

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

COUNCIL

**ACADEMIC BOARD
6 March 2013**

Present: Mr Patrick Loughrey (Chair), Professor Lucia Boldrini, Professor Jim Campbell, Dr Matthew Fuller, Professor Anna Furse, Dr Marco Gillies, Mr Soren Goard, Professor Richard Grayson, Dr Stella Harvey, Professor Pam Heaton, Professor Elisabeth Hill, Professor Ken Jones, Dr Veronica Lawrence, Dr Ben Levitas, Mr Howard Littler, Professor Simon McVeigh, Professor Steve Nugent, Mr Samson Osun, Ms Jacqueline Pennell, Professor Jane Powell, Professor Bev Skeggs, Dr Juliet Sprake, Dr Anna Traianou, Dr Derval Tubridy, Ms Joan Turner, Dr Matthew Ward, Dr Michael Young, Professor Robert Zimmer.

Apologies: Dr Jorella Andrews, Professor Les Back, Professor Frank Bond, Dr Aeron Davis, Professor Adam Dinham, Professor Michael Dutton, Dr Basem El-Haddadeh, Professor Natalie Fenton, Ms Annie Guo, Dr Berta Joncus, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Dr Richard Noble, Professor David Oswald, Dr Tim Parnell, Dr Tom Perchard, Ms Sian Prime, Professor Sanjay Seth, Dr Emma Tarlo.

In attendance: Mrs Liz Bromley, Miss Rosemary Harrison, Ms Laura Kishore, Ms Jo Reynolds, Dr Chris Brauer, Mr Adrian de la Court and Miss Rachel Soper (Secretary).

1 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2012 be approved.

2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

that the Assistive Technology Centre would continue to be housed in the Rutherford Building in a larger and refurbished room, and that the Students' Union had been involved in the design of the facility.

3 WARDEN'S REPORT

The Warden gave an oral report on issues of concern and interest to the College.

It was announced that two new Pro-Wardens had been appointed. Professor Mark d'Inverno, Pro-Warden for Research and Enterprise and Professor Roger Burrows, Pro-Warden for Interdisciplinarity. Professor Jane Powell would take up a new position as Deputy Warden. Congratulations were conveyed to all those concerned.

It was noted that the recruitment processes for the six Associate Pro-Warden roles was underway.

The Warden reported on some of the very successful initiatives that were being used to promote Goldsmiths to all our stakeholder groups. These included the Made in Goldsmiths lecture series and the Gold Stories, some of which were featured in promotional booklets as well as appearing online. It was noted that the College was increasingly being used as a venue for television shows, providing further exposure and excellent publicity.

Relationships with schools continued to improve, and work of all departments in this area was acknowledged. They were encouraged to develop and nurture these further.

The current recruitment position was reported. Undergraduate recruitment levels were encouraging with home and EU applications having increased by approximately 12% and overseas applications by approximately 25%. However, taught postgraduate recruitment, and to a lesser extent postgraduate research recruitment remained a concern. Whilst overseas recruitment levels were slightly above those reported last year, applications for home and EU students had decreased in number, and this appeared to confirm a trend a downward trend over the past two or three years. It was acknowledged that a lot of effort had been focused on undergraduate recruitment the previous year which had led to a very successful outcome for the College. Learning from this, a series of meetings for postgraduate admissions tutors would take place to emphasise the importance of postgraduate provision to the College and to consider what would be needed to support recruitment and the postgraduate student experience, including studentships and to provide information about the conversion plan being enacted.

It was noted that there was potential for far greater mobility between postgraduate programmes, which would make our programmes more attractive, but that there would be a need to review some aspects of the credit framework and the logistics of programme delivery and scheduling to effect this.

It was reported that Mary Curnock-Cook, chief executive of UCAS had visited the College. The meeting had been well attended by academic staff, staff from Professional Services and Council members. The meeting had been very informative and interesting. Mary Curnock-Cook presented some very interesting national statistics, as well as some insight into those of Goldsmiths compared to the sector and our competitors. For example, the statistics indicated that nationally there was an issue with the low numbers of young white males entering higher education and that the number of mature students applying for university was decreasing significantly, whereas for this latter group, applications to Goldsmiths were decreasing but at a much slower rate. It was demonstrated that whilst our application levels had fallen, compared to the sector, our conversion rates were significantly better, indicating that once selected by an applicant, there was a very good chance that that applicant would subsequently enrol as a student here. Thus, it was very important that we increased our brand awareness in order to ensure that a larger number of applicants applied to the College in future years. Mary Curnock-Cook stressed the importance of emphasising the higher purpose of higher education and why scholarship matters, particularly in an institution such as Goldsmiths.

