

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

COUNCIL

ACADEMIC BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2014

OPEN BUSINESS

Present: Mr Patrick Loughrey (in the Chair), Dr Michael Banissy, Professor Lucia Boldrini, Professor Frank Bond, Professor Gavin Butt, Professor Jim Campbell, Mr Tom Chivers, Professor Mark D’Inverno, Professor Michael Dutton, Professor Anna Furse, Mr Soren Goard, Mr Conrad Grant, Professor Richard Grayson, Dr Monica Greco, Ms Annie Guo, Dr Julian Henriques (*vice* Professor Natalie Fenton), Professor Elisabeth Hill, Dr Berta Joncus, Dr Ben Levitas, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Ms Julia Lockheart, Professor Stephen Nugent, Professor David Oswell, Professor Carrie Paechter, Dr Tim Parnell, Ms Jacqueline Pennell, Dr Tom Perchard, Professor Jane Powell, Dr Anna Traianou, Dr Derval Tubridy, Ms Joan Turner, Mr Matthew Ward, Dr Michael Young, Professor Robert Zimmer.

Apologies: Professor Roger Burrows, Dr Aeron Davis, Professor Adam Dinham, Professor Natalie Fenton, Dr Matthew Fuller, Dr Marco Gillies, Dr Ariel Hessayon, Professor Scott Lash, Dr Georg Menz, Dr Richard Noble, Ms Sian Prime, Dr Juliet Sprake, Professor Emma Tarlo.

In attendance: Mrs Liz Bromley, Dr Veronica Lawrence, Miss Rachel Soper, Mrs Cathryn Thompson (Secretary)

1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noted:

- (i) the Warden announced the sad news that our much loved colleague, teacher and friend Professor Sasha Ivashkin had passed away. His immense musical legacy and passionate spirit will continue to inspire our Music Department.
- (ii) Professor Gavin Butt was welcomed to the Board.

2 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2013 be approved.

3 WARDEN'S REPORT

The Warden gave an oral report on matters of interest to the College. The Warden congratulated all academic and professional service departments on the highly positive comparative admission statistics at this point in the recruitment cycle. It was noted that undergraduate home/EU applications were up 18%, postgraduate up 9% and PGCE up 37%. Overseas undergraduate recruitment was up 33% and postgraduate 24%. Home/EU acceptances were up 40% compared to this time last year but postgraduate was down 8%, requiring action at the department level. International conversion was down slightly by 3% at undergraduate level but up 1% for postgraduate. Staff were thanked for their dedication to this.

The cumulative effect of new programmes was also noted, with over 1100 new students attracted to Goldsmiths due to new programmes offered as part of the portfolio. Particular attention was drawn to the new programmes in Computing with a high number of margin applications, the ECL programme attracting 99 applications with 44% in the margin, IMS, Media and Communications, and Politics. The accessibility of the College to students with alternative qualifications was also noted.

The Board was informed that work was already underway in preparation for Goldsmiths' Higher Education Review scheduled to take place in June 2015. The Warden's Advisory Group meeting taking place the following morning would outline the timeline, what was expected of departments and what additional evidence might be required.

A discussion on UCU's planned marking boycott from 28 April took place, further to the discussion that had previously taken place at the Warden's Open meeting. This was of enormous concern and anxiety to all, and particularly with regards to the impact on the student experience and final year students especially. UCEA, who represents the universities in the negotiations, is currently collecting the views of its members in relation to how they would react to the boycott. Goldsmiths is urging for a solution to be found as feared that the impact could be much greater at the College than was anticipated at other institutions. Thought had been given to the College's involvement in collective bargaining going forward, however, Goldsmiths is part of a national bargaining framework and stands collectively with its fellow members in UCEA.

The exciting partnership with the Centre for Investigative Journalism (CIJ) within the Department of Media and Communications was noted. This partnership merges Goldsmiths' academic expertise and the CIJ's extraordinary experience amongst practitioners. It will continue the vital work of championing freedom of press and supporting ethical and fair journalism. Summer schools, internship and placement opportunities in a number of departments were presented to the Board, along with potential courses in data journalism with computing students.

The Warden also reported on a recent visit by Les Ebdon, Chief Executive of the Office for Fair Access (OFFA), to discuss our commitment to widening participation. Goldsmiths' access agreement was referred to in his presentation as 'an exemplar'.

4 HIGHER EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

Received:

a report from the Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development) on the introduction of a Higher Education Achievement Report (14-47).

