

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.00AM, Thursday 18 November 2021, Online via Microsoft Teams

Present	Professor Nick Vaughan-Williams	NVM	Vice Provost and Chair of the Faculty of Social Sciences (Chair)
	Professor Matthew Clayton	MC	HoD, Politics & International Studies (PAIS)
	Professor Jon Coaffee	JC	Director of ESRC DTP and Deputy Chair, Research
	Maurizio Cuttin	MC	Undergraduate student representative, Philosophy
	Professor Jonathan Forster	JF	HoD, Statistics (Board of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine representative)
	Dr Marta Guerriero	MG	Associate Professor, Sustainable Development (Board of the Faculty of Arts representative)
	Professor Richard Hastings	Rha	Director, Centre for Educational Development Appraisal and Research (CEDAR)
	Professor Ruth Hewston	RHe	Director, Centre for Lifelong Learning (CLL)
	Professor Christoph Hoerl	CH	Professor, Philosophy
	Professor Kate Ireland	KI	Director, Centre for Teacher Education (CTE)
	Professor Virinder Kalra	VK	HoD, Sociology
	Professor Andrew Lockett	AL	Dean, Warwick Business School (WBS)
	Professor Guy Longworth	GLo	HoD, Philosophy
	Professor Celia Lury	CL	Director, Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies (CIM)
	Dr Ines Molinaro	IM	Director, Warwick Foundation Studies (WFS)
	Dr Maria do Mar Pereira	MP	Associate Professor, Sociology
	Professor Andrew Sanders	AS	HoD, Law
	Ollie Sanderson-Nichols	OSN	Undergraduate student representative, Philosophy
	Professor Emma Smith	ES	HoD, Education Studies (DES)
	Professor Jeremy Smith	JSm	HoD, Economics
	Professor Jacky Swan	JSw	Professor, Warwick Business School (WBS)
	Dr Anna Tranter	AT	Senior Teaching Fellow, Warwick Foundation Studies (WFS)
	Professor Ema Ushioda	EU	HoD, Applied Linguistics (DAL)
Dr Naomi Waltham-Smith	NWS	Associate Professor, Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies and Deputy Chair, Education and Chair of EFSS	
Professor Christopher Warhurst	CW	Director, Institute of Employment Research (IER)	
Attending	Mahfia Watkinson	MW	Assistant Registrar (Teaching and Learning), Education Policy and Quality (Secretary)
	Yvonne Budden	YB	Head of Scholarly Communications, Library (item 011)
	Jackie Clarke	JC	Director of Faculty Administration
	Professor Lorenzo Frigerio	LF	Vice Provost and Chair of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine (item 013)

	Robin Green	RG	Librarian (item 011)
	Dr Anna Hájková	AH	Associate Professor, History and Deputy-Director of the Centre for Global Jewish Studies (item 010)
	Carole Harris	CHa	Assistant Director, R&IS (Head of Research Governance and Systems) (item 009 & 010)
	Karen Jackson	KJ	Academic Support Manager (Teaching & Learning), Library
	Laura King	LK	Training Coordinator, CIM (Assistant Secretary)
	Becca Kirk	BK	Widening Participation Officer, Law (Assistant Secretary)
	Dr David Lees	DL	Associate Professor, Modern Languages and Faculty Senior Tutor
	Kate Mawson	KM	Associate Professor, CTE and Faculty Student Engagement Coordinator
	Dr Jennie Mills	JM	Associate Professor, Academic Development Centre (ADC)
	Professor Stephen Shapiro	SS	Professor, English and Comparative Literary Studies and Director of the Centre for Global Jewish Studies (item 009)
Ref	Item		
001	<p>Apologies for absence Apologies were received from: Dr Troy McConachy (DAL), Dr Chris Rogers (PAIS), Professor Jonathan Garton (Law), Professor Ross Ritchie (WBS), Professor Noortje Marres (CIM) and Professor Azrini Wahidin (Sociology).</p>		
002	<p>Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest declared.</p>		
003	<p>Equality, diversity and inclusion The Chair invited members to consider items through the EDI lens, and reflect how as members the Board can support and champion its principles.</p>		
004	<p>Membership and Terms of Reference The Board received and approved the Terms of Reference (paper 004.BFSS.21-22) noting the Chair's welcome of new academic and student members, alongside those in attendance, including the new Faculty Student Engagement Coordinator. The Chair and members further extended their thanks to former Board members for their support and contribution during their term: Dr Lynne Pettinger (Sociology), Prof Gabrielle Lynch (PAIS), Prof Paul Warmington (DES), Prof Andrew Williams (Law), Dr Gavin Schwartz-Leeper (Arts rep), Professor Virinder Kalra who will be stepping down at the end of calendar year.</p>		
005	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2021 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2021 were approved with no corrections.</p>		
006	<p>Matters arising from meeting held on 20 May 2021 It was reported, in relation to 045.BFSS.20-21, the data forum action to discuss the Race Equality Data is not complete.</p> <p>VK confirmed that the submission had been submitted with the action plan to be circulated. A member of the Race Charter Taskforce will be attending Faculty Boards or Heads of Department meetings to support dissemination. At the time of reporting, a communications plan was to be developed.</p> <p>ACTION MW to obtain the final copy of the report for circulation to the Board.</p>		
Chair's Update			
007	<p>Chair's Business and Actions As the first meeting of the Chair's term, the Chair thanked members for their support and welcome. They outlined their vision and intentions for the Board going forward, and considered the Board to offer</p>		

