

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Board of the Faculty of Arts

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Faculty of Arts held on Wednesday 12 February 2014.

Present: Professor S Swain (Chair), Professor D Anderson, Professor C Bates, Dr C Bilton, Dr R Bivins, Dr J Burns, Professor K Butcher, Dr D Fearn, Professor E Gallafent, Dr J Garde-Hansen, Professor N Holdsworth, Dr K Hooper, Mr M Hulse, Dr C Jenainati, Dr J Lee, Dr D Lines, Professor A Menezes, Dr B Roeder, Dr H Schmitz, Professor P Smith, Mr A Thompson

Apologies: Dr Sean Allan, Professor L Campbell, Dr C Constable, Ms J Cooper, Dr J Gilmore, Professor S Gilson, Dr R Fagge, Dr P-F Fraiture, Professor S Hand, Professor N Hewlett, Professor T Howard, Dr R King, Dr D Lambert, Professor M Luddy, Mrs T MacKinnon, Dr L Meadows (Secretary), Miss K Moozova, Dr P Mukherjee, Professor A Reeve, Professor P Scott, Professor M Soteriou, Mr E Stewart, Dr T White

In attendance: Ms K Mattock Barylo, Professor J Palmowski (Item 23b), Miss J Sharp, Professor S Willis (Item 23b)

19/13-14 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Board held on 7 November 2013 (paper BFA.12/13-14) be approved.

20/13-14 Faculty of Arts Doctoral Training Centre (CADRE)

RECEIVED:

An oral update from the Chair of the Arts Graduate Studies Committee, together with a paper that was considered by the University Steering Committee on 16 December 2013, on progress made to date to establish a Faculty Doctoral Training Centre (Paper SC.36/13-14).

REPORTED:

- (a) That a Faculty Doctoral training Centre (Centre for Arts Doctoral Research Excellence – CADRE) had been approved in principle by the Steering Committee on 16th December 2013;
- (b) That an Administrator post would be advertised in the near future to provide support for the Centre, with the successful candidate probably starting in post during the summer term;
- (c) That the number of scholarships allocated to the Faculty through the Chancellor's Award scheme would not be capped for 2014/15, and that the Faculty of Arts would receive an additional five places from the Chancellor's Pot;
- (d) That there would be a minimum of 12 allocations of awards to the Faculty of Arts;

- (e) That the Faculty needed to carefully consider how funding lost as a result of the failed bid would be covered during the period 2014-2019, in addition to building collaborations and relationships ahead of the next funding application to the AHRC being submitted;

(by the Chair)

- (f) That Dr Chris Bilton and Dr Penny Roberts be thanked for their work on the project to date.

RESOLVED:

That the Board be updated of further developments at its next meeting in May 2014.

21/13-14 University Research Centres

CONSIDERED:

A proposal from the Research Committee to establish two new University Research Centres in the Faculty of Social Sciences, and one University Research Centre in the Faculty of Science, as set out in paper BFA.13/13-14.

RECOMMENDED: (to the Research Committee)

That the proposals to establish new University Research Centres, as set out in paper BFA.13/13-14, be approved.

22/13-14 University Timetable

CONSIDERED:

A paper from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Planning and Resources) on progress made to date remodelling the University timetable (Paper SC.65/13-14).

REPORTED:

- (a) That proposals for a new teaching block to be built on Tocil Field had recently been announced, which would include a large 500-seat lecture theatre;
- (b) That some locally timetabled rooms would be centrally timetabled to enable effective use of rooms;
- (c) That restoration work would be undertaken in some Humanities Building rooms.

RESOLVED:

- (d) That any further comments be sent to the Central Teaching Timetable Remodel Steering Group, by emailing Dr Emma Melia;
- (e) That the Central Teaching Timetable Remodel Steering Group be thanked for their planning of the utilisation of rooms for the Faculty of Arts.

