

# UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

## Board of Graduate Studies

There will be a meeting of the Board of Graduate Studies at 2.00pm on Thursday 17 January 2008 in the Council Chamber, University House.

C E Charlton  
University Secretary

**Note: Questions on agendum items or apologies for this meeting should be directed to the Assistant Secretary to the Board, Jocasta Gardner (j.h.gardner@warwick.ac.uk).**

### A G E N D A

1. Minutes of the last meeting

TO CONSIDER:

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 15 November 2007 (copy attached).

2. Matters arising on the minutes

- (a) MA in International Performance Research (Erasmus Mundus bid) (minutes 83(f)/06-07 and 102(d)/06-07, AGSC 4(a)(ii)/07-08 and AQSC 74/06-07 and 3(c)/07-08 refer)

TO REPORT:

- (i) That at its meeting on 7 June 2007, the Board resolved that the proposal for an MA in International Performance Research from the School of Theatre, Performance and Cultural Policy Studies, as set out in papers BGS 59/06-07 and BGS 61/06-07, be considered by the Chair following consultation with the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty of Arts, noting that the proposal had already been approved by the Chair of the Collaborative, Flexible and Distance Learning Sub-Committee but had not yet been approved by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty of Arts;
- (ii) That at its meeting on 23 October 2007, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty of Arts reported under Chair's Action that the Chair, acting on behalf of the Committee, had approved without further amendment the proposal from the School of Theatre, Performance and Cultural Policy Studies to introduce a new MA in International Performance Research in collaboration with the Universities of Amsterdam and Tampere with effect from October 2008, it being noted that this course is subject of a bid to the European Commission's Erasmus Mundus scheme (Papers BGS.59/06-07 and AQSC.93/06-07);
- (iii) That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, had subsequently taken action to approve the proposal for a new MA in International Performance Research in collaboration with the Universities of Amsterdam and Tampere, as set out in papers BGS 59/06-07 and BGS 61/06-07.

- (b) Graduate Awards and Nominations Sub-Committee (minutes 3/07-08 and 29(a)/07-08 and SGS 4/07-08 refer)

TO REPORT:

That the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty of Social Studies had nominated Dr F Peter to serve on the Graduate Awards & Nominations Sub-Committee alongside Professor S Breslin.

- (c) Schedule of Strategic Departmental Reviews for the Period 2007/08 to 2010/11 (minutes BGS 30(e)/07-08 and AQSC 26/07-08 refer)

TO REPORT:

- (i) That at its last meeting, the Board resolved to consider the process for Strategic Departmental Reviews at this meeting;
- (ii) That the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, at its meeting on 21 November, considered the revised guidelines for the Strategic Departmental Review process and recommended (to the Senate) that the revised Guidelines for the Strategic Departmental Review process be approved as set out in paper AQSC 30/07-08, subject to:
- (A) Further clarification of the mechanism by which Committees including Faculty Boards, the Boards of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies, and Academic Quality and Standards Committee may identify and put forward any issues they consider should be explored during Reviews;
- (B) The addition of the Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies to the suggested list of useful meetings.
- (iii) That the Senate, at its meeting on 5 December, had approved the revised guidelines for the Strategic Departmental Review process and that the guidelines and schedule are now available online (<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/gov/sdr/>).

- (d) University Strategy: Learning, Teaching and Assessment Enhancement Strategy (minutes BGS 38/07-08 and AQSC 11/07-08 and 26(c)/07-08 refer)

TO REPORT:

- (i) That the Chair raised the Board's concern about the limited postgraduate focus in the proposed projects with the Academic Quality and Standards Committee;
- (ii) That the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, at its last meeting on 21 November 2007, resolved that a further draft of the University's Learning, Teaching and Enhancement Assessment Strategy be prepared for discussion at the next meeting of that Committee, taking account of the issues discussed at that meeting.

- (e) Postgraduate Certificate in Academic and Professional Practice (minute 100(a)(iii)/06-07 refers)

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty of Medicine.

3. Chair's Business

(a) Warwick Postgraduate Research Scholarships

TO REPORT:

That all departments have been asked to nominate three applicants in Round 1 of the competition for a WPRS award in 2008-09, with the exception of the following departments with more than 60 postgraduate research students which may nominate six applicants:

- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry (including MOAC)
- Institute of Education
- Engineering
- Maths
- Physics
- Warwick Business School

(b) Commonwealth Shared Scholarships Scheme

TO REPORT:

- (i) That the University had been offered 6 awards on the Commonwealth Shared Scholarships Scheme for 2008/09;
- (ii) That at its last meeting, the Board resolved that one award be given to each of the five departments which had bid for an award, with the sixth award to be allocated once lots had been drawn;
- (iii) That lots had now been drawn by the Chair and the sixth award had been allocated to CELTE.

