

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 09:00 a.m. on Tuesday 10th February 2015 in room CMR 1.0, University House.

Ken Sloan
Registrar and Chief Operating Officer

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 21st November 2014 (copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

2. Matters Arising on the Minutes

(a) Postgraduates as Teachers (minute 6(b)/14-15 refers)

TO REPORT:

That the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, at its meeting on 3rd December 2014, resolved:

- (i) That confirmation be sought from the Boards of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies that the development of the Policy was aligned to the development of TeachHigher and policies on pay and conditions for postgraduate students who teach by Human Resources.
- (ii) That consideration is given to the impact of the policy proposed on small departments;
- (iii) That a statement on equality of opportunity be included in the Policy.

(AQSC minute 31/14-15)

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Chair.

(b) BA in Liberal Arts (minute 8(f)/14-15 and 8(g)/14-15 refers)

TO CONSIDER:

Revised formal proposals from the Academic Director for the BA in Liberal Arts, including the new module proposals and the illustration of particular module pathways, (papers BUGS 10/14-15 and BUGS 10a-d/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>), together with a report of the comments on the proposals by the Undergraduate Studies Committees of the Faculties of Arts, Science and Social Sciences (paper BUGS 17/14-15, to follow).

(c) Undergraduate External Examiners' Reports 2013/14 (minute 9/14-15 refers)

TO REPORT:

That the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, at its meeting on 3rd December 2014, noted the issues brought to its attention by the Board and resolved that they be referred to the next meeting of the Quality Assurance Working Group.

(AQSC minute 32/14-15)

(d) Amendments to Regulation 8.10 (Regulations for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) and for the Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMedSci)) (minute 10/14-15 refers)

TO REPORT:

That the Senate, at its meeting on 28th January 2015 approved the amendment to Regulation 8.10 (Regulations for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) and for the Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMedSci))

(Senate minute pending formal confirmation)

(e) Amendment to Regulation 11 (Procedure to be Adopted in the Event of Suspected Cheating in a University Test) (minute 11/14-15 refers)

TO REPORT:

That the Senate, at its meeting on 28th January 2015 approved the amendment to Regulation 11 (Procedure to be adopted in the event of suspected cheating in a University test).

(Senate minute pending formal confirmation)

- (f) Amendment to Regulation 8.13 (Regulations for the Part-time Degree of BEng in Applied Engineering) (minute 12/14-15 refers)

TO REPORT:

That the Senate, at its meeting on 28th January approved the amendment to Regulation 8.13 (Regulations for the Part-time Degree of BEng in Applied Engineering)

(Senate minute pending formal confirmation)

- (g) Ramadan (minute 12/12-13 refers)

TO REPORT:

That, in accordance with the Board's previous resolution under minute 12/12-13, the Chair and Secretary have drawn up the following advice statement for students, for inclusion on the University website:

In 2015, Ramadan overlaps with the University's main Summer Term examination period for one day (Thursday 18th June) and in future years the amount of overlap will increase.

It has been suggested that Muslim students undertaking the Ramadan fast may not be best placed to take examinations, perhaps especially in the afternoons, and the University's Board of Undergraduate Studies, following consultation with the University Muslim Chaplain, has considered what advice should be given on the issue.

Students are reminded that presenting themselves for a University examination is taken to imply fitness to undertake the examination. If, however, a student feels that observance of the Ramadan fast has had a significant adverse effect on their examination performance, they may request that this be considered as potential mitigating evidence by the relevant Board of Examiners (in the same way as for claims of other mitigating factors), should their academic performance be borderline and/or be significantly below the expected level for that student on the basis of their overall academic record at the University.

In this case, a student must notify the Board of Examiners in accordance with their department's instructions regarding the notification of mitigating circumstances, and their claim must be accompanied by written confirmation from the University's Muslim Chaplain of their observance of the fast.

Consideration of this mitigating evidence and the determination of any consequence it may have for the student's academic results would then be a matter for the Board of Examiners.

3. Chair's Business

TO RECEIVE:

An oral report from the Chair concerning moderation.

4. Annual Course Review Summary Reports

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) The Faculty-level summaries of the annual course review reports for the Faculties of Arts, Science and Social Sciences (papers UFSS 20/14-15, SUGS 14/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>) (paper AUSC 18/14-15 to follow).
- (b) The annual course review for the Diploma in Orthodontic Therapy (paper MUSC 20/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>).
- (c) The comments on the reports by the Undergraduate Studies Committees of the Faculties of Arts, Science, Social Sciences and Medicine (paper BUGS 12/14-15, to follow).

