

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of the Faculty of Arts held on Wednesday 13 February 2019

Present: Professor D Branch (Chair), Dr J Alexander (History of Art), Professor R Ball (Board of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine Representative), Dr P Botley (English and Comparative Literary Studies), Professor C Constable (Film and Television Studies), Professor R Earle (History), Professor C Jenainati (Cross-Faculty Studies), Dr E John (Philosophy and Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences Representative), Professor A Lavender (Theatre & Performance Studies and Cultural & Media Policy Studies), Professor E Mason (English and Comparative Literary Studies), Dr R Moseley (Film and Television Studies), Professor Z Newby (Classics and Ancient History), Dr S Richardson (Chair of Arts Education Committee), Professor M Scott (Classics and Ancient History), Dr H Wheatley (Deputy Chair), E Worrall (Undergraduate Student Representative).

Apologies: Dr J Burns (Deputy Chair of Arts Education Committee and Director of CADRE), Dr F Camilletti (Modern Languages and Cultures), H Chen (Postgraduate Student Representative), Dr O Davis (Deputy Chair of Arts Education Committee), Dr R Dickinson (Faculty of Arts Senior Tutor), Dr J Hodgkinson (Modern Languages and Cultures), Dr S Jestrovic (Theatre & Performance Studies and Cultural & Media Policy Studies), Professor S Hand, Dr D Morrey (Modern Languages and Cultures), Professor L Pericolo (History of Art), Dr G Schwartz-Leeper (Cross-Faculty Studies).

In attendance: Dr G Fowmes (Engineering – shadowing Chair), C Glover (Assistant Secretary), K Jackson (Library), D Stonefield (Director of Administration for the Faculty of Arts), C Watters (Secretary).

22/18-19 Conflicts of Interest

REPORTED:

- (a) That, should any members or attendees of the Committee have any conflicts of interest relating to agenda items for the meeting, they should be declared in accordance with the Committee of University Chairs (CUC) Higher Education Code of Governance (2014), available online from <http://www.universitychairs.ac.uk/publications/>.

RESOLVED:

- (b) That members of the Committee reported no conflicts of interest relating to agenda items for the meeting.

23/18-19 Minutes

CONSIDERED:

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Faculty of Arts held on 14 November 2018 (paper BFA.08/18-19).

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Faculty of Arts held on 14 November 2018 be approved.

24/18-19 Matters Arising on the Minutes

Termly Faculty Assembly (minute 7/18-19(b) referred)

REPORTED:

That the format and themes for Termly Faculty Assemblies were being considered and would be implemented in the 2019/20 academic year.

25/18-19 Chair's Business

(a) Chair of Faculty

REPORTED:

That Professor Dan Branch would be Chair of the Faculty of Arts from 1st February until 30th June as Professor Penny Roberts was on research leave.

(b) Faculty Widening Participation Officer

REPORTED:

That Damien Homer had been recruited as the Faculty Widening Participation Officer and was now in post and meeting with Departments.

(c) Scholarships

REPORTED:

That the outcomes of the M4C scholarships competition would be communicated to Departments from the 6th of April.

(d) Group Chat Disciplinary Issue

REPORTED:

The Chair signposted the University updates on the incident and thanked departmental and Faculty staff for their hard work in responding to concerns from students and colleagues.

(e) Faculty of Arts Equality and Diversity Forum

CONSIDERED:

A proposal to set up a Faculty of Arts Equality and Diversity Forum to report in to the Board of the Faculty of Arts, as set out in paper BFA.16/18-19.

REPORTED:

(by D Stonefield)

- (i) That the aim of the forum was to close the reporting loop and the forum would join up with Department groups, the work of Senior Tutors and the University level committee.
- (ii) That the Faculty of Arts Student Representatives would be invited to act as the student representatives on the forum or to provide a nominated representative to attend on their behalf;

(by Professor C Jenainati)

- (iii) That the School for Cross-Faculty Studies requested one representative from Liberal Arts and one representative from Global Sustainable Development;

RESOLVED:

That the proposal to set up a Faculty of Arts Equality and Diversity Forum be approved.

26/18-19 Student Representatives' Reports

RECEIVED:

A report from the UG Student Representative, E Worrall, on Liberating the Curriculum BFA.09/18-19.

REPORTED:

(by E Worrall)

- (a) That the paper was not prescriptive but sets out questions for Departments to consider, common complaints and examples of good practice to design the curriculum;
- (b) That the paper had been sent to Staff Student Liaison Committees for consideration;

(by Professor A Lavender)

- (c) That the paper gave a very good overview;
- (d) That the Faculty could consider producing a project to showcase and draw attention to the progress and best practice in this area;

(by Professor E Mason)

- (e) That English and Comparative Literary Studies were holding a second town hall meeting on Decolonising the University on 6th March, 5-6.30pm in H5.42 and there was also a student-staff reading group on this issue.

(by Professor Z Newby)

- (f) That there would be a 'Racing The Classics' workshop on Friday 3 May which students were invited to attend;

(by Professor C Constable)

- (g) That the plurality of authorship needed to be acknowledged when considering the diversity of the curriculum;

(by Dr S Richardson)

- (h) That the paper was a helpful indication of the student view and that staff initiatives should work in parallel with this student voice;

RESOLVED:

That the paper would be taken to SSLCs this term and to the Faculty of Arts Heads of Department Forum in the summer term, and that examples of good practice and relevant events would be collated. That members would encourage SSLC Chairs and convenors to consider the paper.

27/18-19 Proposal for the Creation of a new School of Creative and Visual Cultures

CONSIDERED:

A proposal to create a new School of Creative and Visual Cultures (SCVC), as set out in paper BFA.10/18-19.