23/13-14 Interdisciplinary degrees

(a) BA in Liberal Arts

RECEIVED:

An update from the Chair of the Arts Undergraduate Studies Committee on progress made to date to establish a Liberal Arts degree (Paper AUSC.14/13-14).

REPORTED: (by C Jenainati)

- (i) That, at its meeting on 22 January 2014, the AUSC had approved in principle the establishment of a Liberal Arts degree;
- (ii) That the Liberal Arts Working Group had subsequently met on Monday 10 February 2014 and, as a result, further refinements to the Course Proposal document were being made;
- (iii) That the next step of the process would be to undertake external market research
- (iv) That the Liberal Arts Working Group was open to all members who wished to contribute;
- (v) That the initial intake target would be 20, increasing in future years;

(by Professor P Smith)

- (vi) That Erasmus funding would be available for those students studying abroad for 12 weeks, and that, given Warwick's terms were not 12 weeks long, some courses have used compulsory language teaching to create a 12 week term;

(by Professor H Schmitz)

- (vii) That European universities use semesters rather than terms, which could raise some operational difficulties with exchange programmes

;

- (viii) That market research should investigate a number of possible pathways through the new degree, including:
 - (A) 3 years - without a year abroad
 - (B) 4 years - with a year abroad
 - (C) 3 years - with a semester abroad;

(by Dr R Bivins)

- (ix) That further consideration be given to teaching throughout the academic year, as some departments teach in Term 3 and offer yearlong courses, and that this structure would preclude some students from taking certain modules if they spent Term 3 abroad;

(by Professor N Holdsworth)

- (x) That students would need to realise that work placements were not a guaranteed aspect of the course and that numbers of placements available would be limited;

(by the Chair)

- (xi) That the Working Group and members of the Board be thanked for their efforts, noting that the development of the degree had been a

team effort across all Faculties led by Dr Jenainati, who was thanked for her efforts.

(b) BASc in Global Sustainability

RECEIVED:

- (i) A concept paper on the development of a joint degree with Monash University (Paper BUGS.15/13-14);
- (ii) An oral update by Professor Jan Palmowski, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate and Transnational Education) and Professor Sue Willis, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Social Inclusion), Monash University.

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

- (iii) That the Arts Undergraduate Studies Committee received Paper BUGS.15/13-14 at the meeting on 22 January 2014 (minute AUSC.25/13-14 referred);
- (iv) That the AUSC had noted the course structure required significant further development;
- (v) That the market in both the UK and Australia should be tested to ensure adequate demand;
- (vi) That running a collaborative course across two institutions would pose significant administrative delivery challenges;

(by Professor J Palmowski)

- (vii) That Global Sustainability would be a flagship programme and that, once the infrastructure had been established to support the degree, would be of benefit to all those wanting to set up other interdisciplinary courses;
- (viii) That a Course Director had been appointed;
- (ix) That a virtual space for students to come together would be developed;
- (x) That all Departments could be involved;

(by Professor S Willis)

- (xi) That consideration would be given to which campuses would be utilised – including Johannesburg and Malaysia and Monash's base in Prato;

(by the Chair)

- (xii) That the Board wished the project success and that Departmental-level conversations would be welcomed.

24/13-14 Arts Undergraduate Studies Committee

RECEIVED:

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Faculty held on 22 January 2014 (Paper BFA.14/13-14).

25/13-14 Arts Graduate Studies Committee

RECEIVED:

- (a) The minutes of the meeting of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty held on 28 January 2014 (BFA.15/13-14);
- (b) An oral report from the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty.

REPORTED: (by C Bilton)

- (c) That an informal group would be created to discuss PGT / PGR combined programmes and new funding opportunities;
- (d) That the Review of the Graduate School had been supported by AGSC.

26/13-14 Student Representatives' Issues

RECEIVED:

Oral reports from the Faculty of Arts Undergraduate and Postgraduate Student representatives.

