

Some items are noted as “Exempt information not included” as they contain information that would be withheld from release to the public because an exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK</b> <b>Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences</b> <b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD</b> <b>at 12.00, Friday 24 February 2023, Online via Microsoft Teams</b>		
<b>Present</b>	Professor Nick Vaughan-Williams	Vice-Provost and Chair of the Faculty of Social Sciences
	Professor Chris Brown	Professor, Education Studies
	Professor Jon Coaffee	Professor, PAIS, (Deputy Chair, Research)
	Professor Fiona Copland	Head of Department, Education Studies
	Professor Jon Forster	Head of Department, Statistics (Board of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine representative)
	Dr Marta Guerriero	Associate Professor, Sustainable Development (Board of the Faculty of Arts representative)
	Caleb Heather	Undergraduate student representative
	Professor Ruth Hewston	Director, Centre for Lifelong Learning
	Professor Christoph Hoerl	Professor, Department of Philosophy
	Professor Ben Lockwood	Head of Department, Economics
	Professor Guy Longworth	Head of Department, Philosophy
	Professor Celia Lury	Director, Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies
	Professor Alice Mah	Head of Department, Sociology
	Professor Chris Rogers	Associate Professor, PAIS
	Dr Chris Strelluf	Associate Professor, Applied Linguistics
	Professor Jacky Swan	Professor, Warwick Business School
	The Chair of the Faculty Education Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences (Deputy Chair, Education)	
	Dr Naomi Waltham-Smith	Director, Institute for Employment Research
	Professor Chris Warhurst	Senior Policy Advisor, Education (Secretary)
<b>Attending</b>	Gabriella Bersanetti	Academic Registrar (item 034 only)
	Adam Child	Executive Officer, Faculty of Social Sciences
	Rose Clark	Director of Faculty Administration, Social Sciences
	Jackie Clarke	Education Projects & Academic Governance Officer (attending in place of Laura King) (minutes)
	Phil Griffiths	Academic Support Librarian (attending in place of Christine Bradford)
	Jackie Hanes	Research Strategy and Development Manager, Research and Impact Services
	Harbeena Lalli	Head of Strategic Programmes and Governance, Estates (item 035 only)
	Charlotte Livingstone	Associate Professor, Academic Development Centre
	Dr Jennie Mills	Director of Strategic Initiatives (Social Sciences)
	Nikki Muckle	Professor, School of Law, FSS EDI Forum Chair
	Professor Celine Tan	
<b>Ref</b>	<b>Item</b>	
025	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies were received from Ema Ushioda, Richard Hastings, Kate Ireland, Azrini Wahidin, Matthew Clayton, Andrew Williams, Jonathan Garton, Andrew Lockett, Ritchie Ross, Nina-Anne Lawrence, Noortje Marres, David Lees, Laura King, Christine Bradford, Caroline Elliott, Will Haywood, Susie Cowley-Haselden, Sabrina Muhamad Sabri and Lynne Pettinger.	