	<p>opportunity to reflect upon and help shape the longer term strategic objectives so as to enable progress. A good example will be through the intended Social Sciences Grand Challenge (item 008).</p> <p>The Chair thanked former members of the Board, whose term had come to an end, for their support to the Faculty Board. The Chair advised members that in due course Professor Kalra would be stepping down as Head of Department for Sociology. The Chair thanked Professor Kalra for their excellent support to the Faculty and the Department, which was also shared by members. It was noted that the membership would be updated to reflect the new Head of Department for Sociology in due course.</p>
Strategic Item	
008	<p>Social Sciences Grand Challenge</p> <p>The Chair opened the discussion on the Social Sciences Grand Challenge (008.BFSS.21-22).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future innovation and growth in the Social Sciences are likely to be driven by interdisciplinary agendas, both within and across the Faculties. Despite featuring areas of disciplinary excellence, the Faculty was ill-equipped to exploit these opportunities due to infrastructure challenges and siloed ways of working. • The Social Science Grand Challenge (SSGC) will position Warwick and the Faculty as a regional, national, and international powerhouse for social scientific enquiry with real-world application and impact. • The SEM Faculty were 18months ahead with their own Grand Challenge, and it was acknowledged that as a faculty departments would need to rally together in order to maximise the opportunity, or else there was a real risk that social sciences could be bypassed for investment. The Social Sciences are crucial to the university and its future success – both in terms of reputation and financially. The Faculty is the largest of the 3 faculties, with £225 million income and £10 million of gross surplus. • The Chair advised that this was a timely point at which to consider possible threats, as competitors at other institutions were investing heavily in their social sciences provision. The Faculty will be required to be interdisciplinary moving forward, which would require improved digital and campus facilities, and to provide a more collaborative professional service offering, as well as to generate more income. • In Spring 2021, the Vice Chancellor addressed Faculty Heads of Department and asked for a vision of social sciences. A draft concept note was produced, circulated to Heads of Department and Department Administrators. A Faculty Away Day took place subsequently to build on the concept note, and the next steps will be to bring in other colleagues to produce a strategic brief. The brief will inform a formal submission to the University. <p>CW proposed that for representatives from the Arts and SEM faculties be invited to participate in the planning board to integrate the faculties engagement and build on interdisciplinary practice. NVM invited JF to support links between the two faculties. MG, as Arts representative supported integration and collaboration across faculties.</p> <p>JSw suggested revisiting the section on professional services to incorporate the professional services review and to consider how the Faculty could shape the review depending on the requirements of social sciences in the future.</p> <p>KI highlighted that there is a requirement to understand each other to bring together opportunities, and proposed that the first planning meetings include opportunities for Heads of Departments to share priorities and to develop a communications plan. Members noted that a bid for a programme team to support the grand challenge was underway and once secured, would develop a communications plan.</p> <p>The Board agreed that the Grand Challenge was an important and valuable opportunity to review and develop the Faculty's offer. Members gave their full support for the plan. The Chair thanked the Board for the support and helpful comments.</p>

