

Faculty of Engineering & Design

Meeting: FACULTY BOARD OF STUDIES
Date and Time: Wednesday 18 May 2016 at 2.15 pm
Venue: 2 East 3.4

Present:

Prof Gary Hawley	Dean (Chair)
Mr Joseph Alenchery	PGT student representative
Dr Ivan Astin	Dept. of Electronic & Electrical Eng.
Dr Sally Clift	Associate Dean, Graduate Studies
Mrs Hilary Cooksley	Subject Librarian (<i>attending on behalf of David Stacey</i>)
Dr Adrian Evans	Dept. of Electronic & Electrical Eng.
Dr Mark Evernden	Dept. of Arch & Civil Eng.
Dr Marco Formentini	School of Management
Prof Andrew Heath	Associate Dean, L&T
Prof Tim Ibell	Associate Dean, Research
Dr Nigel Johnston	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering
Prof Gary Lock	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering
Dr Tim Mays	Dept. of Chemical Engineering
Dr Marcelle McManus	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering
Dr Mike Wilson	Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

In Attendance:

Prof Peter Wilson	Dept. of Electronic & Electrical Eng (<i>attending for Paper FE2015-16/124</i>)
Mrs Rachel Summers	Faculty Assistant Registrar

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Ms Ruth Burdett, Dr Steve Cayzer, Dr Kirill Cherednichenko, Dr Alex Copping, Dr Marianne Ellis, Dr Jeff Gavin, Ms Wadzi Pasipamire, Mrs Jane Phippen, Ms Charlotte Russell, Dr Peter Shepherd, Mr David Stacey, Mr Carl Tholin-Chittenden, Professor Pete Walker, Mr Matthew Wickens.

ACTION**1168 WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

Apologies as detailed above were noted.

1169 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (FE2015-16/121)

The unreserved minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies held on 20 April 2016 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings.

1170 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

1171 **CHAIR'S BUSINESS**

The Chair gave a brief summary of the presentation he would be making to University Council on the strategic aims and key issues for the Faculty. A key issue for the Faculty is space and the ageing estate and infrastructure of 2, 4 and 6 East. The University has already invested £23 million in the new 4 East South Building which will provide research, teaching and studio space for the Faculty. Major refurbishment of the East buildings, known as the ACER (Backfill) Project will be carried out over the summer and will create

- Refurbished and enlarged research space in the Dept. of Arch & Civil Eng.
- Refurbished and extended design studio space in Mechanical Engineering to support the new Integrated Design degree
- Re-developed space in Electronic & Electrical Engineering to support undergraduate student project activity as well as new teaching laboratories.

The project will enhance/maximise approximately 1,200m² of available teaching and research space and will provide current and future students with flexible areas that can be reconfigured for varying educational purposes including individual and group project work and the development of new research laboratories.

In teaching and learning the Faculty has been actively reviewing its existing portfolio of PGT provision and identifying target subject areas/disciplines in which new provision can be developed (two proposals being presented to today's Board of Studies for strategic approval). Year on year the Faculty has seen increasing demand for undergraduate placement opportunities and placement opportunities at PGT level are also being developed. The Faculty aims to deliver growth in PGR numbers but the challenge is how to achieve this – Doctoral Training Centres (CDT/ DTCs) will play a pivotal role in supporting this growth in PGR.

The Faculty has been developing plans for a new Institute of Advanced Automotive Propulsion Systems (IAAPS) to be based at the Bristol and Bath Science Park. IAAPS will be a global centre of excellence delivering transformational R&D for future generations of low carbon propulsion vehicles and will place Bath at the centre of future advanced engineering developments whilst providing a cutting edge facility to benefit the UK automotive industry.

The Dean agreed to circulate his presentation to Board members.

1172 **CHAIR'S ACTIONS**

The Board noted Chair's actions as detailed in paper FE2015-16/123

1173 **REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATE DEANS & HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS**

- a) Professor Ibell (Associate Dean Research) reported that, in anticipation of the University's next call for Research Equipment funding, he had emailed staff to request one page outline bids for the replacement of aging equipment. The Faculty's grant income for the current academic cycle is below the level achieved in previous years and is a matter of concern. Faculty Research Committee had recently agreed to extend an invitation to representatives from EPSRC to visit the Faculty – a similar meeting had recently been hosted by the Science Faculty. Prof Ibell also advised that he planned to introduce a forum for all probationary academic staff and Prize Fellows in the Faculty. The majority of academic staff in the Faculty have now attended a REF workshop but the programme will continue in the coming year in order that newly appointed staff might participate.

