

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Board of Graduate Studies

Graduate Awards and Nominations Sub-Committee

Minutes of the Graduate Awards and Nominations Sub-Committee held at 13:00hrs on Tuesday 01 May 2012 in CMR 1.1, University House.

Present: Professor J Labbe (in the Chair), Dr C Bilton, Professor R Earle, Dr J Kidd, Dr B Clift , Ms A Stewart

Apologies: Professor D Leadley, Dr A Dowd , Professor F Griffiths

In attendance: Mr D Pearson, Mrs N Ellis-Thomas

08/11-12 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes from the last meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 19 March 2012 be approved.

09/11-12 PGR Competition Overview

(a) WCPRS/ DARO, Wolfson Foundation, Chancellor's International Scholarships (CIS), Chancellor's, AHRC Doctoral Awards Scoring

REPORTED:

- (i) That the current allocations for the awards above were set out in a separate paper (GANC 02/11-12).
- (ii) That there were a number of changes to the awards agreed by GANC on 19 March 2012. Changes to the allocations made by GANC were set out in a separate paper (GANC 03/11-12).
- (iii) That all CS/ CIS fees-only awards could now be upgraded to full awards.

CONSIDERED:

- (iv) GANC feedback on the introduction of 'fees-only' awards for the 2011-12 competition.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That level of acceptance of fees-only awards had demonstrated that such awards were attractive to students and that they should continue to be offered in the next scholarships round.

10/11-12 PGT Combined Competition

a) AHRC Masters, Santander, International Office Masters, International Office- ANFCT

REPORTED:

- (i) That the applications were nominated for consideration by departments were each subsequently divided according to their research grouping and reviewed by three faculty scorers.
- (ii) That the overall scores allocated to each applicant were set out in a separate paper (GANC 04/11-12), noting that the average score is presented in the column labelled "Total score".
- (iii) That the awards were allocated in the following order.
 - a. AHRC Masters Awards
 - b. International Office Masters Awards
 - c. Allan and Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust (ANFCT) Awards
 - d. Santander Awards
- (iv) That three International Office Masters awards of up to £17,000 were available for 2011-12.
- (v) That five International Office- ANFCT awards of £10,000 were available for 2011-12 to students from Sub-Saharan Africa. That the eligible countries for these awards were; Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Republic of), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritria, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea- Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Seychelles. Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- (vi) That seven AHRC Masters awards consisting of Home fees and £9,490 stipend were available for 2011-12. The following AHRC Masters awards are available:

English Language and Literature: 1 award
Film Studies and Television Studies: 2 awards
History: 1 award
Philosophy: 2 awards
Theatre Studies: 1 award
- (vii) That two Santander awards of £5000 were available for 2011-12. That the eligible countries for these awards are; Argentina, Brazil, China, Chile, Columbia, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, Portugal, Russia, Spain, UK, Uruguay, USA, Venezuela.

CONSIDERED:

The list of candidates who have been nominated by their departments and scored by the relevant faculty as outlined above, to determine:

- (ii) which candidates should be made International Office Masters, AHRC Masters, International Office- ANFCT and Santander awards;
- (iii) which candidates should be placed on a reserve list.
- (iv) whether the PGT Combined competition was well received by departments.

RESOLVED:

- (v) That funding be awarded to the applicants as set out in (GANC 4/11-12)
- (vi) That a deadline of Monday 28 May 2012 be set for acceptance of awards.
- (vii) That the PGT Combined Competition worked well, and that the combination of a number of awards within one competition had led to a more streamlined approach.

11/11-12 Li Xiaoming

REPORTED:

- a) That 153 applications were received for the Li Xiaoming Scholarship.
- b) That each department has one nomination for this award and the deadline for nominations to be received was 11 May 2012.
- c) That the PGT Combined Competition from 2012-13 would incorporate The Li Xiaoming Scholarship.

12/11-12 Warwick/ Open Society Foundation (OSF)

REPORTED:

- (a) That eight Warwick/ OSF awards of £26,177 each were available for 2011-12.
- (b) That 274 applications were received for the Warwick/ Open Society Foundation scholarship competition from the following countries; Belarus, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Mongolia.
- (c) That 26 applications were nominated for consideration by departments and were each subsequently scored by the Chair and Prof. R Earle.
- (d) That 19 applicants were invited to interview after scoring had taken place.
- (e) That interviews were held with a joint panel responsibility of Assistant Registrar (Graduate School), Scholarships Project Officer (Graduate School) and representatives of OSF between 5 and 12 April 2012. Interviews took place between Warwick and representatives of the OSF in each of the host countries between 5 and 12 April 2012.

- (f) That 18 applicants were interviewed. Nine applicants were 'Strongly Recommended', six 'Recommended', two 'Marginal' and one 'Not Recommended'.
- (g) That the Graduate School were expecting to hear the final list of successful students in early June.

13/11-12 EPSRC Interdisciplinary Competition

REPORTED:

- a) That the EPSRC grant for this year has been received and allocated to departments. In addition to the departmental allocations, there will also be an EPSRC Interdisciplinary Competition.
 - (i) That the EPSRC Interdisciplinary Competition consisted of: six awards to strengthen research within the Global Priority Programme areas of Innovative Manufacturing; Science and Technology for Health; and Energy, and three further awards for other interdisciplinary science projects.
 - (ii) That the deadline for nominations for the EPSRC Interdisciplinary Competition was 14:00hrs on 25 April 2012.

14/11-12 Feedback from competition in 2011-12

CONSIDERED:

- a) The PGR scoring criteria (GANC 5/11-12)
 - (i) GANC recommendations for any changes to the PGR Scoring Criteria.
 - (ii) Methods of engagement with departments for feedback from the 2012 scholarships competitions.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the GANC PGR Scoring Criteria worked well, noting that no changes were recommended.
- (ii) That departments be invited to provide feedback from the 2012 scholarships competition by 21 May 2012.
- (iii) That department and faculty scorer briefing sessions be arranged in advance of next year's competition; department briefings to be arranged at faculty level by The Chairs of the relevant Graduate Studies Committees, and faculty scorer briefings to be arranged by the Graduate School.

15/11-12 Any other business

- (i) No further items were raised.