	<p>ACTION The Chair to contact Heads of Department to scope department priorities, to identify areas of overlap and thematic approach.</p>
Substantive Items	
009	<p>University Research Centres – Triennial Review 2021/22 CHa presented the triennial reviews of University Research Centres (009a.BFSS.21-22 and 009b.BFSS.21-22). It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Boards are required to review Category II and III centres on a triennial basis, reporting views and/or recommendations to the Research Committee. • The feedback provided by Boards are valued by the research centres and welcomed. <p>To facilitate the Board’s considered, members had been allocated in advance of the Board to act as close scrutineers, so as to provide a summary and recommendation. The Chair invited each allocated scrutineer to share their feedback with the Board in turn, and the Board considered and made a recommended decision accordingly. Members requested that for future submissions, it would be useful for the review form to include an annex in which the research centre could list centre outputs e.g. a list of publications, to assist the Board with their consideration.</p> <p>Members received and noted JSw declaration of a conflict of interest, as co-Director of IKON.</p> <p>DECISIONS: The Board made the following recommendations and noted feedback to Research Committee:</p> <p>a) The continuation of the following Research Centres:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Centre for Studies in Democratisation (CSD) (Category III) ii) Innovation, Knowledge and Organisational Networks Research Unit (IKON) (Category III) iii) Centre for the History of Medicine (CHM) (Category II) iv) Warwick Centre for Integrative Synthetic Biology (WISB) (Category II). <p>b) That the following Research Centres be invited to provide clarification to the Research Committee to assist in their review and decision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Centre for Human Rights in Practice (CHRP) – the Board recommended developing a social media presence for wider engagement. ii) Centre for Mental Health & Wellbeing Research (Category II) – the Board requested further information on cross faculty working. It was noted that the Faculty has considerable strength in this area and would be delighted to be involved in the Centre’s work. iii) Warwick Anti-Microbial Interdisciplinary Centre (WAMIC) (Category II) – the Board requested further information on how the centre will collaborate with the social sciences. Members similarly noted that the Faculty has considerable strength in this area and would be delighted to be involved in the Centre. Clarification would also be welcome on the planned outputs of the Centre.

010	<p>New Category II Research Centre: The Centre for Global Jewish Studies</p> <p>The Board received the proposal to establish the Centre for Global Jewish Studies (papers 010a.BFSS.21-22 and 010b.BFSS.21-22) and welcomed SS and AH.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed Centre will provide a focus for the interdisciplinary study of Global Jewish Studies, supporting and advancing research, learning, and public impact on issues involving Jewish culture and history in all its forms, but with a particular focus on the global and the transnational. • Plans are focused and small in the initial phase to build on the new Centre's expertise and offer. There are no immediate plans for undergraduate degrees and teaching. • The Centre hopes to secure external funding through research grants and private donations. It will form links with other institutions globally and a range of external partners, hosting a range of events, symposia and conferences. • The proposed Centre hopes to reach out beyond the university of staff and students, to the wider local community. <p>CW raised how the Centre would position itself alongside other similar centres within the HE sector and if there was space for an additional centre. AH noted that that the focus will be on celebrating Jewish history and culture, with less focus on the holocaust and will also include minority Jewish communities. This would differentiate it from other Centres.</p> <p>MC reported that PAIS welcomed the centre proposal and are very keen to be involved, with an invitation for opportunities for colleagues to be able to contribute, which was welcomed. SS advised that the centre did not want to confuse immediate issues with external discourse regarding antisemitism, as the centre's intention was to celebrate Jewish culture and history, and it is not the planned purpose of the centre to have a necessarily political view on for example foreign policy. It was appreciated that external discourse may have an impact and NWS, as Chair of the Senate Academic Freedom Group, offered to help the Centre so that its distinctive offer may be understood and supported.</p> <p>The Board welcomed the global focus of the Centre and its interdisciplinary nature, and thanked SS and AH for presenting the Centre proposal.</p> <p>DECISION: The Board supported the approval of the proposal to establish a Centre for Global Jewish Issues.</p>
011	<p>The revised UKRI Open Access Policy and an update on the University's response to the Elsevier negotiations consultation</p> <p>The Board received the papers on the new open access policy for UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and an overview of and update on the current status of the Elsevier ScienceDirect negotiations (papers 011a.BFSS.21-22 and 011b.BFSS.21-22). Members welcomed YB and RG.</p> <p>UKRI</p> <p>YB informed the Board that the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) announced its updated open access policy. While the full details were yet to be fully announced, the policy would apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • peer-reviewed research articles submitted for publication from 01 April 2022; and • monographs, book chapters and edited collections published from 01 January 2024 (unless already under contract). <p>This latter position is significant as, this will increase the number and discipline of the researchers affected. Members noted that the change in policy will introduce a lot of new requirements. CW requested a one-page summary of the updated policy to aid dissemination. YB confirmed that the Library will be providing this to support colleagues, alongside other works to aid implementation.</p>

