

GOLDSMITHS COLLEGE
University of London

ACADEMIC BOARD

LEARNING AND TEACHING QUALITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 28 August 2008

Present: Professor Simon McVeigh (Chair) *vice* Dr Philip Broadhead
Mr Jesse Fajemisin Ms Mary Nixon
Professor Carrie Paechter Dr Ida Pu
Mrs Vivien Taibe Ms Jess Tratt
Mr Bob Westaway Ms Denise Miller (Secretary)

Apologies: Dr Basem El-Haddadeh; Dr Victoria Goddard; Ms Mary Claire Halvorson;
Ms Vee Harris; Dr James Martin; Ms Juliet Sprake; Dr Gareth Stanton

In attendance: Mr Gareth Bodrell; Ms Anne Francis; Professor Frederic Leymarie;
Dr John Phelps

OPEN BUSINESS

58 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noted:

- (i) that the National Student Survey results had been released that day
- (ii) that the College had scored 82% for overall satisfaction, giving a Likert score of 4.02

59 MINUTES

Resolved:

to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2008

60 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

- (i) that matters arising would be covered in detail at the next meeting

61 MSC IN COMPUTER GAMES AND ENTERTAINMENT

Received:

a draft Memorandum of Agreement between the College and the St Martin's Institute of Information Technology, Malta regarding collaborative arrangements for the MSc in Computer Games and Entertainment (08-305) and a consultant's report on the detail of the agreement (08-308)

Noted:

- (i) that a connection with Malta had been established when St Martin's started to teach the College's external computing programmes, which it had now done for some years, achieving excellent results. The College had entered into discussions with St Martin's during the course of which senior staff had visited Malta and met with personnel from St Martin's and government ministers
- (ii) that arising from the discussions the College had signed a general memorandum of understanding with St Martin's, expressing the hope of working together more in the future and from this research links had been established
- (iii) that Dubai was heavily investing in Malta, building a small city near the capital that was focussed around information and communication technologies and was expected to generate 10,000 new jobs. The Maltese government was keen to attract the computer games industry to the new city, was aware of a need for local graduates and had agreed to provide funding for students taking the programme
- (iv) that the Department of Computing had been in discussion with Malta for the past 6 months regarding the delivery of the Department's MSc in Computer Games and Entertainment via distance learning to St Martin's students, who could well be external programme graduates. SMT had given outline approval pending academic quality approval
- (v) that various staff had collaborated on drawing up an agreement, which had then been submitted to an expert on collaborative arrangements for comment. The Committee was asked to approve the agreement in principle, and agree that the Chair could approve the agreement on behalf of the Committee as there was still some detail to be finalised with the help of the consultant
- (vi) that the agreement might be used as a template for future partnerships, particularly after the expected granting of degree awarding powers
- (vii) that St Martin's had expanded in the past 2 years and provided a high quality physical learning environment for all of their students
- (viii) that the Dean of the Graduate School had met many St Martin's alumni when she had visited the island, and found them all to be very enthusiastic about the University of London
- (ix) that non-assessed work would be marked by local tutors, but any summative assessment would be marked at Goldsmiths, students would have the same lectures as internal students via web casting and staff from the Department of Computing would regularly visit Malta. In addition it was proposed that St Martin's students would visit Goldsmiths in their final year (they would be part-time over two years) to demonstrate their project

- (x) that the Committee had no reservations about the agreement in principle but had some comments, queries and suggestions about the detail, including:
 - (a) that while students would not be able to physically access library resources they should have access to online resources both of the College and of the University of London
 - (b) that the status of the students, home/EU or overseas, should be clarified
 - (c) that in what circumstances Goldsmiths' regulations would apply, and in what circumstances St Martin's regulations would apply, needed to be set out in detail in the agreement
 - (d) that the College's involvement in staff development had to be clarified, but at the least annual reports on staff development should be received and the College should monitor St Martin's staff profile
 - (e) that there were various other details to be determined, including how student and staff mobility would be paid for and how Maltese students would access support services. The Committee took the view that the College should provide as much support to the Maltese students as it possibly could
- (xi) that online resources for students should be integrated for those in Malta and those in New Cross and should be hosted through the Virtual Graduate School, which could also provide an area for the Students' Union to interact with the Maltese students
- (xii) that the Department of Computing could use the video conferencing room in the library for joint seminars/tutorials with students at Goldsmiths and in Malta
- (xiii) that the University of London should be informed about the collaboration, via a letter to the Vice-Chancellor

Resolved:

- (i) that the proposal be approved in principle, with the Chair to approve the final agreement on behalf of the Committee in order for arrangements to go forward for the start of the next session**
- (ii) that the Committee's queries and suggestions should all be addressed in the final agreement**
- (iii) that the programme should have integrated support for students in London and Malta on the Virtual Graduate School including an area for the Students' Union**
- (iv) that the Department of Computing should investigate providing joint seminars/tutorials with students in London and those in Malta by using the College's video-conferencing facilities**
- (v) to write to the Vice-Chancellor with details of the collaboration**

62 STANDARDS SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

Noted:

the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 29 April 2008 (08-306)

63 LIBRARY USER GROUP

Noted:

the minutes of the meeting of the Library User Group held on 8 May 2008 (08-307)

64 FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Noted:

that future meetings of the Committee would be held in room 110, Deptford Town Hall on the following dates:

Wednesday, 8 October 2008 at **2pm**
Wednesday, 19 November 2008 at 10am
Wednesday, 11 February 2009 at 10am
Wednesday, 20 May 2009 at 10am

Denise Miller
September 2008