

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 23rd February 2011 in the Council Chamber, University House.

J F Baldwin
Registrar

Note: Questions on agenda 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 or telephone extension 22633.

1. Minutes

TO CONSIDER:

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2010 (copy attached).

2. Chair's Action

TO REPORT:

- (a) That the Chair acting on behalf of the Board has approved reading time for two exam papers for modules taught by the Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies, namely, EN248 Modern American Poetry and EN268 Modernist Cultures;
- (b) That the Chair acting on behalf of the Board has approved reading time for an exam paper for a module taught by the Department of Economics, namely EC326 The Industrial Economics 2: Strategy and Practice.

3. Chair's Business

4. Strategic Departmental Review of the Department of Chemistry

TO REPORT:

The following minute from the Steering Committee at its meeting of 24th May 2010:

Strategic Departmental Review: Department of Chemistry Response

CONSIDERED:

The departmental response to the Strategic Departmental Review of the Department of Chemistry held between 16 and 18 February 2010 and the Action Plan considered initially at the meeting held on 10 May 2010, together with an oral report from Professor Peter Sadler, the Head of the Department (SC.364/09-10).

REPORTED: (by the Head of the Department of Chemistry)

(a) That, as the Committee noted in its consideration of the report of the Review, the report was very detailed but that the details were important to the effective operation of the Department.

(b) That the Department had received a record number of undergraduate applicants for 2010 entry, in part due to its exceptional outreach programme, and that he was concerned that teaching resources would be stretched unless additional posts were approved by the University.

(c) That the Review might be viewed as presenting a turning point in the history of the Department and the University should consider how it wanted Chemistry at Warwick to develop, acknowledging that significant investment would be required to further improve infrastructure, to grow the staff complement and to increase the Department's ability to be in the top 5 departments nationally.

(By the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Resourcing))

(d) That the Academic Resourcing Committee would continue to work with the Department in achieving its strategic objectives.

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Committee record its thanks to the Head of the Department of Chemistry for his leadership and commitment.

(b) That the proposals set out in the Action Plan in SC.364/09-10 (revised) as to the delegation of each of the recommendations included within in Report be approved.

(c) That the new Head of the Department of Chemistry be invited to provide the Steering Committee with a progress report in the Spring Term 2011.

(Steering Committee minute 539/09-10 refers)

TO CONSIDER:

The abovementioned paper which was compiled by the Head of Governance Support Services for the meeting of the Steering Committee on 24th May 2010, Steering paper SC.364/09-10 (attached), it being noted that since then, the responsibility for taking forward the actions relating to undergraduate matters has been devolved from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee to the Board of Undergraduate Studies.

5. 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 2009/10 (paper AUSC 7/10-11, attached).
- (b) a Summary Report of the Undergraduate Annual Course Review Reports submitted by Departments in the Faculty of Science for the academic year 2009/10 (paper SFS 15/10-11, attached).
- (c) a Summary Report of the Undergraduate Annual Course Review Reports submitted by Departments in the Faculty of Social Sciences for the academic year 2009/10 (paper UFSS 50/10-11, to follow).

6. New Courses of Study

TO CONSIDER:

A proposal from the Warwick Business School for a new course BSc Accounting and Finance (Undergraduate Partnership Programme) for introduction in November 2010 (paper UFSS 49/10-11, attached).

7. Special Examination Arrangements

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Chair regarding the meeting on 16th February 2011 of the Working Group which has been set up review the provision of special examination arrangements, with a view to formulating some normative principles (Board minute 7/10-11, refers).

8. SSLC Coordinators' Annual Reports

TO CONSIDER:

The Undergraduate Student-Staff Liaison Committee Annual Report 2010, paper BUGS 10/10-11, attached.

9. Undergraduate External Examiners' Reports for 2009/10

TO RECEIVE:

- (a) The procedure for the consideration of External Examiners' reports by the Boards of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies (paper BUGS 1/10-11, attached).
- (b) The report from the Board Sub-group established to consider the reports of the External Examiners summarising key points in the reports for 2009-10

and making recommendations to the Board for further action (paper BUGS 4/10-11, attached).

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) The reports of External Examiners for Undergraduate courses for 2009/10 received since the last meeting of the Board (paper BUGS 8/10-11, attached);
- (b) Pro-forma responses to the External Examiners' reports received from departments since the last meeting of the Board (paper BUGS 9 /10-11, attached).

10. Any Other Business