	<p>ACTION Board members to contact YB for invitation to departmental meetings, to distribute information about the new policy.</p> <p>Elsevier negotiations RG outlined the latest update and the pre-prepared counterproposal – called ‘Core Plus’. This would be a strategy used to ensure Elsevier remain open to negotiations, and should ensure providers are well positioned. The University was awaiting analysis of the seventh proposal recently shared, but overall members were advised that that this proposal looked to be a significant improvement. The Negotiation team are scheduled to have a further meeting on remaining areas of difference in due course.</p> <p>The Board were reassured to see mitigating measures in place and welcomed the update.</p>
012	<p>Education Report Members received the papers relating to Education updates (012.BFSS.21-22; 012b.BFSS.21-22; 012c.BFSS.21-22; 012d.BFSS.21-22; and 012e.BFSS.21-22) and noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the EFSS, a sub-group was established and recently held its first meeting. The group is Chaired by Dr Stefania Paredes-Fuentes (Deputy FEC Chair and Chair of FYBOE) and will provide more in-depth opportunity for departments to identify, develop, and share best practice in the areas of strategic interest to EFSS. The sub-group is looking at decolonising the curriculum and developing anti-racist and anti-oppressive pedagogies at present, with the aim of providing advice and recommendations to EFSS. In 2022–23, the sub-group will look at gathering data on and understanding awarding gaps, before turning to developing community-level validation strategies to promote inclusivity, acceptance, and belonging in 2023–24. The works will enhance the Faculty’s support to students and staff. • The University has opened a consultation to explore the shape of the current academic year and to identify what challenges need addressing to support improvement. The project lead, Chris Luck, has attended a few forums to present and gather departmental feedback, including EFSS and the HoDs Forum; they will also attend the next DoE Luncheon to enable more in-depth discussion of the challenges and options to address this. • The EPQ Curriculum Review project was currently in the scoping and testing stage with several departments across the University piloting the model to ascertain its feasibility and value, before a wider institutional roll-out. Updates to EFSS have been scheduled and will be shared with the Board as the project progresses. • EFSS had recently discussed the University’s paper called ‘Towards a Blended Learning Education from 2022 (TABLE22)’ which sought to explore the lessons learned from teaching during COVID-19 and the opportunities for enhancing the curriculum approach. Conversations within the faculty have indicated an appetite for more evidence-based research into the pedagogical benefits and the shortcomings of different approaches to the use of digital elements in teaching. Members noted that any proposal that sought to implement a one size fits all model would not be conducive to a positive student and staff experience as it would be unlikely to accommodate the disciplinary context. The EFSS Chair planned to host a forum in term 2 to explore the future of digital education further. • Ofsted are now responsible for the inspection of Degree Apprenticeship Training, which will affect the University and its approximately 1500 apprentices. Work to ensure Warwick is inspection-ready is being led by the University’s Work-Based and Professional Learning Team with EPQ, and included representation from CLL the only department with apprenticeships in the faculty. • The Teaching Excellence Group (TEG) will take place in Term 2, details for which are yet to be fully communicated by EPQ. • A new Academic Integrity Framework had now come into effect from 4 October 2021. Each department has reported to EPQ the details for its academic integrity (AI) lead, who will support the development of the framework with the new university strategic AI lead. RH noted that the

