

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 12:00, TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024
SENATE HOUSE, COUNCIL CHAMBER

Present	Professor Rachel Moseley	RM	Chair and Vice-Provost
	Professor Jeremy Ahearne	JA	School of Modern Languages and Cultures
	Professor Kate Astbury	KA	School of Modern Languages and Cultures
	Professor Jennifer Burns	JB	School of Modern Languages and Cultures
	Dr Rosie Dias	RD	School of Creative Arts, Performance and Visual Cultures
	Professor David Fearn	DF	Department of Classics and Ancient History
	Dr Marta Guerriero	MG	School for Cross-faculty Studies
	Professor Stuart Hampton-Reeves	SHR	School of Creative Arts, Performance and Visual Cultures
	Edward Hart	EH	UG Student Representative
	Professor David Lambert	DL	Department of History
	Dr Joanne Lee	JL	School of Modern Languages and Cultures
	Professor Tim Lockley	TL	Department of History
	Dr Michael Meeuwis	MM	Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies
	Dr Simon Peplow	SP	Department of History
	Professor James Robinson	JR	Mathematics Institute
	Professor Joahannes Roessler	JRo	Department of Philosophy
	Brendan Tam	BT	PGR Student Representative (arrived at 12.40pm)
Professor Helen Wheatley	HW	School of Creative Arts, Performance and Visual Cultures (left at 1.48pm)	
Attending	Nikita Asnani	NA	Education, Policy and Quality (Assistant Secretary)
	Dan Derricott	DD	Director of Education, Policy and Quality (for item 046 only)
	Alison Greenhalgh	AG	Education, Policy and Quality (Secretary)
	Julie Lobalzo-Wright	JLW	School of Creative Arts, Performance and Visual Cultures (for item 041 only)
	Diana Stonefield	DS	Faculty Director of Administration
Ref	Item		
035	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Rachel Dickinson (Faculty Senior Tutor), Suzanne Frey-Kupper (Department of Classics and Ancient History), Benjamin Richardson (Representative from the Faculty of Social Sciences), Jane Webb (School for Cross-faculty Studies), Margaux Whiskin (Faculty Student Engagement Coordinator).</p>		
036	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest reported.</p>		
037	<p>Freedom of Information and Equality and Inclusion:</p> <p>The Committee noted and agreed to abide by the Freedom of Information and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policies.</p>		
038	<p>Minutes of last meeting held on 21 February 2024:</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2024 (038-BFA140524, Public) were approved.</p>		
039	<p>Matters arising from last meeting held on 21 February 2024</p> <p>a) CreaTech Update (item 023)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amount that needed to be raised had gone down from GBP 15 million pounds to GBP 13 million pounds. <p>b) Faculty Deputy Chairs Update (item 023)</p>		

- JA would be stepping down at the end of the academic year. Alison Ribeiro de Menezes would replace JA as Deputy Chair of Faculty (Research).

Chair's Business

040

Chair's Business and Actions

The Committee received a verbal update from the Chair with key details and discussions, as below:

Faculty PGT Review

- There was a PGT workshop with Directors of Education; PG colleagues were leading in those areas in the Faculty.
- A Padlet had been shared across the Faculty for colleagues comments and views. It had revealed that a silo mindset prevailed; the Chair called for greater flexibility and agility.
- At the Academic Strategy Committee, the STEM Connect update paper had noted PGT Review Groups across faculties. It was a good idea to join together to avoid duplication of effort in this area.

Warwick Transformation

- Design Authority meetings had been taking place.
- Broad working groups (strands) included Functional Design Boards: Finance, HR, Education and Research, each of which branched into narrower value streams.
- Not much progress had taken place with regards to Faculty Hubs and this continued to be pushed. MG reported some progress on Faculty Hubs in value streams (both operational and overarching/strategic in nature) and Faculty Hubs had also come up in research design.
- Not all departments had the same level of resources which created tensions for preparedness for WT.

