

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

COUNCIL

ACADEMIC BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2011

- Present: Mr Patrick Loughrey (Chair), Ms Bishara Abdi, Dr Jorella Andrews, Ms Francesca Bancarino, Dr Lucia Boldrini, Dr Philip Broadhead, Dr Aeron Davis, Professor Michael Dutton, Dr Basem El-Haddadeh, Professor Natalie Fenton, Dr Marco Gillies, Professor Richard Grayson, Mr James Haywood, Professor Pam Heaton, Dr Berta Joncus, Mr Manoj Kerai, Dr Ben Levitas, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Dr Jean-Paul Martinon, Ms Mary Nixon, Dr Richard Noble, Professor Stephen Nugent, Ms Jacqueline Pennell, Mr Jeremy Peyton-Jones, Professor Jane Powell, Professor Linda Pring, Professor Kay Stables, Dr Anna Traianou, Dr Michael Young, Professor Robert Zimmer.
- Apologies: Professor Catherine Alexander, Professor Les Back, Dr Matthew Fuller, Dr Anna Furse, Dr Andrea Gilroy, Dr Stella Harvey, Professor Ken Jones, Professor Simon McVeigh, Ms Sian Prime, Dr Tim Parnell.
- In attendance: Registrar and Secretary, Director of Student Services, Head of Quality and Standards (Secretary).

OPEN BUSINESS

1 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2011 be approved.

2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

- (i) that developments in the Centre for Creative and Social Technology (CAST), the proposed BA Liberal and Creative Arts and the other academic initiatives discussed at Academic Board on 1 November 2011 had been noted at Council on 29 November 2011;
- (ii) that the proposal to establish an Institute of Management Studies had been approved by Council on 29 November 2011. The Institute will open formally on 1 September 2012 but operate in shadow form from 1 January 2012;
- (iii) that the proposals concerning Redundancy Committees had been approved by Council on 29 November 2011.

3 WARDEN'S REPORT

The Warden gave an oral report on matters of interest to the College.

The recent problems with the heating circuits in certain buildings would be addressed over the Christmas break. The power outage had been caused by the use of portable heaters and kettles and had resulted in the servers shutting down for a period. It was noted that improved and regular communication with the staff affected, including Visiting Tutors, was important.

The College was behind the competition and the London norm for student recruitment and it was unlikely that the College would manage to recruit to the same level as in the past 3-4 years. Heads of Departments and Admissions Tutors were thanked for their efforts to maximise recruitment in the current turbulent environment.

A recent UUK meeting had confirmed the need for a high level of student involvement in institutional matters. Goldsmiths was in a strong position in this respect with its model of partnership with students and high levels of student involvement in governance structures.

Shared services would be a way of helping the College address issues of scale. Scoping was underway to explore possibilities with other small research intensive universities.

The 2011-12 QS University rankings had been published. Goldsmiths was in the top 20 in the UK for Arts and Humanities; in the top 30 in the UK for Social Sciences and in the top 100 world universities.

It was announced that Baroness Morris would be the new Chair of Council.

The Registrar and Secretary would be leaving the College to take up the position of Chief Operating Officer at Cardiff University, and was thanked for his contribution to Goldsmiths.

4 OCCUPATION ENQUIRY

Received:

a paper from the Registrar and Secretary containing the draft terms of reference for an occupation enquiry (11-528).

Noted:

The Occupation of the Whitehead building had caused a high level of disruption to the work of the College and had impacted on statutory returns to HEFCE and financial operations. It was understood that few of those involved were students of the College.

Goldsmiths had a tradition of tolerance concerning freedom of expression but there were concerns that tolerance of recent events had been at the expense of colleagues who were unable to do their jobs. The College recognised its duty of care to staff and enrolled students and was proposing an enquiry to look at the impact of the occupation and to try to understand why it had happened. It was important to retain existing College values but also to find a way forward.

Resolved:

- (i) that an enquiry be set up to enquire into the facts of the occupation of the Whitehead building between 23 November and 3 December 2011;
- (ii) that the enquiry should take place before the next meeting of Academic Board;
- (iii) that the enquiry should assess the impact of the occupation on the College's activities and also on its reputation;
- (iii) that the enquiry should include communication with the occupiers to listen to their concerns and to try to understand their motivation;
- (iv) that there should be student representation on the enquiry panel;
- (v) that members of Academic Board who were interested in being involved in the enquiry should notify the Warden before the Christmas break.

5 REPORT BY THE PRO-WARDEN (RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE)

Thanks were extended to all those involved in preparations for the Research Excellence Framework (REF). Work was ongoing on 'environment' and 'impact' in preparation for the REF dry run and additional support had been recruited to help in the preparation of impact case studies.

The College would be preparing a Code of Practice relating to the selection of staff for the REF. Non selection would not affect an individual staff member's position in the College.