The success of the Make a Difference Day showcasing Goldsmiths research and emphasising the importance of its research culture was acknowledged and the Warden was pleased to announce some new appointments, including those in the Department of Computing.

It was reported that discussions were ongoing between members of the 1994 Group to reestablish its purpose and future alignment. It was agreed that the agenda should be driven by the research-intensive institutions but that the number of institutions would need to increase for the group to continue to be effective, to influence policy and to counter threats to research grants and funding. It was noted that a new school metric had been introduced relating to the percentage of pupils progressing to Russell Group universities. It was noted that it was too soon to discuss specific strategies for the 1994 Group to counter the impact of the Russell Group, but that members of the 1994 Group would normally be able to claim excellent teaching scores and access to world-leading academics, the benefits of a single campus as well as being research intensive institutions.

4 DEPUTY WARDEN'S REPORT

The Deputy Warden reported on various developments relating to internationalisation.

An internationalisation strategy was being developed that would draw on sources including the survey that had been undertaken recently. The internationalisation strategy would incorporate elements relating to curriculum, learning styles as well as staff and student mobility, e.g. to India and China.

A number of developments in different parts of the world were being explored or under development, including projects with the Ontario College of Art and Design, a distance-learning programme in Russia and initiatives in the Middle East.

It was reported that the final programme in the original agreement with LaSalle had now been validated and that a new postgraduate programme – MA Artist Educator - had also been approved.

As part of the approval process for the new BA in International Studies with Chinese, a visit to the Capital Normal University in Beijing had taken place. Students would spend the third year of their programme in China, and this visit was undertaken to look at the language teaching that our students would undertake as well as the student support arrangements provided. It was also noted that there was a possibility that students might be able to study for a fifth year in China and earn a Chinese degree award, but that discussions were at an exploratory stage. The Confucius Institute would be providing some of the language teaching on this programme here at Goldsmiths and it was noted that all Goldsmiths' students could access affordable Mandarin classes at the Institute.

There was a lot of teaching and consultancy activity relating to the creative Industries happening in various parts of the world, including Vietnam, Brunei, Macau as well as gathering impetus around Japan. It was noted that the role of the new APW (International) would be integral in coordinating and drawing together all these strands.

5 PRO-WARDEN (RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE) REPORT

Thanks were expressed to all departments and staff for their cooperation with the REF preparations and all was progressing smoothly and to time. The first phase of collating and selecting outputs had been successful and the second phase, following feedback and taking account of new publications not previously considered would take place in May and June 2013.

Draft environment narratives had been received from departments and constructive feedback and sharing of good practice could take place between now and the final submission date at the end of November 2013.

Work was continuing on impact case studies. The Make a Difference event had celebrated some of the case studies, but had made further contributions in terms of establishing connections between Goldsmiths' staff and other organisations as well as bringing to the foreground some other non-REFable activities.

In parallel to the work on the case studies, work was progressing developing the institutional narrative around impact strategies and societal impact. This would be the focus next term and a group had been established to look at public engagement.

It was reported that the Open Access debate was moving forward and that staff needed to engage with the policy developments. In terms of RCUK, policy was that any research that it had funded should be publicly available at the first point of publication. This could be achieved either through Green or Gold Access. There was funding available from RCUK which was being topped up by the College to enable this to happen. From the beginning of April, all publications would need to be made open access in an appropriate way.

HEFCE were taking a broader view of this issue and believed that any research that was publicly funded should be available on open access. In its view, for the next research exercise, only Open Access publications would be eligible to be submitted and further that they must have been made Open Access at the earliest opportunity. It was reported that HEFCE were holding a consultation and that a College response would be coordinated by the Pro-Warden (Research and Enterprise). It was stressed that HEFCE was trying to assist the sector by setting up a framework that would allow institutions to be able to comply with the new requirements and to adhere to the basic principles of open access which were generally welcomed.

It was noted that the new requirements in respect of open access would impact significantly upon departments and that due time for upload publications and entering details onto GRO would need to be factored into workloads and schedules for departments and academics. The Research Office and the Library would be providing support.

Members discussed what the new policies would mean for different disciplines, particularly where the normal form of research output was not a journal article. It was noted that several members were actively engaged in this debate within their own scholarly or professional associations and that all intelligence and responses should be collated and considered.

6 PRO-WARDEN (STUDENTS, LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT) REPORT

It was reported that the proposal for a new Centre for Careers and Skills Development had been agreed and that funding possibilities, including external opportunities, were being explored. A Pre-Entry Careers Advisor role had been approved to work particularly with students from non-traditional backgrounds.

