

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences held on Thursday 6 November 2014.

Present: Professor C Hughes (Chair), Professor G Lindsay (Deputy Chair; CEDAR), Mr P Brown (Chair of UFSS), Professor J Hodgson (Chair of Faculty Research Forum), Professor R Leng (Law), Professor C Lury (CIM), Dr F McKay (CLL), Professor P Poellner (Philosophy), Professor A Reeve (PAIS), Professor M Saward (ESRC DTC), Professor J Solomos (Sociology), Professor H Spencer-Oatey (CAL), Professor C Warhurst (IER).

Apologies: Mr I Abbott (CES), Dr A Boddison (CPE), Dr A Broome (PAIS), Professor N Charles (Sociology), Mr M Costa Matos (UG Student Representative), Professor G Currie (WBS), Professor N Eilan (Philosophy), Professor L Francis (CES), Professor N Gane (Sociology), Dr C Harsch (CAL), Professor G Hodgkinson (WBS), Ms E Jones (Economics), Professor A Muthoo (Economics), Professor M Nudds (Philosophy), Dr G Osuri (Sociology), Professor S Rai (PAIS), Ms X Rasul (PG Student Representative), Professor J Smith (Chair of Faculty IT Committee), Professor DL Steinberg (Chair of GFSS), Professor M Taylor (WBS), Professor G Wood (WBS).

In attendance: Ms L Botley (Faculty Research Development Manager), Ms C Boyes (Assistant Secretary (Undergraduate)), Mr D Gibbons (Senior Project Manager, Estates Office; for item 7(b)/14-15), Mr M Mik (Secretary).

1/14-15 Terms of Reference

REPORTED:

That the terms of reference of the Board, as set out in the University Calendar (<http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/bfss/#tor>), were as follows:

- (a) To regulate, subject to the Statutes and the Ordinances and Regulations and to review by the Senate, the teaching, research, curricula and examinations in the subjects prescribed for the Faculty;
- (b) To recommend to the Senate examiners for appointment;
- (c) To make recommendations to the Senate for the award of Degrees (other than Honorary Degrees), Diplomas, Certificates and other distinctions in the subjects prescribed for the Faculty;
- (d) To recommend to the Senate Sub-Faculties and Departments to be constituted by the Council;
- (e) To delegate to the Sub-Faculties such matters as are deemed appropriate;
- (f) To appoint members of the Board of the Faculty to be members of the Senate as provided for under Statute 15;

- (g) To discharge such other functions as the Senate may from time to time determine.

2/14-15 Membership

RECEIVED:

An updated membership of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences and its sub-committees for the academic year 2014-15, including nominations to other University Committees (paper BFSS.1/14-15).

RESOLVED:

That, in time for the next meeting, the Secretary put forward a proposal to amend the membership of the Board, addressing, *inter alia*, discrepancies in departmental representation on the Board.

3/14-15 Freedom of information

REPORTED:

- (a) That the Steering Committee at its meeting on 29 October 2007 considered a paper outlining how the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applied to the publication of minutes of University bodies together with the University Publication Scheme adopted by the Steering Committee in December 2003 (paper SC 60/07-08), and resolved that a standard item be included on the agenda of the first meeting of each University Committee at the start of each academic year to inform new members and to remind continuing members of the University policy on the publication of minutes;
- (b) That all non-reserved minutes and agenda of the Board were published on the University's Governance website at:
<http://warwick.ac.uk/committees/bfss/minutes/>;
- (c) That copies of paper SC.60/07-08 were available from the Secretary on request.

4/14-15 Conflicts of Interest

REPORTED:

- (a) That, should any members or attendees of the Committee have any conflicts of interest relating to agenda items for the meeting, they should be declared in accordance with the CUC Guide for Members of Higher Education Governing Bodies in the UK, available online from <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/year/2009/200914/>.
- (b) That no conflicts of interest relating to agenda items for the meeting were reported.

5/14-15

Minutes

CONSIDERED:

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 22 May 2014.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 22 May 2014 be approved.

6/14-15

Matters Arising

- (a) Gender Equality Charter Mark (GEM) (minutes 38(a)/13-14 and 22(b)/13-14 referred)

REPORTED:

That the Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) had awarded Warwick Business School Bronze Award for its work in advancing gender equality, following the School's participation in the Gender Equality Charter Mark pilot.

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Secretary and the Chair on the work of the Faculty Gender Equality Charter Mark Working Group.

