

University of Warwick

Board of Lifelong Learning

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Lifelong Learning held on  
Friday 2 November 2001

Present: Professor R Dyson (Chair), Mrs A Barnes, Dr H Dennis, Dr S Hill, Dr S Ireland,  
Dr B Merrill, Dr P Mizen, Dr J Pickering, Mr C Price, C Aubrey

Apologies: Professor J Field

In attendance: Ms S Blakeman, Dr R Moseley, Ms K McEvoy

1/01-02 Constitution, Membership and Terms of Reference for the Board

RECEIVED:

- (a) The constitution of the Board of Lifelong Learning, and its membership for 2001-02 (BLL 1/01-02).
- (b) The terms of reference of the Board (BLI 2/01-02).

RECOMMENDED:

That the terms of reference of the Board be amended to include Foundation Degrees where appropriate.

2/01-02 Sub-Committees of the Board

REPORTED:

That the following Sub-Committees report to the Board:

- (a) A Sub-Committee for each of the 2+2 courses, convened by the appropriate Academic Co-ordinator:

Social Studies  
European Studies  
Theatre, Media and Text  
Early Childhood Studies

- (b) An Open Studies Accreditation Sub-Committee with the following members:

Dr S Hill (Chair)  
Two members of the Department of Continuing Education  
One representative from each faculty

3/01-02 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2001 be approved.

4/01-02 Matters arising on the minutes

(a) University Strategy for Lifelong Learning (minute 10/00-01 refers)

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Chair on the work to date of the group set up by Steering Committee to advise on the University's Strategy for Lifelong learning, noting that although in the academic year 2000-01 the group had focused primarily on the establishment of Foundation Degrees it was intended to address a wider range of issues in the coming year.

(b) Progress of Board recommendations

REPORTED:

- (i) That the Academic Policy committee had resolved that the periodic review of Open Studies Certificates was sufficiently comprehensive to serve also as a review of the free-standing Open Studies modules (minute 12/00-01 refers).
- (ii) That the proposed new Open Studies Certificates in Music, Transport Studies and Supporting Minority Ethnic Pupils' Achievement were approved by Senate to commence in autumn 2001 (minute 12/00-01(a) refers).
- (iii) That the proposed Open Studies module approval form was approved by Chair's action on behalf of the Academic Quality and Standards Committee (minute 12/00-01 (c) refers).

5/01-02 Open Studies

CONSIDERED:

The annual review of the Open Studies programme for 2000-01 (BLL 3/01-02); it being noted that:

- (a) most of the domestic difficulties identified in last year's report had been successfully resolved thanks to the efforts of staff in room bookings and security;

- (b) if the number of classes running successfully was above target for the autumn and spring terms it might mean a reduction in the size of the summer term programme in order to keep within budget for teaching costs;
- (c) the advantages of retaining some non-accredited courses in the programme should be borne in mind even if there was little evidence of student progression from non-accredited to accredited work;
- (d) there was a possibility of offering some of the Warwick Skills Certificate modules as part of the public programme.

6/01-02      Part-time Degrees

RECEIVED:

A report on the Part-time Degrees programme in 2000-01 (BLL 4/01-02).

RESOLVED:

That the Recruitment Officer for Lifelong Learning be asked to analyse the conversion rates from enquiries to applications to registrations for each degree.

7/01-02      2+2 Degrees

RECEIVED:

A paper showing new 2+2 registrations for 2001-02 (BLL 5/01-02).

RESOLVED:

that the Secretary discuss with the 2+2 Academic Coordinators at Warwick the issues arising from a franchise, rather than the current partnership, arrangement with colleges offering 2+2 courses.

8/01-02      Annual Review

CONSIDERED:

The report of the Annual Review for 2000-01 of the Part-time and 2+2 courses in Social Studies and European Studies (BLL 6/01-02) undertaken by a review group on 22 October 2001.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Review report be accepted, it being noted that:

- (a) there were no issues of substance;

- (b) further discussion would take place with the School of Health and Social Policy in connection with offering the BA (Hons) Social Studies with an integrated Social Work qualification, on a 2+2 and/or Part-time Degree basis.

9/01-02 Foundation Degrees

RECEIVED:

- (a) A report on the Foundation Degree prototypes (BLL 7/01-02), it being noted that:
  - (i) the degree in Learning Support has recruited particularly successfully;
  - (ii) the degree in Community Enterprise and Development at North Warwickshire and Hinckley College has recruited almost to its target of 20 and that Tile Hill College expects its first intake in January 2002.
  
- (b) A note of visits to partner colleges in connection with the Foundation Degree in Community Enterprise and Development (BLL 8/01-02).

10/01-02 College Links

RESOLVED:

That Professor Dyson host a meeting with college principals for an informal discussion of a range of FE/HE issues and the possibility be borne in mind of a later meeting to include a range of college staff involved in 2+2 and Foundation Degree work.

11/01-02 Lifelong Learning Marketing and Recruitment Report

RECEIVED:

The Lifelong Learning Marketing and Recruitment Report (BLL 9/01-02)

12/01-02 The Collaborative Widening Participation Project

RECEIVED:

An oral report from Marj Walsh, the University's Widening Participation Project Officer, on the work of the project being undertaken with Coventry University

and University College Worcester; it being noted that there is still some funding available for additional work and that the Project Office would welcome further proposals.

13/01-02

Any Other Business

(a) Partnership Programmes and Distance Learning Sub-Committee

RESOLVED:

That Dr F McKay be the member of the Board nominated to serve on the Partnership Programmes and Distance Learning Sub-Committee for 2001-02.

(b) Professor John Field

RESOLVED:

That the Board record its thanks to Professor Field for his contributions to its work over the past four years.