A new work-based course was being developed and would be piloted by a number of departments, Media and Communication, Politics and Visual Cultures as a new initiative to help integrate employability into the curriculum.

Work was progressing implementing the Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy. The Head of GLEU would be running diagnostic sessions and working with individual departments on implementation plans.

The National Student Survey 2013 was open and departments could check their participation rates using the new graphic. Some departments had already achieved the target participation rate of 66%, including Design and Psychology and all departments were asked to encourage their students to participate.

7 ENROLMENT, RECRUITMENT AND PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENTS

Received:

a paper from the Deputy Warden regarding current recruitment and portfolio developments (13-48).

Members discussed various issues relating to the future of postgraduate provision in the light of decreasing numbers and the new student support arrangements. It was also noted that questions about widening participation and access were increasingly being asked now. It was noted that the minister had explicitly ruled out extending the current loan system for undergraduates to postgraduate student, but that there may be a role for private providers here.

Members discussed options for providing College support to postgraduate students and in particular the continuing student support which provided a small fee discount to students progressing from undergraduate to postgraduate study at Goldsmiths.

It was reported that the new programme approval process was working well. It was noted that the portfolio was being extended and that there were some new programmes being launched in addition to those listed in the paper. These included an MA in Fashion Research, led by Design, and MAs in Cultural Policy and Tourism and Cultural Policy and Diplomacy led by ICCE. Future portfolio developments were likely to include Architecture and possibilities were being actively explored.

Members discussed issues relating to closing programmes and monitoring student numbers and in particular the “ten student” rule. It was explained that the process for closing programmes would be reviewed as part of the next stage of the overall portfolio management scheme and that an additional stage had been incorporated into the new programme approval process to review its success after two years. There would be an annual portfolio healthcheck which would look at student numbers by programme and department in order to provide information and evidence to Heads of Department about the overall state of programmes.

It was reported that the new Economics appointments were expected to be made in the next two weeks.

8 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY REPORTING

Received:

the published reports on the staff and student populations and implications for the College’s Equality and Diversity objectives and associated action plan (13-105).

Members welcomed the reports and the opportunity to discuss the statistics presented. In particular, members discussed issues relating to gender and pay, student achievement and the correlation between staff and student profiles. Members further suggested areas for further investigation and analysis.

It was noted that:

- (i) A new full-time Equality and Diversity Manager role had been approved;
- (ii) Staff declaration of disability was very low but that it was hoped that this might improve once the new self-service facility was functioning correctly on the HR systems;
- (iii) Work was undergoing to look at promotion and career progression for different groups of staff;
- (iv) That the Athena Swann award for recognising excellent practice with respect to women in science had been rolled out across all disciplines;
- (v) The Centre for Feminist Research would have a role in assisting us to understand the effects we were seeing through the statistics.

Resolved:

- (i) to investigate the statistics available in respect of grade and gender and fractionality and gender;
- (ii) to investigate how we can incorporate and benefit from the extension of the Athena Swann award into College activities;
- (iii) to drill down further into the student ethnicity and achievement statistics.

9 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE CENTRE FOR FEMINIST RESEARCH

Resolved:

that the establishment of a Centre for Feminist Research with effect from April 2013 be approved (13-40).

10 AMENDMENT TO THE GOLDSMITHS CREDIT FRAMEWORK TO ALLOW FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES TO THE VALUE OF 30 CREDITS TO BE INCLUDED WITHIN MASTERS QUALIFICATIONS

Members discussed whether the principle of allowing undergraduate level credits could be extended beyond foreign language courses.

Recommended

that further consideration be given to extending the dispensation to allow undergraduate level credits within a masters programme.

Resolved:

that the credit framework be amended to allow foreign language courses to the value of 30 credits to be included within Masters qualifications (13-68).

11 DYSLEXIA AND ADJUSTMENTS TO MARKING

Resolved:

that the practice of using dyslexia identifiers on course work for students commencing programmes of study from 2013-14 onwards be discontinued (12-231R).

12 AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL REGULATIONS

Resolved:

to recommend to Council amendments to the General Regulations to take effect from 1 September 2013 (13-106).

13 AUTHORISED ABSENCE

Resolved:

that the policy for the authorisation of student absences be approved (13-.74R).

14 TERM DATES

Resolved:

that the standard term dates for 2014-15 be approved (13-107).