Noted:

- (i) that the Burgess Report proposed the continuation of awarding degree classifications but for this to be supplemented with an additional document in the form of a HEAR, which was further supported in the Wilson Review and subsequently recommended for implementation by BIS;
- (ii) that SMT recently agreed a project to look at the feasibility of implementing the HEAR at Goldsmiths, drawing on good practice in the sector and being mindful of the processes involved in the internal verification of specific activities not impacting negatively on the workload of academic departments;
- (iii) that if approved for full implementation, those students enrolling from September 2014 will graduate from Goldsmiths with a HEAR, thus enabling the incremental development and formal recording of PDP activity as the process embeds;
- (iv) that it was queried whether students graduating this year and the next two might be able to receive some form of a scaled down version of the HEAR, to which additional information could be incorporated once formal processes for recording had been established;
- (v) that costs associated with implementing the HEAR could largely be integrated into planned developments to the Student Record System, although it was recognised that some central resourcing with regards to PDP might still be required;
- (vi) that the introduction of the HEAR was welcomed by students and that student representation on the working group overseeing the project would continue.

5 ACADEMIC BOARD EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW**Received:**

an oral update from the Director of Governance and Legal Services on the effectiveness review of Academic Board 2013-14.

Noted:

- (i) that Council had approved a phased approach to a full review of Goldsmiths' committee structure starting with the effectiveness of Academic Board and its committees this year, followed by a review of Council and its committees next year;
- (ii) that consultation with the Deputy and Pro-Wardens in the first instance was underway to review the existing committee structure including the flow of business to and from departmental committees and Academic Board, a review of the workload and membership of LTQC, and how its sub committees are operating with the potential for delayering wherever possible;
- (iii) that the membership of Academic Board and its committees would be revised to reflect the new School groupings rather than the five academic groups used to date, the new professional service department structure, and to incorporate the new role of Associate Pro-Wardens;

- (iv) that some groups had already ceased, including Value for Money and the Risk Management Group;
- (v) that the Board would receive a further update on progress at its next meeting.

6 REGULATIONS REVIEW

Received:

a report from the Director of Governance and Legal Services on a review of General Regulations and the Regulations approved by Academic Board during the 2013-14 academic year (14-122).

Noted:

- (i) that a more holistic approach to the annual review and update of the regulations was being taken this year to ensure that they are fit-for-purpose and any changes receive appropriate consideration and consultation with the academic community;
- (ii) that the format and structure of the regulations would be reviewed so that any duplication across regulatory documents was eliminated and so that a clear distinction could be made between policy, procedure and guidance documents;
- (iii) that priority would be given to the Assessment Regulations, and specifically on the areas of academic misconduct, the role of Board of Examiners and resits;
- (iv) that the communication of regulatory changes to students would also be reviewed in consultation with the Students' Union, including clearer information on how degrees are calculated, hardship and debt support, and rules surrounding compensation;
- (v) that draft regulations would be available for comment in due course but that anyone wishing to be involved in the working group or suggest any key priority areas for attention should contact Rachel Soper, Director of Governance and Legal Services.

7 DEGREE AWARDING POWERS

Received:

a report from the Director of Governance and Legal Services on Goldsmiths' DAPs (14-123).

Noted:

- (i) that Goldsmiths was awarded DAPs in 2009 by the Privy Council and applied to the University of London in 2010 to use them;
- (ii) that students at LASALLE were currently the only students graduating with a Goldsmiths degree rather than a University of London award. However, with other types of partnerships potentially coming online, such as joint degrees, the DAPs permissions currently granted by the University of London were very narrow, to be exercised only for those studying off campus;
- (iii) that the University of London award was agreed to have much value, particularly at

postgraduate research level and for international students, and that when DAPs were awarded to Goldsmiths back in 2009 the discussion at the time concluded that on campus degrees should continue to receive a University of London award;

- (iv) that any application to the University of London to extend the use of our DAPs would only be for collaborative provision activity, which didn't appear to have any perceived risk associated with it;
- (v) that members of the Board raised concern with the current constraints within the regulations for practice based PhDs, however, it was agreed that it might be possible for the Goldsmiths regulations to be more flexible in relation to this;
- (vi) that the contract and fee structure with Goldsmiths' validated partner, LASALLE College of the Arts, in Singapore was currently under review alongside the lengthening of the period of contract from 2017 to 2012-22, which was confirmed to result in no changes to the operational and day to day management of the partnership in the form of Academic Links and other quality assurance systems;
- (vii) that Goldsmiths was entering into a new validation arrangement with Nordoff Robbins, a provider of both a music therapy postgraduate taught and research programme in North London, with STaCS as the lead department at Goldsmiths but including the wider involvement of other departments such as psychology and computing;
- (viii) that any other possible national or international partnerships should be discussed with the Deputy Warden in the first instance.