5. New Courses of Study

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) The recommendation from the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences, at its meeting on 20th January 2015, that the proposal from the Centre of Applied Linguistics to introduce the following new undergraduate degree courses, be approved as set out in paper UFSS 25-27/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>:
 - (i) BA Linguistics with French (with optional year abroad);
 - (ii) BA Linguistics with Spanish (with optional year abroad);
 - (iii) BA Linguistics with German (with optional year abroad);
 - (iv) BA Linguistics with Italian (with optional year abroad);
 - (v) BA Linguistics with Chinese (with optional year abroad);
 - (vi) BA Linguistics with Arabic (with optional year abroad);
 - (vii) BA Linguistics with Russian (with optional year abroad);
 - (viii) BA Linguistics with Portuguese (with optional year abroad);
 - (ix) BA Linguistics with Japanese (with optional year abroad).
- (b) The recommendation from the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences, at its meeting on 20th January 2015, that the proposal from the Centre of Education Studies to introduce a new course variant entitled 'BA Education Studies (Intercalated Year)', be approved as set out in paper UFSS 33a-e/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>.

- (c) The recommendation from the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Arts, at its meeting on 4th February 2015, regarding the proposal from the School of Modern Languages and Cultures to introduce the following new BA Honours degree courses to commence in October 2016, as set out in paper AUSC 20/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>.

(Recommendation to follow) :

- (i) French Studies with Linguistics;
- (ii) French Studies with Linguistics;
- (iii) German Studies with Linguistics;
- (iv) German Studies with Linguistics;
- (v) Italian Studies with Linguistics;
- (vi) Italian Studies with Linguistics;
- (vii) Hispanic Studies with Linguistics;
- (viii) Hispanic Studies with Linguistics;
- (ix) Modern Languages with Linguistics;
- (x) Modern Languages with Linguistics.

- (d) The recommendations from the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Arts, at its meeting on 4th February 2015, regarding the proposal to establish the following new joint degrees and new modules in Global Sustainable Development, as set out in papers BUGS 11/14-15 and 11a-11i/14-15, AUSC 27/14-15, AUSC 35/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>.

(Recommendation to follow):

- (i) GSD with Economic Studies
- (ii) GSD and Life Sciences
- (iii) GSD and History
- (iv) GSD and Philosophy
- (v) GSD and Sociology
- (vi) GSD and Business Studies
- (vii) GSD101 Economic principles of GSD
- (viii) GSD102 Environmental perspectives on GSD
- (ix) GSD103 Social perspectives on GSD
- (x) GSD104 GSD project

6. Undergraduate External Examiners' Reports for 2013/14

TO CONSIDER:

A report from the Chair following further consideration of the Undergraduate External Examiners' Reports for 2013/14 including departmental responses.

7. First Year Board of Examiners' Conventions

TO CONSIDER:

A draft report setting out proposed amendments to the First Year Board of Examiners' harmonised conventions together with resolutions from the meetings of the Boards of the Faculties of Social Sciences, Science and Arts. (Resolutions to follow.) (paper BUGS 9/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

8. Regulations pertaining to Pass degree status

TO CONSIDER:

A draft report setting out proposed amendments to Regulation 8, Regulations for First Degrees, reflecting the proposed changes to the FYBOE harmonised conventions together with resolutions from the meetings of the Boards of the Faculties of Social Sciences, Science and Arts. (Resolutions to follow.) (paper BUGS 8/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

9. HEAR – Section 6.1 Additional Information

TO CONSIDER:

An application from the Department of Economics for the inclusion of the following in Section 6.1 of the HEAR:

Economics Briefing Project. (paper BUGS 14/14-15 copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

10. Report from the Seymour Replacement Working Group

TO CONSIDER:

A report from the Seymour Replacement Working Group, together with a report of the resolutions of the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Faculties of Science and Social Sciences. (Resolutions to follow.) (paper SUGS 15/14-15 copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

11. Waiving of assessed module components

TO CONSIDER:

A report from the Department of Physics on the waiving of assessed module components, together with the resolution(s) of the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Faculty of Science. (Resolution(s) to follow.) (paper SUGS 18/14-15 copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

12. Special examination arrangements paper

TO CONSIDER:

A paper from the Secretary concerning students who may apply for special examination arrangements on the grounds of a disability in accordance with the University's *Policy on Examination Arrangements for Students with Disabilities*. (paper BUGS 13 & 13a/14-15 copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

13. The Future of Quality Assessment in Higher Education

TO RECEIVE:

A consultation document from the HEFCE concerning the future of quality assessment in higher education, considered by the Academic Quality and Standards Committee at its meeting on 29th January 2015. (paper AQSC 29/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

14. Position statement on the forthcoming curriculum reform in England

TO CONSIDER

A report from the Student Recruitment, Marketing and Admissions Strategy group, regarding the forthcoming curriculum reform in England and its effects on admissions practice across all undergraduate programmes. (paper SRMAS 22/14-15, copy available at <https://files.warwick.ac.uk/bugs/browse#BUGS+2015-02-10>)

15. Any other business