

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

ACADEMIC BOARD

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 31 May 2011

- Present:** Professor Simon McVeigh (in the Chair), Ms Vicky Annand, Dr Andrea Gilroy, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Dr Lucia Boldrini, Professor Les Back, Ms Rachel Soper, Dr Marco Gillies, Dr Dejan Djokic, Ms Bindz Patel
- In attendance:** Ms Melanie Rimmer (Secretary), Dr Victoria Korzeniowska (for Items 11, 12 and 13), Ms Lucie Gibson (for Items 11, 12 and 13)
- Apologies:** Mr Geraint Fox, Mr Matt Ward, Mr Tony Dowmunt, Professor Catherine Alexander, Ms Francesca Bancarino

OPEN BUSINESS

3 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2011 be approved.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- (i) it was noted that the Short Course Framework had been approved by the various Committees last term subject to some minor amendments. It was further noted that the Skillset courses would be operating under this Framework, from their new home in ICCE, and that these courses would begin in July 2011.
- (ii) it was noted that Professor Alan Pickering had been appointed Academic Director for the ESRC Doctoral Training Centre and that the first raft of PhD scholarship applications were due to be reviewed. An update on the DTC would come to a future meeting.

5 INSTITUTIONAL APPROVAL, LASALLE COLLEGE OF ARTS SINGAPORE

Received:

the institutional approval report on LASALLE College of the Arts (11-244)

Noted:

- (i) that the Committee had a role in approving a partner institution under the Collaborative Provision Framework, which details the criteria for an institution to be considered 'of good standing'; in giving its approval the Committee would be making a recommendation to Academic Board; following this, the next step would be the validation of individual degree programmes, in which this Committee did not have a direct role.

- (ii) the Conclusions and Recommendations detailed in the Institutional Approval Report.
- (iii) that questions previously raised by the Committee around the student experience at LASALLE and equality and diversity issues were felt by those who had visited and met staff and students from LASALLE to have been positively answered.
- (iv) that validation would be sought only for the institution's degree programmes, not the Diplomas, which were a pre-degree qualification
- (v) that the Open University would remain LASALLE's awarding institution until 31 July 2012, after which any students already on course would transfer to Goldsmiths using the standard APL arrangements.

Recommended:

- (i) that the institution's staff development policy be reviewed to specifically state a commitment to facilitating and incentivising staff research .
- (ii) that institutional approval be granted by Academic Board subject to the above recommendation and further to the two missing pieces of documentation highlighted in the Data Report being found to be satisfactory.

6 INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW AND PROGRAMME REVALIDATION, INSTITUT FÜR INTERMEDIALE UND TRANSPERSONALE PROZESSE (ITP), BERN, SWITZERLAND

Received:

the report on the institutional review and programme revalidation of the Postgraduate Diploma in Art Psychotherapy at ITP Bern (11-245)

Noted:

- (i) that Goldsmiths had already given notice to end the collaborative agreement
- (ii) that the institution in Bern had failed to produce all the required documentation on the occasion of the review visit so the current report was an interim one.
- (iii) that the panel would reconvene 'virtually' to consider the additional documentation once this was completed and that a supplementary report of the panel's further deliberations would be produced;
- (iv) that Goldsmiths had a duty of care to students already on the programme in Bern, and that it was intended to put in place an exit agreement following the expiry of the current memorandum of agreement. in order to enable students already on the programme to complete their studies.

Recommended:

- (i) that a report be made of the process of ending the collaborative agreement in order that lessons be learnt and disseminated.

7 PERIODIC PROGRAMME REVIEW: BENG/MENG DESIGN AND INNOVATION

Received:

the report on the review of the BEng/MEng Design and Innovation and the renewal of the collaborative agreement with Queen Mary, University of London (11-246)

Noted:

- (i) that the current report was a draft subject to the final approval of the review panel and the programme teams at each institution.
- (ii) that the programme had been running for five years and was conceived as a genuinely collaborative degree which offered a distinctive opportunity to benefit from the particular strengths of each institution;
- (iii) that the programme review had been undertaken as part of the process for renewing the collaborative agreement with QMUL, although a strategic review of the arrangement was also taking place.
- (iv) that the list of recommendations and conditions of renewal was long and the apparent administrative burden of the programme seemed heavy considering this was a single programme with an intake of 15 students.
- (v) that since there would be students on the programme for at least the next four or five years, it was important that the conditions were met in order to ensure a high quality student experience.
- (vi) that there was clear enthusiasm shown by students during the review for the programme's opportunities and approach.