REPORTED: (by Mr A Thompson)

(a) Strike Action:

- (i) That students were concerned that, due to recent strike action, topics would appear in examinations that had not been taught;

(by Professor D Anderson)

- (ii) That examinations had been set five weeks ago and papers could not therefore be amended;
- (iii) That the Faculty was investigating ways to ensure that all topics would be covered and that affected students would be communicated with ahead of the end of term;

(by Dr C Jenainati)

- (iv) That SSLC reps should be requesting that any topics missed due to strike action be covered in Term 3 revision sessions.

(b) Space for Postgraduate Students

- (i) That a lack of study / office space available to Postgraduate students continued to be raised as an area of concern;

(by the Chair)

- (ii) That bespoke space for postgraduate students would be factored into the design of the new Humanities Building and that students would have an opportunity to complete a survey to feed in their ideas.

27/13-14 Items for Discussion at Senate

RESOLVED:

That progress made to date on the creation of the Liberal Arts degree be taken for discussion at Senate.

28/13-14 Any other business

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

(a) Establishment of the School of Modern Languages:

- (i) That it was proposed that the Sub-faculty of Modern Languages should be reconstituted as a School of Modern Languages;
- (ii) That the Chair of the Sub-faculty would become Head of School and a new management team would be created;
- (iii) That the new School structure would create a streamlined admissions process for applicants, as there would be a limited number of entry routes rather than the large volume of entry routes currently available;
- (iv) That an Implementation Group had been established, and the title and admissions structure of the new School were under discussion;

RESOLVED:

- (v) That the Board welcomed the principle of the new School structure, and wished to remain informed of progress at the next Board meeting;

- (b) That Dr Laura Meadows (Secretary to the Board) would be leaving the University in the Spring and was to be thanked for her work in support of the Board, not least on the new Humanities Building;

(by C Bilton)

- (c) That the [Warwick Creative Exchange](#) had more cultural organisations than academics currently engaged, and therefore welcomed new involvement.

Part two: items to report without discussion

29/13-14 University Policy on the Timing of the Provision of Feedback to Students on Assessed Work

RECEIVED:

Headline data considered by the sub-group and the sub-committees of the Board (Paper BFA.11/13-14).

30/13-14 Course Approval

REPORTED:

- (a) That, at its meeting on 22 January 2014, the Arts Undergraduate Studies Committee approved the following courses:
 - (i) Department of Classics and Ancient History
 - (A) BA Hons in Classics (Ancient Greek) with Study Abroad in Europe, to commence in October 2014 (paper AUSC.12/13-14);
 - (B) BA Hons in Classics (Latin) with Study Abroad in Europe, to commence in October 2014 (paper AUSC.13/13-14);
 - (C) BA Hons in Ancient History and Classical Archaeology with Study in Europe, to commence in October 2014 (paper AUSC.21/13-14);
 - (ii) Hispanic Studies
 - (A) BA Hons in Hispanic Studies with Film, to commence in October 2014 (paper AUSC.15/13-14);
 - (B) BA Hons in Hispanic Studies and Theatre, to commence in October 2014 (paper AUSC.16/13-14);
- (b) That, at its meeting on 22 January 2014, the Arts Undergraduate Studies Committee approved in principle the BA Hons in Liberal Arts degree course proposal, to commence in October 2015 (paper AUSC.14/13-14);
- (c) That at its meeting on 28 January 2014, the Arts Graduate Studies Committee approved in principle the MA in Global Shakespeare course proposal, subject to the receipt of further information (minute AGSC.16/13-14(k) referred), to commence in October 2014 (papers AGSC.6/13-14, AGSC.7/13-14, AGSC.8/13-14, AGSC.9/13-14).

31/13-14 Dates of 2013/14 Committee Meetings

REPORTED:

That the last meeting of the Board of the Faculty of Arts for 2013/14 will take place on 19 May 2014, 2-4pm in R.03/04.