

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

ACADEMIC BOARD

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2007

- Present:** Professor Nirmala Rao (in the Chair), Ms Vicky Annand, Dr Philip Broadhead, Mr Geraint Fox, Dr Andrea Gilroy, Ms Jennifer Huseman, Dr Helen Jones, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Professor Carrie Paechter, Mr Bob Westaway, Professor Geraint Wiggins.
- In attendance:** Head of Quality, Head of Secretariat (Secretary).
- Apologies:** Dr Gavin Butt, Professor Michael Dutton, Ms Lante Yan'Kyaa.

OPEN BUSINESS

1 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2007 be approved.

2 LIFELONG LEARNING NETWORKS
(Minute 6 (12 February 2007) refers)

Noted:

- (i) that the College had succeeded in obtaining 99 Additional Student Numbers for 2007-08 as a result of the LLN bid reported to the previous meeting;
- (ii) that there was a prospect of success in obtaining an additional similar allocation for 2008-09 (with possible disciplines being Computing, Psychology and Media), although as yet the HEFCE processes for that bidding round had not yet been confirmed.

The Committee congratulated the Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development) and others involved in the bid

3 PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Noted:

- (i) that a report would be brought to Academic Development Committee in October 2007 on proposals for action in connection with the Portfolio Review of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes;

- (ii) that, against the background of the new committee system, and recent reviews of planning processes, clarification on the critical path for planning and quality assurance approval, development and advertising of new programmes - including the amount of detail to be provided at each stage - would be welcomed by departments.

4 CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

(Minute 2 (12 February 2007) refers)

Received:

an oral progress report from the Chair.

Noted:

that a bid would no longer be submitted to HEFCE in July 2007 as planned, but that this area of activity remained under active exploration, including the optimum governance framework for future collaboration with neighbouring institutions, possibilities for internal cross-departmental collaboration (for example to develop an interdisciplinary taught Master's programme in which the Graduate School might have a coordinating role), and outline planning for a joint Master's degree with another College of the University.

5 SKILLS

Received:

a paper from the Pro-Warden Academic (07-93 - previously received by Academic Board), together with notes on the meeting of the newly-formed Skills and Employer Engagement Working Party (15 March 2007) (07-181).

Noted:

that the options of Goldsmiths providing Foundation degrees – for which relaxation of University of London rules now provided scope - might be further considered, although if Further Education Colleges might obtain degree-awarding powers for Foundation Degrees, an alternative developmental opportunity might lie in progression agreements with Further Education colleges.

6 CLOSURE OF LANGUAGE STUDIES PROGRAMMES

Received:

a report from the Chair on the closure of Language Studies programmes (07-182).

7 TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION AND THE COLLEGE'S GROWTH STRATEGY

Received:

a paper from the Head of Student Recruitment and Admissions (07-183), together with a supplementary statement from the Head of Quality on some specific aspects of international collaborative provision will follow (07-184).

Members of the Committee felt that, due to the absence of an International Strategy, the College's approach to this area had hitherto often been overly reactive, and that, although it was necessary to preserve flexibility in order to take advantage of opportunities which presented themselves, there

would be considerable benefit in the production of a framework document indicating the types of proposals which would or would not normally be given serious consideration. The Chair indicated that she hoped to work on such a document during the Summer vacation.

The Committee also discussed the specific area of student exchange programmes, noting that the increasing availability of English language medium programmes in continental Europe might open up a wider range of opportunities for Goldsmiths students to go abroad than hitherto. However, some members urged the need to balance advantages of such programmes against the administrative load of running them, for which staff often felt inadequately rewarded via the promotions system, and the barriers presented by the non-comparability of curricular structures across national boundaries.

8 EXCELLENCE HUBS

Received:

a report from the Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development) concerning Goldsmiths' participation in the London consortium for an Excellence Hub for the education of the gifted and talented (07-185).

9 MEETINGS IN 2007-08

Noted:

that meetings in the coming academic year would be held at 2.00pm on the following dates:

Tuesday 16 October 2007

Tuesday 22 January 2008

Wednesday 23 April 2008

RMH
May 2007