Recommended:

- (i) that the Committee endorse the draft report and its recommendations and conditions for renewal of the collaboration;
- (ii) that since students followed generic engineering courses at QMUL whilst the particular distinctiveness of the programme appeared to be delivered by Goldsmiths, consideration should be given to whether this could be better reflected in the agreement between the two institutions.

8 DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

Received:

draft sections of the new Strategic Plan (11-238).

Noted:

- (i) that a new Strategic Plan is due to go to Council in June and that the document received by the Committee was a draft form of that with many sections still being worked on.

Recommended:

- (i) that the phrase 'staff satisfaction' be changed to 'staff experience', which seemed to recognise a broader interaction between staff and the College, and that note be made within the Warden's Introduction of staff being the institution's main resource.

- (ii) that the role the Students' Union plays in the student experience be recognised somewhere in the document.
- (iv) that specific reference be included to the College being a part of the University of London and the benefits these brings in terms of collaborations and branding.
- (v) that consideration be given to changing the name of the 'Knowledge Production' pillar to 'Knowledge Creation', a phrase of seemingly growing usage in the sector at present, although some concern was expressed about whether either phrase sufficiently captured the process of Knowledge Transfer as was intended.

9 NEW ACADEMIC INITIATIVES UPDATE

Received:

a paper summarising the current status of potential new academic initiatives (11-239).

Recommended:

- (i) that the Kings College London and University College London planned Liberal Arts degrees be further explored to learn how they intended to tackle the various related issues.
- (ii) that consideration be given to whether flexible pathways and 'major/minor' degrees could be offered using a name such as 'Creative Arts' or 'Arts and Humanities', thereby highlighting Goldsmiths' particular strengths and moving away from the issues surrounding the name Liberal Arts.
- (iii) that consideration be given to the relationship with PACE's BA Social and Cultural Studies since the two programmes could have very similar academic aims although the intended markets were different.

10 GOLDSMITHS 2015

Received:

a paper providing an overview of the Goldsmiths 2015 programme (11-240).

Noted:

- (i) that the Committee would play an advisory role for the Academic Review Workstream, and that there would be opportunities for individual members of the Committee to be involved in some of the projects taking place within that Workstream.
- (ii) that a data gathering and review project was underway; data so far identified as of importance for Academic Review included workload and workload allocation models, delivery patterns for teaching and related assessments, and module data regarding students choice, financial viability, and content.
- (iii) that further relevant data might include performance (degrees awarded and students feedback) and research supervision workload.

- (iv) that thought would need to be given to how data was presented to ensure it was accessible and most benefit could be gleaned from it.

11 EMPLOYABILITY PROJECT

Received:

a paper outlining a planned project within the Marketing, Recruitment and Communications department (11-241)

12 NEW PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENTS

Received:

a paper summarising the progress of new programme developments (10-242)

13 ADMISSIONS REPORT

Received:

a paper summarising the current position in regard to 2011/12 admissions (11-243)

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

14 ACCESS AGREEMENT

Received:

the proposed Access Agreement for the new fees regime as submitted to OFFA (11-237)

15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The Chair recorded thanks to Bindz Patel, due to step down as Students' Union President, for her contribution both to the Committee and the College in general. Ms Patel noted her own thanks to the Committee, which in her experience had shown genuine openness to student input.

14 DATES OF NEXT MEETING

To note that meetings in 2011/12 will be held at 2pm on the following dates:

Thursday 29 September 2011
Wednesday 2 November 2011
Wednesday 18 January 2012
Wednesday 25 April 2012

Melanie Rimmer
Projects Officer
June 2011