

BOARD OF GRADUATE STUDIES

A meeting of the Board of Graduate Studies will be held on Tuesday 06 November 2018 from 09.30 to 11.30, in Senate House Council Chamber.

Rachel Sandby-Thomas
Registrar

A G E N D A

Notes: The following items and reports are for consideration at the meeting.

Committee papers can be accessed at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bgs/browse>. Questions on items on the agenda or apologies for this meeting should be directed to the Assistant Secretary to the Board, Ellie Shields (bgs@warwick.ac.uk).

1. Minutes of the last meeting

TO CONSIDER:

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 02 October 2018 as set out in paper BGS 08/18-19 (available online).

2. Matters Arising on the Minutes

(a) Thesis Completion Hardship Fund (minute BGS 7/18-19 refers)

TO REPORT:

- (i) That the amount awarded has been increased by 100% in response to the additional funds being available, and that the Graduate School will be discussing with Communications how to publicise the fund more effectively.
- (ii) That £120,000 has been approved for the period 2018/19 to support PGR completion within the REF2021 period.

(b) Science and Medicine Faculty Post-Merger Constitution (minute BGS 11(c)/18-19 refers)

TO REPORT:

- (i) That there is an existing member of BGS from Warwick Medical School, Dr Debbi Marais.

- (c) Maternity Pay for University of Warwick Postgraduate Scholarships (minute BGS 13/18-19 refers)

TO REPORT:

- i) That the Provost has taken Chair's Action on behalf of ARC to approve the change in policy for University-funded studentships, as proposed by the Graduate School, to align with UKRI rates. The costs of this change will have to be covered from the originating fund (i.e. central or departmental as applicable).

3. Students' Union Update

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Postgraduate Officer.

4. Reports from the Chairs of the Faculty Education Committees

TO RECEIVE:

Oral reports from the Chairs of the Faculty Education Committees.

TO REPORT:

- (a) The recommendations from the Faculty Education Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences that:
- i) That it was imperative that the Graduate School had mechanisms and resources in place to facilitate prompt processing of thesis submissions ahead of the REF deadline, noting that an ongoing careful recording of submissions was critical for the reliability of submission rates data.
- ii) That the Board of Graduate Studies consider the potential inequalities of the current system and lobby for University funds to cover maternity/paternity pay for University of Warwick postgraduate scholarships.

5. Chair's/Deputy Chair's Business

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Chair

6. BGS Priorities 18/19

TO CONSIDER:

- (b) A paper from the Chair outlining the strategic priorities for the Board and the Graduate School during the current academic year (paper BGS 09/18-19 (available online)).

7. English Language Waivers

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) A paper from the Head of Immigration Services proposing amendments to the English Language Waiver Policy (paper BGS 10/18-19 (available online)).

8. Postgraduate Enrolment Update

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) The latest information on current postgraduate enrolment numbers and recent trends (to be tabled).

9. Any other business

MATTERS TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE WITHOUT FURTHER DISCUSSION

Note: The following papers are non-controversial or can be accepted with a minimum of explanation. Members of the Committee may, however, ask for any of the following items to be transferred to the 'Matters for Consideration' element of the Agenda by contacting the Assistant Secretary by telephoning 024 765 75345 (ext: 75345), or via e-mail to bgs@warwick.ac.uk prior to the meeting, or by raising the item at the commencement of the meeting.

10. Schedule of Meetings of the Board

TO REPORT:

That the Board will meet subsequently as follows during the academic year 2018-19:

Tuesday 6 November 2018 at 9.00am in Senate House Council Chamber;
Tuesday 15 January 2019 **CANCELLED**;
Tuesday 05 February 2019 at 9.30am in Senate House Council Chamber;
Thursday 30 April 2019 at 9.30am in Senate House Council Chamber;
Tuesday 21 May 2019 at 9.30am in Senate House Council Chamber.