The Business Development Office and Research Office were now co-located in Hatcham House and had been renamed the 'Research and Enterprise Office'.

6 REPORT BY THE PRO-WARDEN (STUDENTS AND LEARNING DEVELOPMENT)

It was important to ensure a high quality student experience as this would attract students to the College.

The College's Employability Strategy had almost completely been enacted and was expected to result in significant changes which would be of benefit to students.

The Higher Education Academy had recently published its UK Professional Standards Framework. This was aimed at supporting the professionalisation of teaching in universities. The framework and how the College could respond to this would be considered by the Goldsmiths Learning Enhancement Unit. Academic staff were encouraged to apply to become Fellows of the Higher Education Academy. GLEU could provide assistance with applications.

The Quality Assurance Agency's new method for Institutional Review in England and Northern Ireland (IRENI) was underway. The new method had increased the number of judgements to four and also introduced a 'commended' category. This would be highly sought after and the College would need to work towards this.

7 LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

Received:

a paper from the Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development) on the new Learning and Teaching Strategy (11-451R).

The College was developing its new Learning and Teaching Strategy. The strategy had its own interactive web page and staff were invited to contribute suggestions on the webpage about what should be included in the strategy and to comment on other colleagues' suggestions. Colleagues should contact GLEU for editing rights.

The Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development) would be holding a couple of open meetings to discuss the strategy in January 2012. Departments would have the opportunity to contribute at a later stage if they wished to discuss matters at Departmental Learning and Teaching Committees beforehand.

The title Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy was proposed.

Resolved:

that the new strategy should include the word 'assessment' in the title.

8 INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW: INSTITUT FÜR INTERMEDIALE UND TRANSPERSONALE PROZESSE (ITP BERN), SWITZERLAND

Resolved:

that ITP Bern be reapproved as a partner institution of Goldsmiths' College for the period of the exit agreement (11-453R).

Noted:

that Learning and Teaching Quality Committee had revalidated the Postgraduate Diploma in Intermedial Arts Therapies.

9 LASALLE ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Resolved:

that the academic regulations for the validated programmes at LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore, be approved subject to the amendment of paragraph 85 (11-375).

10 LASALLE CREDIT TRANSFER ARRANGEMENTS

Resolved:

that the arrangements for credit transfer of students as direct entrants onto years two and three of the validated degree programmes, be approved subject to completion of the mapping exercise required by Standards Scrutiny Sub-Committee (11-374).

11 BENG/MENG DESIGN AND INNOVATION WITH QUEEN MARY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON REVISED PROGRAMME REGULATIONS

Resolved:

that the revised regulations for the intercollegiate programme, BEng/MEng Design and Innovation with Queen Mary, University of London be approved (11-406).

12 COLLABORATIVE PROVISION FRAMEWORK

Resolved:

that the amendments to the collaborative provision framework be approved (11-457).

13 STUDENT VOICE PROGRAMME UPDATE – JUST JOINED SURVEY RESULTS

Resolved:

that the continuation of the evolving approach to the coordination of the Student Voice Programme be approved (11-454).

14 CENTRE FOR THE BODY

Resolved:

that the establishment of the Centre for the Body from January 2012 be approved (11-505).

15 LASALLE ADMISSIONS POLICY

Resolved:

that the LASALLE admissions policy be approved (11-456).

16 REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR

Noted:

that there had been no action taken by the Chair since the last meeting of Academic Board.

17 ANNUAL REPORTS OF ACADEMIC BOARD COMMITTEES

Received:

the annual reports of the following Academic Board Committees

Academic Development Committee (11-313)
Research and Enterprise Committee (11-498)
Learning and Teaching Quality Committee (11-339)
Student Committee (11-340).
Equality and Diversity Committee (11-405)
Information Management & Systems Committee (11-349R)

18 LEARN.GOLD UPGRADE

Received:

a report from Goldsmiths Learning Enhancement Unit on the learn.gold upgrade (11-455).

19 REVIEW OF QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCESSES 2010-11 AND REPORT ON QUALITY ASSURANCE DATA

Received:

a paper from the Head of Quality and Standards reviewing the operation of the quality framework in 2010-11 (11-336).

20 ANNUAL PROGRAMME REVIEW 2009-10

Received:

a supplementary paper from the Quality Administrator on the Annual Programme Review process in 2009-10 (11-338).

21 SUMMARY OF EXTERNAL EXAMINERS' REPORTS FOR 2009-10

Received:

a summary from the Quality Assurance Manager of External Examiners' reports for 2009-10 (11-183R2).

22 SCHEDULE FOR PERIODIC REVIEWS IN 2011-12

Received:

the schedule for Periodic Reviews in 2011-12 (11-341R).

23 NEW QAA INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW METHOD

Received:

a paper from the Head of Quality and Standards on the new QAA institutional review method (11-458).