	<p>new framework did not offer guidance to AI leads regarding their responsibilities and requested a role description for the Academic Integrity Lead be provided to aid implementation of the new framework.</p> <p>ACTION Departments are invited to directly response to the shape of the academic year consultation process. Feedback may also be returned to the EFSS Chair.</p> <p>ACTION Members are invited to feedback on evidence-based research into the pedagogical benefits of blended delivery to the EFSS Chair to inform institutional developments.</p> <p>ACTION MW to report to EPQ and provide update on a role description for the Academic Integrity Lead.</p>
013	<p>Update on the STEM Grand Challenge</p> <p>The Board welcomed Professor Lorenzo Frigerio, Vice Provost and Chair of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine, who outlined the next phase of plans for the STEM Grand Challenge. It was noted that the Faculty was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing new innovative, interdisciplinary courses to supplement its existing offer. • Aligning research capabilities and expertise to grow income and address global challenges. • Seeking out new opportunities for collaboration to increase its impact. • Creating a hub of excellence for public engagement. • Developing a new Science Precinct on campus, a huge capital development, to enable the Faculty’s ambition. • Planning for the first phase of the grand challenge to be completed by 2028, following a request from Council to reduce the delivery window to 5 years. Further details about feasibility etc. will be known as Stage 2 of the project progresses. <p>The STEM plan has received approval from Council on the direction of travel and is now in Stage 2. The Board was invited to share comments and departments invited to get involved. Members were advised that the Faculty was in the process of reviewing its membership of the different working groups and welcomed new members from Social Sciences. LF emphasised that both grand challenges have lots of common issues, so a timely point to work together.</p> <p>The Board welcomed the update on the plan and congratulated the SEM Faculty on their vision, with a keenness to engage and support it. CW asked about the approach to reach out to existing pockets of research excellence and inform the STEM grand challenge. LF noted that plans are in place to scope current successes and engage with these and working group leads would contact directly. RH noted interest in the ‘Health and Medical Technologies’ priority theme.</p> <p>The Chair thanked LF for reaching out to the Faculty and confirmed that the Social Sciences would similarly seek to collaborate with SEM as part of the Social Sciences Grand Challenge.</p>
Other	
014	<p>Any other business</p> <p>No other business was raised.</p> <p>Members were reminded of future meetings of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences for the remainder of 2021/22, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 24 February 2022, 10.00am-12noon, Senate House Council Chamber or via Teams (tbc). If the luncheon proceeds, the luncheon will follow.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday 26 May 2022, 10.00am-12noon, Senate House Council Chamber or via Teams (tbc). If the luncheon proceeds, the luncheon will follow. <p>Members were invited to contact the Secretary at least three weeks in advance of the respective meetings to propose agenda items to facilitate Chair approval. It was noted that papers for the Board would be required at least two weeks in advance of the meeting to facilitate paper production and circulation.</p>	
Items below this line are for receipt and/or approval, without discussion		
015	Faculty update on Athena Swan Members received the paper (015.BFSS.21-22).	
Subsidiary and Sub-Committee Reports		
016	Members received a copy of the Faculty Education Committee: draft minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2021 (paper 016.BFSS.21-22)	
017	Members received a copy of the Faculty Education Committee: confirmed minutes of the meeting held on 4 May 2021 (paper 017.BFSS.21-22)	
018	Members received a copy of the First Year Board of Examiners (FYBOE): draft minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2021 (paper 018.BFSS.21-22)	
Relevant Senate Committees Minutes and Reports		
019	Board of Graduate Studies Minutes	http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/bgs/minutes/
020	Partnerships Committee Minutes	https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/partnerships/minutes/
021	Academic Quality and Standards Committee Minutes	http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/aqsc/minutes/
022	University Education Committee Minutes	https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/ec/minutes/
023	Student Learning Experience and Engagement Committee Minutes	https://warwick.ac.uk/committees/sleec/minutes/
024	University Research Committee Minutes	https://warwick.ac.uk/services/gov/committees/resc/minutes
CLOSED BY 12.00		

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS		
ITEM	DECISION/ACTION	LEAD AND DUE DATE
006	ACTION MW to obtain the final copy of the Race Equality report for circulation to the Board.	MW/next meeting
008	ACTION The Chair to contact Heads of Department to scope department priorities, to identify areas of overlap and thematic approach.	NVW/next meeting
009	DECISIONS The Board made the following recommendations and noted feedback to Research Committee: c) The continuation of the following Research Centres: v) Centre for Studies in Democratisation (CSD) (Category III) vi) Innovation, Knowledge and Organisational Networks Research Unit (IKON) (Category III) vii) Centre for the History of Medicine (CHM) (Category II) viii) Warwick Centre for Integrative Synthetic Biology (WISB) (Category II). d) That the following Research Centres be invited to provide clarification to the Research Committee to assist in their review and decision: iv) Centre for Human Rights in Practice (CHRP) – the Board recommended developing a social media presence for wider engagement. v) Centre for Mental Health & Wellbeing Research (Category II) – the Board requested further information on cross faculty working. It was noted that the Faculty has considerable strength in this area and would be delighted to be involved in the Centre’s work. vi) Warwick Anti-Microbial Interdisciplinary Centre (WAMIC) (Category II) – the Board requested further information on how the centre will collaborate with the social sciences. Members similarly noted that the Faculty has considerable strength in this area and would be delighted to be involved in the Centre. Clarification would also be welcome on the planned outputs of the Centre.	N/A
010	DECISION: The Board supported the approval of the proposal to establish a Centre for Global Jewish Issues.	N/A
011	ACTION Board members to contact YB for invitation to departmental meetings, to distribute information about the new policy.	Members/on going
012	ACTION Departments are invited to directly response to the shape of the academic year consultation process. Feedback may also be returned to the EFSS Chair.	Members/on going
012	ACTION Members are invited to feedback on evidence-based research into the pedagogical benefits of blended delivery to the EFSS Chair to inform institutional developments.	Members/on going
012	ACTION MW to report to EPQ and provide update on a role description for the Academic Integrity Lead.	MW/next meeting

