

# UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

## BOARD OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

### A G E N D A

There will be a meeting of the Board of Undergraduate Studies at 2.00pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2008 in the Council Chamber, University House.

J F Baldwin  
Registrar

Note: Questions on agendum items or apologies for this meeting should be directed to the Secretary to the Board, Dr J A Taylor, email [J.A.Taylor@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:J.A.Taylor@warwick.ac.uk) or telephone extension 22633.

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1. Minutes

TO CONSIDER:

The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2007 (copy attached).

2. Matters Arising on the Minutes

Progress of Board Recommendations

Protocol for Assessing Student Participation in Seminars (minute 12/07-08 refers)

TO REPORT:

- (i) That the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Arts, at its meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2008, considered the 'Protocol for assessing student participation in seminars' (paper BUGS 10/07-08) and resolved that the Committee welcomed the proposal.
- (ii) That the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Studies, at its meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2008 considered the 'Protocol for assessing student participation in seminars' (paper BUGS 10/07-08) and resolved that the Committee was broadly supportive of the paper, but thought that it would be important for departments to receive the right level of guidance, as the Committee had concerns about:

(A) Ensuring that student participation was defined in a meaningful sense (for example, attendance, oral contribution);

- (B) Ensuring that changes to modules, so that they follow the guidance, does not create a significant administrative burden on seminar tutors, departments or Faculty sub-committees, noting that the proposal is concerned with only 10% of a module.
- (iii) That the Sub-Faculty of Science at its meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2008 reported that the paper 'Protocol for assessing student participation in seminars' (paper BUGS 10/07-08) had yet to be circulated to the Sub-Faculty.

### 3. Chair's Action

#### TO REPORT:

- (a) That the Chair, acting on behalf of the Board, has agreed to waive the Fifty Per Cent Rule for a named, third-year, BA Early Childhood Studies student on health grounds.
- (b) That the Chair, acting on behalf of the Board, following approval by the Deputy Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Studies of clarifications requested by the Committee, has approved the following revised course proposals:
  - (i) A revised proposal from the Centre for Lifelong Learning for a new course, "Open Studies Diploma for Adult Literacy Specialists" for introduction in September 2007 as set out in papers UFSS104/06-07(revised) and UFSS105/06-07(revised);
  - (ii) A revised proposal from the Centre for Lifelong Learning for a new course, "Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector" for introduction in September 2007 as set out in papers UFSS106/06-07(revised) and UFSS107/06-07(revised);
  - (iii) A revised proposal from the Centre for Lifelong Learning for a new course, "Open Studies Diploma for Adult Numeracy Specialists" for introduction in September 2007 as set out in papers UFSS112/06-07(revised) and UFSS113/06-07(revised);
  - (iv) A revised proposal from the Centre for Lifelong Learning for a new course, "Open Studies Diploma for ESOL Specialists" for introduction in September 2007 as set out in papers UFSS116/06-07(revised) and UFSS117/06-07(revised).

### 4. Chair's Business

5. Regulation 10.2

TO CONSIDER:

The enforcement of Regulation 10.2, it being noted that the current Regulation states that:

Candidates are forbidden to take into the examination room any books, papers, calculators, or any information storage and retrieval device, or any attache case or bag in which such items can be carried, unless there is an express provision otherwise in the case of a particular paper. (Regulation 10.2 (4)).

6. SSLC Coordinators' Annual Reports

TO REPORT:

That the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007, considered the Undergraduate Annual Report from the SSLC Coordinators for 2006/07, paper AQSC 28/06-07 (attached), and resolved:

- (a) That the Annual Reports from the Student-Staff Liaison Committee Coordinators on the operation of the SSLC system during 2006-07 for undergraduate and postgraduate courses be approved as set out in papers AQSC 28/07-08 and AQSC 29/07-08 respectively, noting that references to "tutoring" in section 2(f) of the undergraduate report, concerning mentoring schemes, should be understood in the context of informal "buddy" arrangements and not as a reference to academic tutoring;
- (b) That the Annual Reports from the Student-Staff Liaison Committee Coordinators on the operation of the SSLC system during 2006-07 for undergraduate courses, paper AQSC 28/07-08, and postgraduate courses, paper AQSC 29/07-08, be referred for consideration to the Boards of Graduate and 8 Undergraduate Studies, Faculty Boards, the Campus Life Committee, the Library SSLC and the Careers SSLC;
- (c) That the Chair of the Committee and the Deputy President & Education Officer of the Students' Union write to Heads of Department to reiterate the importance of the Student-Staff Liaison Committee system and to remind Heads of Department that it is an expectation that departments invite student representatives to departmental meetings (or equivalent) for the discussion of SSLC business;
- (d) That it become a requirement that new SSLC Academic Convenors attend one of the annual briefings organised by the SSLC Coordinators;
- (e) That the SSLC Coordinators investigate additional methods of disseminating briefing information to SSLC Academic Convenors to supplement existing face-to-face briefings, the