- b) Professor Heath (Associate Dean L&T) reported on behalf of the Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering and advised that colleagues would be moving into the new 4East South building in late June / early July ; a number had also been temporarily relocated to Wessex House in preparation for the ACER project. The Department is currently advertising for Dr Michael Lawrence's replacement and readvertising for a Professorial position. In his AD role Prof Heath drew the Board's attention to the recently published Government white paper 'Success as a Knowledge Economy: Teaching Excellence, Social Mobility and Student Choice' Alongside the Teaching Excellence Framework the proposals in the paper include major changes and reforms to Higher Education, the implications of which are not yet fully understood.
- c) Dr Evans (HoD Electronic & Electrical Eng.) reported that an offer of appointment had been made for the remaining Prize Fellow position to Dr Despina Moshou who it was hoped would join the Dept. in September. The Dept. had received 127 applications for the five academic positions currently vacant. Dr Weijia Yuan had recently been promoted to Reader.
- d) Dr Clift (Associate Dean, Graduate Studies) noted that the Government White Paper also contained potentially huge impacts for PGR related issues not least the proposals to merge the Research Funding Councils. The Wakeham Review of STEM Degree Provision & Graduate Employability published in April will similarly have a major influence on the future direction of engineering teaching at HE level.
- e) Dr Mays (HoD Chem Eng.) reported that shortlisting was currently taking place for a Reader post and the Department was also advertising for two Lecturer positions. He was pleased to report that PhD student Jonathan Wagner was one of the finalists for the Ede and Ravenscroft Prize and Miss Jemma Rowlandson had been awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Postgraduate Prize for Public Engagement with Research. Dr Chris Chuck had been promoted to Reader.
- f) Dr Lock (HoD MEch Eng) was pleased to report that Dr Carl Sangan had been awarded the John Willis Award for 2016 and Dr Kevin Robinson and Dr Geraint Owen had been awarded the Best Team in Support of Student Learning Award. The Department's annual Design Exhibition was scheduled for the following week at which the keynote Joseph Black speech would be given by an alumnus of the Department – Dr Jenny Cane, Project Lead Engineer at the Culham Centre for Fusion Energy (CCFE). Prof Lock noted that Dr Marcelle McManus would be taking a sabbatical in semester two of 2016/17.

1174 LIBRARY MATTERS

Ms Cooksley reported on the following items of library business,

- As usual the Library has been extremely busy over the revision and exam period.
- The Library has now 'gone live' with the new Library Management System, Alma (back end IT system which runs our processes). User experience of searching the Library catalogue shouldn't be impacted, but colleagues were asked to let David or Hillary know if you experience any problems.
- Summer loans will be extended over the vacation period and full details will be publicised soon.
- Short loan books (high demand books kept behind issue desk) are now loanable for longer – in simplified terms for a day rather than half a day, which has had a positive response from students.
- Trials of a number of databases including 'Building Types Online' which includes 850 building case studies are continuing. Links are available from the Library webpage for ACE, feedback to David please.

Subject librarians are keen to liaise with academic colleagues regarding the potential Library resource requirements arising from the proposed new PGT programmes.

1175 FACULTY LEARNING TEACHING & QUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2015-16/127)

The unreserved minutes of the Faculty Learning Teaching & Quality Committee meeting held on 9 March 2016 were received and noted

1176 FACULTY RESEARCH STUDENTS COMMITTEE MINUTES (FE2015-16/130)

The unreserved (unconfirmed) minutes of the Faculty Research Students Committee meeting held on 22 March 2016 were received and noted.

1177 MINUTES OF SSLC MEETINGS (FE2015-16/131-134)

The Board received the unconfirmed minutes of Staff Student Liaison Committees as follows

- (i) Learning Partnerships Swindon College 19 January and 22 March 2016
- (ii) Dept. of Electronic & Electrical Engineering 2 Dec 2015 and 2 March 2016
- (iii) Dept, of Chemical Engineering 26 February 2016
- (iv) Faculty PGR SSLC 12 April 2016.

1178 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of other business.