REPORTED:

- (i) That the official launch of the Gender Equality Charter Mark would be delayed until Spring 2015, with the first deadline for submissions anticipated in November 2015;
 - (ii) That the Faculty Working Group met twice and another meeting was planned for early December 2014, after the Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) November conference;
 - (iii) That all departments of the Faculty were represented on the Working Group, noting that further information was available to members of the University online from:
<http://warwick.ac.uk/fss/staffresources/gem/>.
- (b) Festival of Social Sciences 2015 (minutes 38(b)/13-14, 22(c)/13-14 and 5(b)/13-14 referred)

RECEIVED:

- (i) An oral update from the Chair on the progress of the Festival of Social Sciences 2015 preparations;
- (ii) An outline of activities for the Festival of Social Sciences, as set out in paper BFSS.10/14-15, noting that this was tabled at the meeting.

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

That a meeting of departmental contacts would take place in due course to discuss specific event plans for the Festival and the involvement of academic departments, including activities to bring members of the local community onto campus and/or Social Sciences to the local community.

(c) Faculty Website (minute 39(a)/13-14 referred)

RECEIVED:

An oral update from the Chair and the Secretary on the Faculty website.

7/14-15

Chair's Business

(a) Welcome to new Members

(b) New Teaching and Learning Building

RECEIVED:

(i) A presentation from the Senior Project Manager, Estates Office, on the progress of the new teaching and learning building.

(ii) A summary of the development of the new teaching and learning building to-date (paper BFSS.9/14-15).

RESOLVED:

(iii) That the Board welcomed draft plans for the new teaching and learning building, noting the work undertaken to embed the proposed building within the location and to create a range of spaces dedicated to teaching and learning, both formal and informal;

(iv) That the Board encouraged extensive consultation with teaching staff and students to ensure that the internal plans of the new teaching and learning building were informed by the needs of the user group;

(v) That the Secretariat arrange for a group of staff and students to engage with the Senior Project Manager to provide feedback from users of existing University teaching and learning spaces.

(c) Tier 4 Compliance

RECEIVED:

A presentation prepared by the Compliance Officer (Student Immigration) on Tier 4 compliance, as set out in paper BFSS.3/14-15.

(d) Appointment of New Pro-Vice-Chancellors

REPORTED:

That Professor M Taylor, Dean of Warwick Business School, had been appointed one of two new Pro-Vice-Chancellors, noting that Professor Taylor's term in office would commence by the end of July 2015.

RESOLVED:

That the Board extended its congratulations to Professor Taylor on his appointment.

8/14-15 Warwick Q-Step Centre Update

RECEIVED:

An oral update from the Chair on Warwick Q-Step Centre.

9/14-15 ESRC Doctoral Training Centre Update

RECEIVED:

An oral update from the Director of the ESRC Doctoral Training Centre.

REPORTED: (by the Director of the ESRC DTC)

- (a) That the process of commissioning ESRC Doctoral Training Centres for the period 2017-22 would begin in September 2015;
- (b) That the deadline for Warwick ESRC DTC studentships had been brought forward to 12 January 2015.

10/14-15 University Research Centres

Centre for Predictive Modelling

CONSIDERED:

A request from the School of Engineering to establish a new Warwick Centre for Predictive Modelling, as set out in paper BFSS.4/14-15.

RECOMMENDED: (to the Research Committee)

That the request from the School of Engineering to establish the Warwick Centre for Predictive Modelling, as set out in paper BFSS.4/14-15, be approved.

11/14-15 Review of Faculty Research Centres

RECEIVED:

Paper BFSS.5/14-15 setting out details for the review of the following University Research Centres hosted within the Faculty of Social Sciences:

- (a) Consciousness and Self-Consciousness Research Centre;
- (b) Centre for Human Rights in Practice (CHRP);
- (c) Industrial Relations Research Unit (IRRU);
- (d) Centre for the Study of Safety and Well-Being (SWELL);
- (e) Centre for Comparative Labour Studies (CCLS).

CONSIDERED:

Evidence, as set out in paper BFSS.5/14-15, that the Centres provided added value, contributed to the University Strategy and were sustainable in the long term.

RESOLVED:

That the review of the Industrial Relations Research Unit (IRRU) be referred to a sub-group of the Board, comprising the Chair, the Deputy Chair and the Chair of the Faculty Research Forum, to enable Warwick Business School to consider the review documents and to provide its comments.