(c) ESRC review of postgraduate funding

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Chair.

TO REPORT:

That as part of the ESRC's review of its postgraduate funding, Oakleigh Consulting visited the University in December to gather information on various aspects of postgraduate development in social science, including strategy, recruitment, finance, supervision and training.

(d) Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES)

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Chair.

TO CONSIDER:

Participation in the Postgraduate Research Survey Experience this academic year.

(e) Collaborative Scholarships

TO REPORT:

A paper on collaborative scholarship schemes (paper BGS 24/07-08, copy attached).

(f) Split-site PhDs

TO REPORT:

A paper on split-site PhDs (paper BGS 25/07-08, copy attached).

4. Chair's Action

TO RECEIVE:

A report on items approved by the Chair on behalf of the Board (paper BGS 26/07-08, copy attached).

5. Reports from the Chairs of the Graduate Studies Committees

TO RECEIVE:

Oral reports from the Chairs of the Graduate Studies Committees.

6. Postgraduate Committee and Students' Union

TO REPORT:

That the following student representatives had been appointed by each of the Boards of the Faculties from amongst the departments in that Faculty:

- (a) Faculty of Arts: Lucy Ayrton
- (b) Faculty of Medicine: David Metcalfe
- (c) Faculty of Social Studies: Quincy Diep
- (d) Faculty of Science: Stephanie Liggins

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Education Officer.

7. Guidelines on the Supervision and Monitoring of Postgraduate Research Students (minutes 14/07-08 and 36/07-08 and AQSC 35/07-08 refer)

TO REPORT:

That the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, at its last meeting, approved the updated *Guidelines on the Supervision and Monitoring of Postgraduate Research Students* be approved as set out in paper BGS 5/07-08 (revised).

8. Amendment to Regulation 15 for Higher Doctorates (minute 19/07-08 refers)

TO REPORT:

That the Board, at its last meeting, resolved that a proposal for amendment to Regulation 15 be considered at the next meeting of the Board, noting that the Higher Doctorate should only be awarded to candidates whose work represents a sustained and distinguished contribution to their subject.

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) A background paper for the proposed amendments to Regulation 15 (paper BGS 36/07-08, copy attached);
- (b) Proposed amendments to Regulation 15 (paper BGS 27/07-08, copy attached).

9. Graduate School ASDAR and University Strategy (minute 10(f)/07-08 refers)

TO RECEIVE:

The Graduate School's response to the key recommendations made in the Graduate School's ASDAR (paper BGS 28/07-08, copy attached).

10. PhD in Multidisciplinary Studies

TO CONSIDER:

An in-principle proposal for the introduction of a PhD in Multidisciplinary Studies (paper BGS 29/07-08, copy attached).

11. Postnominals

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) A summary of the responses were received from universities on their current use of postnominals for sub-degree courses (paper BGS 30/07-08, copy attached);
- (b) A proposal to amend Ordinance 13 (paper BGS 31/07-08, copy attached).

12. Guide to Examinations for Higher Degrees by Research (minute 30(d)/07-08 refers)

TO CONSIDER:

Proposed revisions to the *Guide to Examinations for Higher Degrees by Research* (paper BGS 32/07-08, copy attached, noting that only Parts I-III are being circulated to the Board, since Part IV solely reproduces the relevant University Regulations).

13. Course Approval Form (AQSC minute 32(a)/07-08 refers)

TO REPORT:

- (a) That the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, at its meeting on 21

November, had recommended to the Senate that proposed amendments to the Course Approval form to require more detailed information from departments about the external advice taken during the development of new and restructured courses be approved as set out in paper AQSC 19/07-08, subject to minor amendments proposed during the meeting;

- (b) That the Senate, at its meeting on 5 December, had approved the proposed amendments to the Course Approval form.

14. Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) PhD Student Workshop Funding Competition 2007-08

TO RECEIVE:

- (a) Information on the Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) PhD Student Workshop Funding Competition 2007-08 (paper BGS 33/07-08, copy attached);
- (b) PhD Student Workshop Funding Competition Application Form 2007-08 (paper BGS 34/07-08, copy attached), noting that the information and application form are also available on the IAS webpage at [http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross\\_fac/ias/phdworkshopfunding2007/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ias/phdworkshopfunding2007/).

15. New Course Proposals

TO CONSIDER:

A paper setting out proposals for new courses (paper BGS 35/07-08, copy attached), noting that the Chair and Secretary would table recommendations at the meeting.

16. Any Other Business