes to reconfirm the existing exemptions that the course has with regard to semesterisation and modularisation.

It was confirmed that using Modular as period in which units will run would better reflect the intention, rather than using AY.

Dr HARNEY recommended checking if the course's accreditors permit condonement. The School understands that condonement is permitted by AMBA, but this will be checked with the accreditors.

Discussing the Course Intended Learning Outcomes, Professor JACKSON noted that these were different for the Full-time and Executive courses as these reflect the attributes required from the different stakeholders for the two courses.

Separately, the secretary will consult with Registry to confirm information needed to support the award of named exit awards rather than generic exit awards.

The AMBA requirement for a minimum of 500 contact hours will be met by the course.

**b** Executive Master of Business Administration (Paper SLTQC23/24-044).

The Director of Studies for the course, Dr J ELLIS-BRUSH introduced the redesigned course structure and noted that the new design has been created in response to stakeholder feedback. The students differ from those taking the Full-time course, with those on the Executive course having been in work for 10 years or more and being UK-based and in employment. The course is studied over 2-years on a part-time basis. To increase flexibility, the proposal is to change delivery from in-person Thursday/Friday/Saturday to in-person Friday/Saturday with supplementary remote delivery (synchronous for any content support, asynchronous to support individual and group learning).

Larger, more integrated, units have been created which result in an overall reduction in assessments. Similar to competitors the course will reduce the weighting of the projects to fit more into the course core content. Skills for both the course but also future employment and personal development have been integrated into a credit-bearing unit. The UN Sustainability Goals will be embedded through each unit, and students will be supported to be active participants in innovations for the future of work (this differs from the FMBA course which will seek to teach students how to navigate future changes that occur).

Noting the previous conversation about marketing materials (documented under 125 a above), the Committee recommended that the course summary and description should highlight the unique aspects of the Executive MBA course. It was noted that marketing material may be provided which highlights a specific branding for the University's MBA courses. However this

could be completed separately, leaving the courses free to emphasise what made them appropriate for their own audiences.

The Chair queried if the accrediting body accepted asynchronous teaching within its contact hours. The belief is that AMBA counts synchronous remote teaching within its definition of contact hours. The course will include synchronous delivery for content, there may be additional asynchronous remote delivery to assist students' personal study. This will be checked with AMBA.

Dr MCLAREN indicated that when completing Phase 3 unit details it would be important to review the leadership based units to ensure these are distinct from each other and provide progression for the students.

It was confirmed that the School wishes to reconfirm the existing exemptions that the course has with regard to semesterisation and modularisation

Separately, the secretary will liaise with Registry to confirm information needed to support the award of named exit awards rather than generic exit awards.

The AMBA requirement for a minimum of 500 contact hours will be met by the course.

**AGREED:** The Committee confirmed the Phase 2 proposals for the School of Management's postgraduate courses. No exemptions from the Academic Framework were required.

The Secretary to produce an action list based on points raised by committee members during the meeting, when these actions have been completed the Chair would confirm that documentation was fully complete.

Sec  
Chair

**AGREED:** Due to exemption renewal requests and design innovations these course proposals will be considered by CPAC.

Sec

## 126 Phase 2/3 proposals for School of Management postgraduate courses

MRes in Management (Paper SLTQC23/24-045).

The Director of Studies for the course, Prof E THOMPSON introduced the redesigned course structure and noted that the MRes course is not marketed as a stand-alone award but provides the first year training for an Integrated PhD.

The Committee was informed that whilst the School understood that an award of MRes was only made as an exit award from the IPhD, it had recently become known that Registry were about to award both the MRes and PhD when students completed the IPhD successfully.

Professor THOMPSON noted that PhDs are awarded for original work that advances knowledge and is potentially publishable. The MRes provides the skills to start the PhD process, it does not provide an opportunity to produce work that would be of suitable depth to contribute to the work submitted for a PhD. The MRes is the normal entry route to IPhD within the School,

candidates are only permitted to study a PhD if they can evidence that they have already gained equivalent training elsewhere. Dr GUSTAFSSON noted that IPhDs are becoming the norm in UK Business Schools with many competitors following this model.

The Committee agreed to review the documentation as is for the MRes, but that the course team should investigate the possible removal of both awards being made to students.

Some tidy-ups to the specification in regard to course intended learning outcomes and documenting the potential part-time route were noted.

Committee members indicated that the documentation was clear and met the requirements for approval.

**AGREED:** The Committee confirmed the Phase 2/3 proposals for the School of Management's MRes course. No exemptions from the Academic Framework were required.

The Secretary to produce an action list based on points raised by committee members during the meeting, when these actions have been completed the Chair would confirm that documentation was fully complete. Sec Chair

**AGREED:** Course team to decide whether MRes should only be an exit award for IPhD or whether both an MRes and PhD would be awarded at the completion of the PhD element. A revised course specification of IPhD to be created and reviewed by appropriate committees. ET Sec

## Part II Business

*There are no items of this type on the agenda*

## Part III Business

*There are no items of this type on the agenda*

## Part III Business

## 127 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

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The meeting concluded at 16:20 pm

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