

# UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

## Board of the Faculty of Social Studies

There will be a meeting of the Board of the Faculty of Social Studies at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2006 in the Council Chamber, University House.

C E Charlton  
University Secretary

**Note: Questions on agendum items or apologies for this meeting should be directed to the Secretary of the Board, Nick Hull: [nick.hull@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:nick.hull@warwick.ac.uk).**

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## AGENDA

1. Minutes

TO CONSIDER:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2005, (copy attached).

2. Matters Arising

(a) Master of Public Administration Examination Conventions (minute 11/05-06, refers)

TO REPORT:

- (i) That at the last meeting of the Board it was resolved that the Board of Graduate Studies be requested to clarify the approval process for revisions to examination conventions.
- (ii) That, at the meeting of the Board of Graduate Studies held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2005, it was resolved that departments were required to adopt the faculty-wide marking bands and descriptors previously approved, but were able to provide more detailed advice to students in student handbooks on the application of these descriptors within each discipline.
- (iii) Further, it was noted that the Graduate School would undertake an initial review of departmental examination conventions and other relevant documentation in light of the revised penalties for late submission of work and will advise Faculty Graduate Studies Committees of any anomalies.

BGS minute 23/05-06, refers

- (b) Quinquennial Review of the Centre for English Language Teacher Education (minute 13/05-06 refers)

TO REPORT:

That the Quinquennial Review of the Centre for English Language Teacher Education took place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2005, and that the Review report will be considered by the Steering Committee later this term.

- (c) Centre for Research into Gifted and Talented Education (minute 28/04-05 refers)

TO CONSIDER:

That, pending approval of the Centre for Research into Gifted and Talented Education by the Senate, the representative of the Warwick Institute of Education on the Centre's Advisory Board be Professor A. Harris.

3. Chair's Action

Faculty Advisory Board Membership

TO REPORT:

That the Chair, acting on behalf of the Board, had recommended (to Strategy Committee) the approval of three new members of the Faculty Advisory Board, subject to approval by the Chair of the Faculty Advisory Board, paper BFSS.11/05-06, (copy attached).

4. Chair's Business

Faculty Lunch

TO REPORT:

That at the last Faculty of Social Studies Lunch, held on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2005, it had been resolved:

- (a) that despite the decision not to proceed with the campus in Singapore, departments should be encouraged to continue to develop and promote their own international strategies, and
- (b) that the Deputy Chair of the Faculty would meet with each department in the Faculty to discuss the issue of internationalisation and to report back to the Board in the third term, 2006.

5. Strategic Item for Discussion: Postgraduate Research students

TO CONSIDER:

- (a) A paper from the Assistant Registrar (Postgraduate Admissions) on the current levels of applications for such students for 2006/07, paper BFSS.12/05-06 (copy attached).

- (b) An oral report from the Head of Student Recruitment and Marketing Strategy on possible strategies that departments might employ to increase their postgraduate research student numbers.
- (c) A paper from the Assistant Registrar (Planning & Management Information) setting out the levels of postgraduate research students currently enrolled in the faculty, paper BFSS.13/05-06 (copy attached).
- (d) An oral report from the Assistant Registrar (Graduate School) regarding current issues in the funding and support for postgraduate research students.

6. Submission and Qualification rates

TO REPORT:

- (a) That the Board of Graduate Studies, at its meeting on 12 January, 2006, resolved that the Faculty Graduate Studies Committees be asked to consider the issue of submission and qualification rates for postgraduate research students and the measures that may be taken to improve these, noting that:
  - (i) The Graduate School would be taking steps to ensure the consistent implementation of the current extension charge, so that all students who fail to submit by the end of the writing up period would be liable for the charge, whether or not they make a formal request for an extension from the Graduate School;
  - (ii) The Graduate School would also be issuing more reminders to students and departments with regard to deadlines earlier and more frequently than is currently the case.
- (b) That the large volume of business before the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Studies prevented in-depth consideration of this issue at its meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2006.

TO CONSIDER:

A paper on the submission and qualification rates for postgraduate research students in the Faculty of Social Studies, paper BGS 21/05-06 (copy attached),

7. Faculty Research Committee

TO REPORT:

That there had not been a meeting of the Faculty Research Committee this term.

8. Report from the Undergraduate Studies Committee

TO RECEIVE:

A report from the meeting of the Faculty Undergraduate Studies Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2006, paper BFSS.14/05-06 (copy attached).

9. Report from the Graduate Studies Committee

TO RECEIVE:

A report from the meeting of the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2006, paper BFSS.15/05-06 (copy attached).

10. Faculty IT Committee

TO RECEIVE:

The minutes of the meeting of the Faculty IT Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2006 2005/06, paper BFSS.16/05-06 (to follow).

11. Centre for Educational Development, Appraisal and Research (CEDAR)

TO CONSIDER:

A proposal from the Centre for Educational Development, Appraisal and Research to appoint a new external member to its Advisory Board, paper BFSS.17/05-06 (copy attached).

12. Centre for Safety and Well-Being (SWELL)

TO CONSIDER:

That, following the appointment of the current Director of the Centre for Safety and Well-Being to a new post, Dr Christine Harrison be appointed as the new Director with effect from the third term, 2006, it being noted that the current director will share the directorship with Dr Harrison during the second term, 2006, paper BFSS.18/05-06 (copy attached).

13. Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations

TO CONSIDER:

A proposal from the National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth Research Centre to add Professor P. Elias to the Centre's Advisory Board membership, paper BFSS.19/05-06, (copy attached).

14. Institute of Governance and Public Management Research Centre

TO CONSIDER:

A proposal from the Director of the Institute of Governance and Public Management Research Centre to rename the centre as the Governance and Public Management Research Centre, paper BFSS.20/05-06, (copy attached).

15. Faculty Advisory Board

TO REPORT:

- (a) That the next meeting of the Faculty Advisory Board will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2006 in London.
- (b) That the period of office of a number of members of the Advisory Board will come to an end on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2006. Members of the Faculty are therefore requested to consider appropriate individuals to approach for membership of the Advisory Board, noting that existing members may be approached to serve a second three-year term of office.
- (c) That the current membership of the Advisory Board is as set out in paper BFSS.21/05-06 (copy attached).

16. Faculty SSLC Forum

TO CONSIDER:

A paper from the Undergraduate Student Representative proposing a change to the membership of the Faculty SSLC Forum, paper BFSS.22/05-06, (copy attached).

17. Academic Satisfaction Review (Research Students)

TO CONSIDER:

The following issues raised in the 2004/05 Academic Satisfaction Review (page 13)

(a) Experience as a research student

Results for Social Studies indicated that students saw the opportunity to interact with other researchers and the integration into a community of scholars as areas "demanding high priority action".

(b) Supervision and feedback

Social Studies students rated opportunities for informal discussions with staff as "an area to be targeted for future improvement."

Note: The full report is available at on the University website at:  
[www2.warwick.ac.uk/insite/info/quality/asr/asrprgr05report.pdf](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/insite/info/quality/asr/asrprgr05report.pdf)

18. Any Other Business