Academic Governance Review

- Chairs of Faculty, Deputy Chairs of Faculty and Directors of Administration were meeting next week to discuss the role of Faculty Board and Faculty Education Committees in strategic decision making.
- Reduced paperwork, routine checks and a reduced frequency of HoD's forums could potentially create a space that allowed for more strategic decision making in Faculty Boards.
- There was a need for better communication with departments on what went on in the Faculty Board meetings so they could align their projects to the Faculty's strategic aims and visions.
- The Faculty was working with Jo Fox, Dean and Chief Executive of the School of Advanced Study at the University of London, to think about its position in the sector and how to stay at its forefront. The project would last 12 months and involve regular reporting to the Board who would then be invited to test and challenge its direction.
- KA highlighted the need for staff meetings for the Faculty where staff could have a voice, particularly if they were not part of committees/management meetings and groups within departments.
- Clarification was needed on the relationship between Council, UEB, ARC, Academic Strategic Committee and Faculty Boards, as well as membership, as currently no junior voice was being represented.

Faculty Business

041

SCAPVC Athena Swan Update

The Committee received a verbal report from Julie Lobalzo-Wright, School of Creative Arts, Performance and Visual Cultures, with key details and discussions, as below:

- Some departments within the Faculty had been unsuccessful in their application for an Athena Swan chartered mark.
- Athena Swan posed communication challenges for the Faculty due to its data-driven language and challenges in the data analysis.
- SCAPVC formed a self-assessment team, recruited students and also coordinated with Warwick Award, integrating it for student points.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The staff survey received 54 responses representing each subject and key concerns, notably PDRs, were identified. • Emphasis was placed on SCAPVC's departmental commitment to Athena Swan, hence the recommendation to start with the Bronze Award level. • It was recommended to initiate discussion on Athena Swan at the Warwick Leadership Forum. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Lorenzo Frigerio, would be speaking at the event with regards to student experience and the new Education and Student Experience Strategy. All committee members were encouraged to register or send a representative.
042	<p>Termly Faculty Assembly</p> <p>The Committee received a verbal report with key details and discussions, as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear communication was needed as to the purpose of the Faculty Assembly and its impact on workload. • Consideration was given to replacing termly meetings with a Faculty Day, incorporating updates and socialisation for junior colleagues. • Defining and monitoring the assembly's scope and membership for strategic discussions was emphasised. • The Chair would draft a proposal outlining the vision and structure of future assemblies.
043	<p>External Engagement Update</p> <p>The Committee received a verbal report with key details and discussions, as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A faculty external engagement committee had been proposed, with this year's focus on initiating the committee and plans for regular meetings starting next year. • Varied data sources, including the International Student Relations Team, were noted. • There was a need to map departmental external engagement activities. • EUTOPIA Alliance and the Warwick Venice Programme were highlighted as priorities which needed faculty engagement, especially regarding PGR funding. • There were plans to develop this into a conference next year, coinciding with Warwick's 60th anniversary, showcasing its Arts and Humanities contributions over six decades. • JB was working on fostering relationships with EUTOPIA Alliance leads and members. • Simplifying the application process for Stellenbosch was discussed.
044	<p>Student Updates</p> <p>The Committee received verbal reports with key details and discussions, as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were issues for UG students around assessment deadlines in Term 3; examinations being timetabled in the same week; and the late release of the examinations timetable. • For PGR students, there were concerns regarding the capping of M4C funding; internally funded students were now better funded than M4C funded students.
045	<p>Reports from Committees</p> <p>a) Arts Education Committee</p> <p>The Committee received the report (045a-BFA140524, Public) and key points and discussions were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Inclusive Education in Arts conference would be taking place on 21 May 2024. • The Warwick Venice pilot programme had had a positive impact on 1st year WP students. It would be good to continue running the programme if financially sustainable. • It was reported that URSS participation numbers this year were the highest the Faculty had ever had. <p>b) Arts Faculty Research and Impact Committee</p>