026	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>No new declarations were made.</p>
027	<p><b>Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion</b></p> <p>The Chair invited members to consider items through the EDI lens, and reflect how as members the Board could support and champion its principles.</p>
028	<p><b>Minutes of last meeting held on 23 November 2022</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2022 (028-BFSS240223, Protected) were <b>approved</b>.</p>
029	<p><b>Matters arising from last meeting held on 23 November 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>Item 010 (University Research Centres – Triennial Review 2022/23)</b></p> <p>The Secretary reported that feedback from the Faculty relating to the research centres which had been reviewed under this item (Warwick Interdisciplinary Research Centre for International Development (WICID), Industrial Relations Research Centre (IRRU), Warwick Cancer Research Centre and Warwick Environmental Systems Interdisciplinary Centre (WESIC)) had been progressed by the Research Committee.</p> </li> </ul>
<b>Chair's Update</b>	
030	<p><b>Chair's Business and Actions</b></p> <p>There was no Chair's Business to report.</p>
<b>Main Items</b>	
031	<p><b>ARC Autumn Review FSS Reconfiguration Paper</b></p> <p>The Chair presented the report (031-BFSS240223, Protected). Key points were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A consultation process on the proposal to reconfigure five Departments/Centres into a new School was underway and was being led by the VP/Faculty Chair, Faculty Director of Administration, and Professor Geoff Lindsay.</li> <li>The proposal had been discussed at the Academic Resourcing Committee's Autumn Review meeting, at a joint working group of trade unions, and would also be discussed at Senate on 26 April 2023.</li> <li>A reconfiguration working group, chaired by Professor Geoff Lindsay, had been convened. The working group would consider various aspects of the reconfiguration, including governance, education, research and administrative structures. Membership of the working group included the VP/Faculty Chair, Faculty Director of Administration, Heads of Departments/Centres, and an additional member from each Department/Centre would attend on a rotating basis. The working group would meet regularly.</li> <li>Key benefits of the proposals included efficiencies associated with a larger School and facilitating greater resilience across professional services teams.</li> <li>A School would facilitate greater collaboration, supporting new research, teaching opportunities and impact, alongside the Social Sciences Grand Challenge.</li> <li>Opportunities for co-location of the new School were also being explored.</li> <li>A recruitment process to appoint a Head of School and Head of Administration would commence once governance processes had been completed.</li> <li>Implementation of the new School was likely to commence academic year 2023-24.</li> <li>Meetings with individual Departments/Centres involved in the reconfiguration were taking place to understand any anxieties and provide reassurance.</li> </ul>
032	<p><b>University Research Centres – Triennial Review 2021/22</b></p> <p>The Head of the Department of Sociology presented the report on the triennial review of the Warwick Mind and Action Research Centre (WMA) (032-BFSS240223). Key points were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WMA was a category III departmental Centre under the Directorship of Professor Naomi Eilan (Philosophy).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WMA was a key contributor to the departmental research strategy of Philosophy, it supported and generated interdisciplinary research between philosophy and psychology and between different areas in philosophy that fell under the loose heading 'philosophy of mind'. The WMA's new aim was to grow activity under the emerging MEEP research theme (Mind, Epistemology, Ethics, Politics).</li> <li>• There was a recommendation from the Director of the Warwick Institute for Employment Research that WMA's constitution (section 3: Membership) is amended to clarify that membership of the WMA could be drawn from the Department of Psychology and Education Departments and Centres at Warwick, as well as the Department of Philosophy.</li> <li>• In response to a query from the Director of the Warwick Institute for Employment Research, the Head of Philosophy recommended renewal of the Centre.</li> </ul> <p><b>DECISION:</b> The Board recommended the renewal of the Warwick Mind and Action research centre (WMA) to the Research Committee, noting a recommendation from the Director of the Warwick IER that the WMA's constitution be amended to clarify that its membership could be drawn from the Department of Psychology and Education Departments and Centres at Warwick, as well as from the Department of Philosophy.</p>
033	<p><b>Athena Swan Report &amp; EDI Update</b></p> <p>The Faculty's EDI Forum Chair presented the report 033-BFSS240223. The Board welcomed the report and key points were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Faculty, WBS and Sociology held silver Athena SWAN awards, seven departments hold bronze and PAIS and potentially Law would apply for silver in November 2023. CTE and Applied Linguistics would submit their applications later this year.</li> <li>• The Chair thanked Rose Clark and Robert Horton for their work on the report.</li> <li>• At CTE's request, the Secretary reported that CTE was making good progress towards their Bronze submission against the new framework. CTE would find it helpful if any colleagues working towards Bronze could contact CTE as they would be willing to peer review sections of their submission if helpful.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Professor Celine Tan to liaise with Robert Horton and incorporate the Institute for Employment Research's Athena SWAN submission into the report.</p>
034	<p><b>Optional Over-cattng Implementation Plan</b></p> <p>The Academic Registrar presented the report (034-BFSS240223). Key points from the discussion were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to address the year-on-year reduction in the unit of resource funding and review policy around optional over-cattng had commenced in 2021/22. The Academic Resourcing Committee (ARC) had reviewed a report which had analysed the financial implications of optional over-cattng at its meeting on 14 December 2022 and this had resulted in this implementation plan for discontinuing the practice.</li> <li>• The proposal to end the practice of optional over-cattng would not affect current students, and would only take effect for new students commencing courses of study from October 2024.</li> <li>• It was reported that the proposals could help to address challenges around student wellbeing, module registration, timetabling, staff workload and administrative issues around students registering and de-registering for optional modules.</li> <li>• A concern was raised in relation to first year undergraduate Economics degrees. Ending students' ability to optionally over-cat may reduce the flexibility of the degree and students' ability to study optional modules offered by other departments. This may consequently affect student recruitment.</li> <li>• Concerns were also raised in relation to the rapid implementation of the proposal and that the risks were not yet fully understood. The implementation timeline allowed departments very little time to consider the feasibility and implementation of alternative ways of delivering optionality within 120 CATs, or explore other methods of reducing the administrative load of the current practice of optional over-cattng, such as rigorously enforcing time limits for module de-registration.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The VP/Faculty Chair encouraged members to discuss within departments and feed into the consultation process.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Item</b>	
035	<b>Social Sciences Grand Challenge</b> <i>Exempt information not included.</i>
<b>Other</b>	
036	<b>Any other business</b> The Secretary reported that the <a href="#">National Student Survey</a> had launched recently, and members were asked to promote this within their departments.
<b>Next meeting: Wednesday, 24 May 2023, Senate House Council Chamber</b>	
<b>Items below this line are for receipt and/or approval, without discussion</b>	
<b>Subsidiary and Sub-Committee Reports</b>	
037	<b>Faculty Education Committee: confirmed minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2022</b> The Board received and noted the report (037-BFSS240223)
<b>Relevant Senate Committees Minutes and Reports</b>	
Board of Graduate Studies Minutes	<a href="http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/bgs/minutes/">http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/bgs/minutes/</a>
Partnerships Committee Minutes	<a href="https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/partnerships/minutes/">https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/partnerships/minutes/</a>
Academic Quality and Standards Committee Minutes	<a href="http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/aqsc/minutes/">http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/aqsc/minutes/</a>
University Education Committee Minutes	<a href="https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/ec/minutes/">https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/ec/minutes/</a>
Student Learning Experience and Engagement Committee Minutes	<a href="https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/sleec/minutes/">https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/sleec/minutes/</a>
University Research Committee Minutes	<a href="https://warwick.ac.uk/services/gov/committees/resc/minutes">https://warwick.ac.uk/services/gov/committees/resc/minutes</a>

<b>DECISIONS AND ACTIONS</b>			
<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DECISION/ACTION</b>	<b>LEAD AND DUE DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
2022-2023			
<b>032 University Research Centres – Triennial Review 2021/22</b>	<b>DECISION:</b> The Board recommended the renewal of the Warwick Mind and Action research centre (WMA) to the Research Committee, noting a recommendation from the Director of the Warwick IER that the WMA’s constitution is amended to clarify that its membership could be drawn from the Department of Psychology and Education Departments and Centres at Warwick, as well as from the Department of Philosophy.		
<b>033 Athena Swan Report &amp; EDI Update</b>	<b>ACTION:</b> Professor Celine Tan to liaise with Robert Horton and incorporate the Institute for Employment Research’s Athena SWAN submission into the report.	Robert Horton	Completed