RECOMMENDED: (to the Research Committee)

- (f) That the evidence provided for the following Centres satisfied the Board that the Centres provided added value, contributed to University strategy and were sustainable in the long term:
 - (i) Consciousness and Self-Consciousness Research Centre;
 - (ii) Centre for Human Rights in Practice (CHRP);
 - (iii) Centre for the Study of Safety and Well-Being (SWELL).
- (g) That Centre for Comparative Labour Studies (CCLS) be disestablished.

12/14-15 Assessment and Feedback

RECEIVED:

A composite report on timeliness of feedback on assessment submitted in Summer Term 2013-14 across the Faculty (paper BFSS.2/14-15), noting that the format of the report had changed at the request of the Academic Quality and Standards Committee.

13/14-15 Chair's Action

- (a) Composition and Membership of the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee (GFSS)

REPORTED:

- (i) That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, had taken action to amend the membership of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences (GFSS) to include a representative of the Centre for Educational Development, Appraisal and Research (CEDAR)

and to appoint Professor R Hastings to represent CEDAR on GFSS;

- (ii) That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, had taken action to appoint the following to the membership of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences:

- (A) Centre for Education Studies: Dr D Hartas (replacing Mr P Whitehead);
- (B) Centre for Lifelong Learning: Ms G Frigerio (replacing Mr P McCash);
- (C) Warwick Business School: Professor K Glaister (replacing Professor T Kiefer).

(b) Membership of the First Year Board of Examiners (FSS FYBOE)

REPORTED:

- (i) That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, had taken action to recommend to Senate the appointment of the following representatives to the June 2014 membership of the First Year Board of Examiners for the Faculty of Social Sciences:

- (A) Mathematics: Professor R Kerr (replacing Professor R Kotecky);
- (B) Psychology: Dr F Schlaghecken (replacing Professor J Tresilian).

- (ii) That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, had taken action to recommend to Senate the appointment of the following representatives to the September 2014 membership of the First Year Board of Examiners for the Faculty of Social Sciences:

- (A) Mathematics: Dr T Sullivan (replacing Professor R Kotecky);
- (B) Sociology: Dr G Osuri (replacing Dr C Lambert).

(c) Quality Assurance Working Group

REPORTED:

That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, had taken action to appoint Ms E King to the membership of the Quality Assurance Working Group of the Academic Quality and Standards Committee, to represent the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee.

(d) Board of Graduate Studies

REPORTED:

That the Chair of the Board, acting on its behalf, had taken action to appoint Dr O Goriunova, Deputy Chair of GFSS, to the membership of the Board of Graduate Studies for the academic year 2014-15.

- 14/14-15 Refreshed University Strategy (minute 39(d)/13-14 referred)
REPORTED:
That the refreshed University Strategy was available online from <http://warwick.ac.uk/strategy/>.
- 15/14-15 Report from the Faculty Undergraduate Studies Committee
RECEIVED:
The confirmed minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Undergraduate Studies Committee held on 15 October 2014 (paper BFSS.6/14-15).
- 16/14-15 Report from the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee
RECEIVED:
The confirmed minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee held on 21 October 2014 (paper BFSS.7/14-15).
- 17/14-15 Report from the Faculty IT Committee
RECEIVED:
The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Faculty IT Committee held on 15 October 2014 (paper BFSS.8/14-15).
- 18/14-15 Faculty Lunches in 2014-15
REPORTED:
That the Faculty of Social Sciences Lunches would take place as follows in 2014-15:
 - (a) Autumn term: Thursday 6 November 2014, 12 noon, Social Sciences Lounge, room D2.04, WBS Social Sciences building;
 - (b) Spring term: Wednesday 11 February 2015, 12 noon, Social Sciences Lounge, room D2.04, WBS Social Sciences building;
 - (c) Summer term: Thursday 21 May 2015, 12.30pm, Social Sciences Lounge, room D2.04, WBS Social Sciences building.
- 19/14-15 Dates of 2014-15 Board Meetings
REPORTED:
That the Board would meet subsequently as follows during the academic year 2014-15:
 - Wednesday 11 February 2015, 14.00-16.00, room CMR 1.0, University House;
 - Thursday 21 May 2015, 10.00-12.00, room CMR 1.0, University House.

20/14-15 Next Meeting

REPORTED:

That the next meeting of the Board would take place on Wednesday 11 February 2015, 2-4pm, room CMR 1.0, University House.

MM/10.11.14
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