SSLC Handbook and the SSLC web portal;

- (f) That the Committee be supplied with lists of departments/courses for which no SSLC annual report has been received.

(AQSC minute 30/07-08)

TO CONSIDER:

The Undergraduate Annual Report from the SSLC Coordinators for 2006/07 (paper AQSC 28/07-08, attached).

7. Annual Course Review Reports

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) a Summary Report of the Undergraduate Annual Course Review Reports submitted by Departments in the Faculty of Arts for the academic year 2006/07 (paper AUSC 35/07-08 (revised), attached).
- (b) a Summary Report of the Undergraduate Annual Course Review Reports submitted by Departments in the Faculty of Science for the academic year 2006/07 (paper SFS 38/07-08, attached).
- (c) a Summary Report of the Undergraduate Annual Course Review Reports submitted by Departments in the Faculty of Social Studies for the academic year 2006/07 (paper UFSS 72/07-08 , attached).

8. New Courses of Study

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) A proposal from the Department of French for a new course 'French with Theatre Studies' for introduction in October 2009 (papers AUSC20/07-08 (revised), AUSC28-30/07-08, attached).
- (b) A proposal from the Department of Biological Sciences for a new course BSc in Environmental Biology for introduction in October 2009 (paper SFS 21/07-08 (revised), attached).
- (c) A proposal from the Department of Computer Science for a course BSc in Discrete Mathematics for introduction in September 2008, which will be taught jointly with the Department of Mathematics, papers SFS 28/07-08, SFS 29(a)-(b)/07-08 and SFS 30/07-08 attached, it being noted that in approving this new degree course, the Sub-Faculty of Science had strong concerns over the pressure that this is likely to cause for timetabling, SFS minute 21(i)07-08 refers.

(d) A proposal from the WBS for a new course entitled BSc International Management for introduction in September 2008 (papers UFSS 40/07-08, UFSS 41/07-08 and UFSS 42/07-08, attached), noting that:

- (i) The proposal is based on the existing degree BSc in International Business, which includes a compulsory year abroad in France, Italy, Germany or Spain, where students are expected to be proficient in the relevant foreign language;
- (ii) That the proposal would permit students not proficient in a foreign language to spend a year abroad at an English speaking institution.

9. Course approval forms (Minute AQSC 32/07-08 refers)

TO REPORT:

That the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007, considered a proposed amendment 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 (Paper AQSC.19/07-08), and 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.

That the Senate, at its meeting on 5 December 2007, resolved that the above mentioned recommendations be approved.

(Senate minute 53(b)/07-08 refers)

TO RECEIVE:

A paper detailing the amendment 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 (Paper AQSC.19/07-08 (revised), copy attached).

10. 'Open-book' status: TH2162

TO CONSIDER:

A memorandum from the Department of Theatre, Performance and Cultural Policy Studies requesting open book status for examination paper TH2162 'Aspects of Theatre and Performance II' (paper AUSC.32/07-08, copy attached with supporting documentation in papers AUSC.33/07-08 and AUSC.34/07-08, copies attached).

11. Proposal for the Department of French Studies to move to an 8-unit classification of degree

TO CONSIDER:

A proposal from the Department of French Studies to move to an 8-unit classification of degree (paper AUSC 36/07-08, copy attached).

12. Undergraduate External Examiners' Reports for 2006/07

TO RECEIVE:

The procedure for the consideration of External Examiners' reports by the Boards of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies (paper BUGS2/07-08, attached).

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) The reports of External Examiners for Undergraduate courses for 2006/07 received since the last meeting of the Board (paper BUGS 11/07-08, attached);
- (b) Pro-forma responses to the External Examiners' reports received from departments since the last meeting of the Board (paper BUGS 12/07-08, attached);
- (c) Responses from departments on specific issues raised by the Board following its consideration of reports at its last meeting (paper BUGS 13/06-07, attached);

13. Any Other Business