8 EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

Resolved:

to appoint the following External Examiners:

Dr Michael Barr

MA Cultural Policy, Cultural Relations and Diplomacy

MA Cultural Policy and Tourism

Lecturer in International Politics,

Newcastle University

From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Dr Lee Edwards

MA Promotional Media

Lecturer, University of Leeds

From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Professor Jeremy Gilbert

MA Cultural Studies

Professor of Cultural and Political Theory,

University of East London

From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Dr Andrew Quick

MA in Performance Making

Senior Lecturer, Lancaster University
From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Professor Jon Rogers

MA Interaction Design
Chair of Creative Technology,
Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art
From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Ms Rebecca Smith

PGCE Secondary (Chief Examiner)
Teach First Subject Tutor – Modern Languages,
Institute of Education
From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Dr Axel Stahler

MA Comparative Literary Studies
Reader in Comparative Literature,
University of Kent
From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Mrs Weiqun Wang

BA International Studies and Chinese and Elective Mandarin
Mandarin Chinese Teacher, University of Nottingham
From 1st November 2013 to 30th September 2017

Dr Jane Norris

BA (Hons) Product Design (LASALLE)
Curriculum Manager BA Hons 3D Design Craft,
Havering College of He and FE
From 1st August 2014 to 31st July 2018

Mr Robert D'Souza

BA (Hons) Design Communication (LASALLE)
Acting Head of School, University of Southampton
From 1st August 2014 to 31st July 2018

Professor Stephen Loo

BA (Hons) Interior Design (LASALLE)
Professor of Architecture and Head of School
University of Tasmania, Australia
From 1st August 2014 to 31st July 2018

Dr Daniel Marko

BA (Hons) Fine Art, MA Fine Art (LASALLE)
Vice-Chairman London Consortium
London Consortium and Tate (Britain and Modern)
From 1st August 2013 to 31st July 2016

9 LASALLE INTERIM INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Resolved:

that the proposed approach and schedule for the Interim Review of LASALLE College of the Arts be approved (14-125).

10 DEPARTMENT ACTION PLANS IN RESPONSE TO THE LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT STRATEGY

Resolved:

that department action plans in response to the Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy be approved (14-51R).

11 ANNUAL REPORTS OF ACADEMIC BOARD COMMITTEES

Received:

the annual report for Information Management and Systems Committee (14-67R).

12 UNDERGRADUATE ANNUAL PROGRAMME REVIEW REPORT 2012-13

Received:

from the Quality Administrator a report on the undergraduate Annual Programme Review reports for the academic year 2012-13 (14-48).

13 LASALLE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS ANNUAL PROGRAMME REVIEW REPORT 2012-13

Received:

from the Collaborative Provision Manager and Collaborative Provision Officer a report on the Annual Programme Review reports for the academic year 2012-13 from LASALLE College of the Arts (14-49).

14 ASSESSMENT REPORT 2012-13

Received:

from the Head of Assessment a report on the assessment process for session 2012-13 (14-09).

15 ANNUAL DIGEST OF EXTERNAL EXAMINERS' REPORTS 2012-13

Received:

the digest report from the Quality Assurance Manager of External Examiners' reports for 2012-13 (14-10R).

16 LASALLE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS ANNUAL DIGEST OF EXTERNAL EXAMINERS' REPORTS 2012-13

Received:

the digest report from the Collaborative Provision Manager and Collaborative Provision Officer on the External Examiners' reports for 2012-13 from LASALLE College of the Arts (14-11).

17 LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

Received:

the Library annual report for the academic year 2012-13 (14-44).

18 QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY CAUSE FOR CONCERN SCHEME

Received:

a report from the Head of Quality on the Quality Assurance Agency Cause for Concern process (14-50).

19 DIGEST OF ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENTAL LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEES 2012-13

Received:

a paper from the Quality Administrator on the activities of Departmental Learning and Teaching Committees in 2012-13 (14-52).

20 APPLICATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SEYCHELLES FOR COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS) DIPLOMA TEACHING STATUS

Received:

an approved report from Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee that the University of Seychelles be awarded Diploma teaching status for 2014-15 (13-465).

21 UNIVERSITY OF LONDON INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY BSc IN COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS) AND BSc IN CREATIVE COMPUTING (CC)

Received:

an approved report from Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee on Automatic Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) for qualifications offered by institutions in Hong Kong (13-466).

22 MPHIL/PHD IN EDUCATION

Received:

an approved report from Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee on a proposal from the Educational Studies department for a change to the programme regulations regarding thesis composition for the MPhil/PhD in Education (14-18).

23 MPHIL/PHD IN INTELLIGENT GAMES AND GAMES INTELLIGENCE

Received:

an approved report from Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee on a proposal from the Computing department for a new MPhil/PhD in Intelligent Games and Games Intelligence (14-76).

24 OTHER MATTERS FOR REPORT

Noted:

other matters for report (14-126), including Visiting Researchers and Fellows and minutes from the following committees;

Academic Development Committee, 13 December 2013 (14-127)

Academic Development Committee, 19 February 2014 (14-128)

Information Management and Systems Committee, 5 March 2014 (14-129)

Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee, 26 February 2014 (14-130)

Research and Enterprise Committee, 20 November 2013 (14-131)

25 NEXT MEETING

Noted:

that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 June 2014 at 2:00pm.

RESERVED BUSINESS

26 APPOINTMENTS OF HEADS OF ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

Received:

new Head of Department appointments (14-132).