15 EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

Resolved:

that the following External Examiners be appointed:

Dr Martin Coward

MA International Studies

Senior Lecturer in International Politics

Newcastle University

From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Dr Robbie Shilliam

BA International Studies

Senior Lecturer in International Relations

Queen Mary, University of London

From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Dr Stewart Motha

MA Critical and Creative Analysis

Director of PG Research and Intensive Master's programmes
Birkbeck, University of London
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Professor Tracy Shildrick

BA Sociology / Joints
Professor of Sociology
Teeside University
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Professor William Fong

MMus (Performance and Related Studies pathway)
Professor of Piano
Royal Academy of Music
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Dr Shzr Ee Tan

MA in Music (Ethnomusicology pathway)
Lecturer, Music Department
Royal Holloway, University of London
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Dr Nicole Vitellone

BA Sociology / Joints
Senior Lecturer in Sociology
University of Liverpool
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Professor Nicky Marsh

MA Comparative Literary Studies
Professor of Twentieth Century English Studies
University of Southampton
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Professor Shane Weller

MA Comparative Literary Studies
Professor of Comparative Literature
University of Kent
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Ms Georgina Lock

BA Animation Art (LaSalle)
Senior Lecturer in English and Creative Writing
Nottingham Trent University
From 1st August 2013 to 31st July 2015

Dr Rachel Doern

MSc Digital Entrepreneurship
Senior Lecturer in Entrepreneurship
Royal Holloway, University of London
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Dr Lucy Yang Lu

MSc Management of Innovation
Associate Professor and Director of MBA programmes
Plymouth Business School
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Dr Bethan-Jane Marshall

PGCE Secondary English
Director of English PGCE and MA Education
King's College London
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Dr Anastasia Christou

MA Postcolonial Culture and Global Policy
Reader in Sociology
Middlesex University
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Dr Christine Hine

MA /MSc Digital Sociology
Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology
University of Surrey
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Dr Christine Sprigg

MSc Leadership and Talent Management
Lecturer in Occupational Psychology
University of Sheffield
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Ms Helena Blakemore

BA, DipHE in English, Cert in English (ULIP)
Senior Lecturer
University of East London
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

Dr Annabelle Mooney

BA, DipHE in English, Cert in English (ULIP)
Reader in Sociolinguistics
University of Roehampton
From 1st November 2012 to 30th September 2016

16 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

Resolved:

that the proposed changes to the terms of reference and composition of Academic Board and Joint committees with effect from 1 September 2013 (13-109) be approved.

17 ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR

Noted:

the action taken by the Chair since the last meeting (13-110).

18 Undergraduate Annual Programme Review Report 2011-12

Received:

a report from the Quality Administrator on the undergraduate Annual Programme Review reports for the academic year 2011-12 (13-62).

19 ASSESSMENT REPORT 2011-12

Received:

a report on the assessment process for session 2011-12.

20 ANNUAL DIGEST OF EXTERNAL EXAMINERS' REPORTS 2011-2012

Received:

a digest of External Examiners' reports for 2011-12.

21 DIGEST OF ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENTAL LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEES 2011-12

Received:

a paper on the activities of Departmental Learning and Teaching Committees in 2011-12 (13-69).

22 UPDATED RESPONSE TO THE PERIODIC PROGRAMME REVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING'S PROGRAMMES OFFERED THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY (UoLIA)

Received:

the revised response and action plan following the Periodic Programme Review of the Department of Computing's programmes offered through the University of London International Academy (11-509R2).

23 REPORT OF THE PERIODIC PROGRAMME REVIEW OF POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE

Received:

the report of the Periodic Programme/Departmental Review of postgraduate programmes in the Department of Media and Communications and the departmental response (13-19).

24 MODERATION PROCESSES AT LASALLE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Noted:

the moderation process to be followed by Goldsmiths' Academic Links at LASALLE College of the Arts (13-17).

25 APPROVED RECEIVED TUITION FEES 2013-14

Noted:

the list of approved tuition fees for the 2013-14 academic year (13-80).

26 ACADEMIC BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

Received:

the minutes from the following Committees of Academic Board:

- U1 Academic Development Committee, 5 December 2012
- U2 Equality & Diversity Committee, 6 November 2012
- U3 Information Management & Systems Committee, 27 February 2013
- U4 Learning & Teaching Quality Committee, 13 February 2013
- U5 Research & Enterprise Committee, 21 November 2012

27 NEXT MEETING

Noted:

that the next meeting would be held on 12 June 2013 at 2 p.m.

RESERVED BUSINESS

28 APPOINTMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Noted:

appointments of membership to committees (13-116).