	<p>The Committee received and noted the report (045b-BFA140514, Public).</p> <p>c) Arts Equality and Inclusion Forum</p> <p>The Committee received the report (045c-BFA140524, Public) and key points and discussions were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many departments were doing EDI events but all in isolation. • Faculty-led coordination would help better communicate to students and faculty members about projects and initiatives taking places in individual departments as well as coordinate events across the Faculty.
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University Business	
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046	<p>Education and Student Experience Strategy 2030</p> <p>The Committee received the report (046-BFA140524, Public) and a verbal update from Dan Derricott, Director of Education, Policy and Quality, with key details and discussions, as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations of the White Paper included inter-disciplinarity, internationalisation (in both delivery and student experience), student research, inclusivity, student co-creation, and disciplinary excellence. • 2030 vision: A Warwick education strategy develops the agency, talent and commitment of staff and students to strive for a better world. • ‘Communities’ chosen instead of ‘community’ as students belonged to different communities and had a varied impact in these different spaces. • Four strategic objectives included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Education excellence 2) Inclusive student education: integrating student journeys into curriculum design and assessment. 3) Empowering graduates to thrive: empowering graduates for purposeful work and global citizenship. 4) Building communities and connection for students and staff: recognising the importance of identity, connection and a civic responsibility to contribute to the local area. • Enablers included: quality assurance and governance that enabled a clear strategy around technology and learning resources; meaningful use of technology and data; and making student support services easy to navigate. • Learning circles and WIE were asking more evaluative questions useful to evidence to OfS and TEF to show value to students beyond the degree. • The Committee highlighted concerns about the generic nature of the White Paper, lack of strategic direction in internationalisation, and structural issues hindering research. • Within internationalisation, there was a call for broader perspective considering demographic, technological, and political challenges. • There were issues around module protection, interdisciplinary training, and the need to prepare students for diverse disciplines. • There were suggestions for including sustainable development, facilitating innovation, reducing student assessment load, and fostering inter-faculty networking. • Learning from projects started in WIHEA stayed in WIHEA, thereby curbing any collective gain. • Current financial models worked against the frictionless study. • Structural financial issues needed to be discussed at a very high level. • Departments felt forced into protecting their modules, thereby not encouraging students to branch out to new ‘inter-disciplinary’ modules. • The Committee highlighted the need to define what is meant by purposeful inter-disciplinarity and how to take this beyond units like IATL and the School for Cross-faculty Studies. • Interdisciplinarity for a faculty could sometimes be one way and some departments could be more adversely impacted than others (e.g., a flow of Arts students into WBS modules but not vice versa).
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Empowered graduates’ objective seemed individualistic and could be better phrased by adding ‘purposeful and responsible global citizens.’
047	<p>University Research Centres – Triennial Review 2023/24</p> <p>The Committee received the proposal (047-BFA140524, Pubic) for the establishment of a University Research Centre (Category II), ‘Warwick Integrated Structural Biology Centre.’</p> <p>ACTION: The Committee recommended the establishment of the University Research Centre (Category II), ‘Warwick Integrated Structural Biology Centre.’</p>
Other	
048	<p>Any other business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>
049	<p>Senate Committee Minutes and Reports</p> <p>Board of the Faculty of Arts http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/bfa/minutes</p> <p>Faculty Education Committee https://warwick.ac.uk/services/gov/committees/bfa/fec/minutes/</p> <p>Board of Graduate Studies http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/bgs/minutes</p> <p>Partnerships Committee http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/partnerships/minutes</p> <p>Academic Quality and Standards Committee http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/aqsc/minutes</p> <p>Student Learning Experience and Engagement Committee https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/sleec/minutes</p> <p>University Education Committee https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/ec/minutes</p>
Next meeting: 12:00, Tuesday 12 November 2024	