REPORTED:

- (a) That there was consensus from the Board that there needed to be further consultation on the name of the School between member and potential member departments;
- (b) That there would be further discussion on this matter at the forthcoming Away Day;

(by Professor A Lavender)

- (c) That the three original stakeholders would produce a more detailed prospectus to model how the School would be with three Departments, and with the potential of four or five in the longer term, which would be considered at the forthcoming Away Day;

(by Dr J Alexander)

- (d) That members of the Department of History of Art were concerned about the level of consultation within the Department.

(by D Stonefield)

- (e) That consultation with Unions was underway.

RECOMMENDED:

That the academic business case for the creation of the new School progress to Senate for consideration with Chair's Action to discuss the consultation process in History of Art.

28/18-19 Report from the Arts Education Committee

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Chair of the Arts Education Committee, Dr S Richardson, together with the unconfirmed minutes from the meeting held on 30 January 2019 (paper BFA.11/18-19) and the Review of Assessment specific meeting to which HoDs were also invited on 23 January 2019 (paper BFA.12/18-19).

REPORTED:

(by Dr S Richardson)

- (a) Review of Assessment Meeting: That concerns regarding the layout of the year and student voice had been taken back from this meeting;
- (b) Employability Strategy: That the Director of Employability was keen to hear about Department initiatives and for Departments to create their own flavour of the strategy, with the Chair of the AEC noting that the Employability paper from Dr R Stone brought together a lot of examples already in place;
- (c) Ethical Review of Student Work: That a sub-committee for review of student cases was being established;
- (d) IATL: That IATL had attended to discuss the opportunities and challenges of interdisciplinary modules and conversations with Departments were ongoing;
- (e) Student Voice: That Dr L Plath and E Worrall had produced a paper on Student Voice and were liaising with the Students' Union on ways to close the feedback loop. The Chair and Secretariat were looking strategically at the issue of getting postgraduate student representation on committees;

(by Professor C Jenainati)

- (f) That concerns were raised by staff that there might be a move to a semester system in the future;

(by Professor E Mason)

- (g) That the proposed introduction of an August exam period raised serious well-being implications for staff;

(by Professor M Scott)

- (h) That consideration should be given to enhance the visibility of modules which already support employability;

(by Dr S Richardson)

- (i) That this was being explored with the Faculty of Social Sciences, who are also keen to maximise visibility of modules through potential initiatives such as festivals/events and a review of the Faculty website;

(by Professor Z Newby)

- (j) That employability should be considered more broadly than the curriculum and the Faculty should look outside of the University to focus on the destinations and employability of Arts graduates as a whole beyond departmental specific efforts.

29/18-19 Report from the Arts Faculty Research and Impact Committee (AFRIC)

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Chair of the Arts Faculty Research and Impact Committee, Dr Helen Wheatley, together with the unconfirmed minutes from the meeting held on 29 November 2018 (paper BFA.13/18-19) and a report to the Board (paper BFA.14/18-19).

REPORTED:

- (a) REG: That colleagues be thanked for their hard work in preparing paperwork for Spring REG;
- (b) Faculty of Arts Research Strategy: That a research strategy document was being developed and there would be opportunity for feedback on this document in the Summer term;
- (c) City of Culture: That there was still funding available for City of Culture activity and colleagues were encouraged to apply;
- (d) Warwick Ventures: That a creative mapping project was currently underway to map creative collaboration outside of the HE sector, and that a workshop was planned for the end of April or start of May for colleagues to attend;
- (e) Public Engagement: That a summer event called 'Arts Out' was being planned which would be the pilot for an ongoing Arts Festival in the local community;
- (f) Impact Lunches: That the next Impact Lunch would take place on 25 April and would be on the topic of working with vulnerable groups.

30/18-19 Faculty of Arts Building

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Director of Administration on the progress of the new Faculty of Arts building.

REPORTED:

- (a) That negotiations with contractors for the tender were ongoing;

- (b) That the aim was still for the building to be completed for the 2021 academic year, noting that it was a Faculty priority to have time built in to the schedule for managing the logistics of the move before the start of term.

31/18-19 Triennial Review of University Research Centres

CONSIDERED:

Papers setting out details for the review of the following University Research Centres relevant to the Faculty of Arts (BFA.15/18-19):

- (i) Centre for Television History, Heritage and Memory Research, Dr Helen Wheatley (Category 3);
- (ii) Early Modern and Eighteenth Century Centre, Professor Mark Knights (Category 3).

RECOMMENDED: (to the University Research Committee)

That the Board commended the great work of the centres and recommended that the following Research Centres continue for a further three years:

- (i) Centre for Television History, Heritage and Memory Research, Dr Helen Wheatley (Category 3);
- (ii) Early Modern and Eighteenth Century Centre, Professor Mark Knights (Category 3).

32/18-19 Any Other Business

None reported.

33/18-19 Next Meeting

REPORTED:

That the next meeting of the Board would take place on Wednesday 22 May 2019, 12-2.30pm, room CMR 1.0, first floor, University House and would include a working lunch:

- (i) Deadline for notification of intention to submit a paper: 12 noon, 1 May 2019;
- (ii) Deadline for draft papers to be submitted by: 12 noon, 8 May 2019;
- (iii) Electronic circulation of papers: 15 May 2019.

34/18-19 Partnerships Committee

REPORTED:

That the minutes of the meetings of the Partnerships Committee were available online at <https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/partnerships/minutes/>.

35/18-19 Academic Quality and Standards Committee

REPORTED:

That the minutes of the meetings of the Academic Quality and Standards Committee were available online at

<http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/aqsc/minutes/>.

36/18-19 University Education Committee

REPORTED:

That the minutes of the meetings of the University Education Committee were available online at <https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/ec/minutes/>.