24 ASSESSMENT REPORT 2010-11

Received:

from the Head of Assessments a report on the assessment process for session 2010-11 (11-376).

25 OFSTED INSPECTION REPORT

Received:

the OFSTED inspection report (11-377).

26 STUDENT ENROLMENT REPORT 2011-12

Received:

from the Head of Enrolments and Records a report on student enrolment (11-461).

27 LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2010-11

Received:

the Library annual report (11-452).

28 CAREERS SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT

Received:

the Careers Service Annual Report (11-337).

29 COUNSELLING SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2010-11

Received:

the Counselling Service Annual Report (11-460).

30 GOLDSMITHS GRADUATE SCHOOL: ROLE AND PROGRESS 2010-11

Received:

from the Dean of the Graduate School a report on the role and progress of the Graduate School (11-361).

31 DIGEST OF ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENTAL BOARDS 2010-11

Received:

a paper from the Head of Quality and Standards on the activities of Departmental Boards in 2010-11(11-516).

32 PROMOTIONS OF ACADEMIC STAFF

Received:

a summary of Academic Staff Promotions from 1 September 2011 from the Human Resources Manager (11-517)

33 STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Received:

the Students' Union Annual Impact Report (11-500)

34 OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT

Noted:

other matters for report including New Heads of Department appointments, appointments of Visiting Fellows, the approval of new Units and minutes from the Committees of Academic Board (11-519).

35 NEXT MEETING

Noted:

that the next meeting would be held on 14 March 2012 at 2 p.m.

36 EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

Resolved:

that the appointment of the following External Examiners be approved.

MRes Politics

Professor Nirmala Rao
Pro-Director (Learning and Teaching)
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)
From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

MA Culture Industry

Dr Stephen Shukaitis
Lecturer
University of Essex, Essex Business School
From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

BA Sociology / Joint degrees

Dr Fran Tonkiss
Lecturer
London School of Economics
From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

MA Education, Language and Identity

Dr John Head
Visiting Senior Lecturer
King's College, London
Extended for one year to 30th September 2012

BMus Popular Music

Professor Allan Moore
Professor of Music
University of Surrey
From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

MA Script Writing

Professor Roger Shannon

Head of Film

Edge Hill University

Temporary replacement for Mr Gareth Wiley to 30th September 2011

BA Social Work

Ms Sarah Matthews

Staff Tutor Health and Social Care

The Open University

From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

MA Social Research

Dr Nik Brown

Reader in Sociology

University of York

From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

MA Social Work (Step Up)

Dr Robert Johns

Principal Social Work Lecturer

University of East London

From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

MA in Social Entrepreneurship

Professor Roger Spear

Professor of Social Entrepreneurship

The Open University

From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

MA Social Anthropology / MA Anthropology and Cultural Politics

Dr Alexander King

Senior Lecturer of Anthropology

University of Aberdeen

From 1st November 2011 to 30th September 2014

PGCE Secondary English

Dr Andrew Green

Course Director

University of Brunel

Extended for one year to 30th September 2012

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

37 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY

Exemption 41 of the FOI Act (Information provided in confidence) applies to the paper (due to the inclusion of comparative data from other universities)

Received:

a report from the Quality Administrator on the College's results in the 2011 National Student Survey (11-344).

Thanks were extended to the Quality Administrator for her detailed and accessible analysis of the data.

The College had improved its position and a number of departments had made significant advances. Thanks were extended to all colleagues who had been proactive in addressing particular issues. The College's results were, however, still behind those of the 1994 group and other comparable HEIs.

The NSS results did not always reflect the positive feedback from students obtained as part of course evaluation or programme monitoring. This was attributed to the fact that the NSS considers the overall student experience, not just that on individual courses or programmes.

It was clear that a number of negative comments were from students on joint degrees and it was therefore important for departments to ensure that College procedures relating to the organisation and management of joint degrees were fully implemented.

The College should be able to make rapid progress in a number of areas. Feedback remained an area of concern nationally. At Goldsmiths, the new Feedback Policy was being implemented and it was important to ensure consistency of application in departments.

Progress should also be possible in the area of employability. Staff had a very clear idea about the employability aspects of their programmes but this needed to be articulated to students. The College's Employability Policy was being implemented and should facilitate progress in this area.

Departments were reminded about the importance of the NSS forum as a space for the sharing of good practice.

A dummy run of the NSS for second year students would be going ahead and it would be important for the College to analyse and act upon the messages from this.

Resolved:

- (i) that Heads of Department be reminded about the need to ensure consistent application of the College's Feedback Policy across their department.
- (ii) that Heads of Department be reminded about College procedures relating to the organisation and management of joint degrees.

38 REPORT FROM HONORARY DEGREES AND FELLOWSHIPS COMMITTEE

Personal data relating to persons other than current staff or students

Noted:

the names of those receiving Honorary degrees and fellowships in 2012 (11-522).