

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Board of Graduate Studies

Graduate Awards and Nominations Sub-Committee

Minutes of the Graduate Awards and Nominations Sub-Committee held at 14:00hrs on Monday 19 March 2012 in Council Chamber, University House.

Present: Professor J Labbe (in the Chair), Dr C Bilton, Professor R Earle, Dr J Kidd, Professor F Griffiths, Professor D Leadley, Dr A Dowd, Ms A Stewart

Apologies: Dr B Clift

In attendance: Mr D Pearson, Mrs N Ellis-Thomas

01/11-12 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes from the last meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 3 June 2011 be approved.

02/11-12 Membership

(a) WCPRS/ DARO, Wolfson Foundation, Chancellor's International Scholarships (CIS), Chancellor's, AHRC Doctoral Awards Scoring

REPORTED:

(b) That the WCPRS/ DARO, Wolfson Foundation, CIS, Chancellor's, AHRC Doctoral Award Faculty scorers for 2011-12 academic year were:

Arts: Dr C Bilton, Professor R Earle, Dr R Dias, Dr D Lines

Life Sciences: Dr J Kidd, Professor F Griffiths, Professor D Grammatopoulos, Professor J Davey

Physical Sciences: Professor D Leadley, Dr A Dowd, Dr V Buchannan-Wollaston, Professor J Hutton

Social Sciences: Ms A Stewart, Dr B Clift, Professor B Carter, Professor P Poellner

(c) University of Warwick/Open Society Institute Master's Scholarships Scoring

REPORTED:

That the scorers for the above in the 2011-12 academic year will be Professor J Labbe and Professor R Earle

c) PGT Combined Competition Awards Scoring

REPORTED:

- (i) That the PGT combined competition included the AHRC Masters, Santander, International Office, ANFCT and Li Xiaoming scholarships.
- (ii) That the scorers for the PGT competition in the 2011-12 academic year will be all members of GANC.

03/11-12 DARO Funding

REPORTED:

- a) That the Disbursement Group allocated a one-off sum of £250k to PG scholarships for disbursement this year; a figure supplemented by the funding available via WCPRS to create five additional scholarships at Home/EUfee level.
- b) That a £100k donation from an alumnus was allocated to PG Scholarships, which supplemented by WCPRS funds, leveraged 5 PhD scholarships.
- c) That the current studentships made available via each faculty for WCPRS funding were part of a separate competition.

04/11-12 WCPRS/ DARO, Wolfson Foundation, CIS, Chancellor's, AHRC Doctoral Awards

RECEIVED:

a) Amalgamated Form and Applications Received

REPORTED:

- (i) That 1661 scholarship applications were received in the 2011-12 academic year.
- (ii) That 213 nominations were made in the 2011-12 academic year.
- (iii) Awards to be allocated in the following order:
 - a. DARO Awards
 - b. Wolfson Foundation Scholarships
 - c. AHRC Doctoral Awards
 - d. Chancellor's International Scholarships (CIS)
 - e. Chancellor's Scholarships

f. Chancellor's/ CIS fee only awards

- (iv) That there will be a wash up meeting arranged with all departments, to provide an opportunity to review the 2011/12 central scholarship competition.

b) Nominated Applicants

REPORTED:

- c) That the applications were scored and nominated for consideration by departments, and were each subsequently divided according to their research grouping and reviewed by three faculty scorers.

- (i) It was noted that no scorer considered applications from his/her own department.

- (i) (by Professor F Griffiths)

That Warwick Medical School is an exception. Due to the department structure, on some occasions faculty scorers will score applications from their own division.

- d) That the overall scores allocated to each applicant were set out in a separate paper (GANC 1/11-12) noting that the overall score was presented in the column labelled "Average score".
- e) That 21 Chancellor's International Scholarships, paying the full overseas fee and a maintenance stipend at the RCUK rate, were awarded to the highest-scoring applicants classified as 'overseas' for fees purposes. There were 44 full Chancellors Scholarships paying fees at Home/ EU rate and a maintenance stipend at RCUK rate. Followed by 27 fees only Chancellors International Scholarships paying the full overseas fee and 1 fees only Chancellors Scholarships paying fees at the Home/ EU rate. This is a total of 93 awards for 2011-12 for Chancellors and Chancellors International Scholarships.
- f) That this increase in scholarships represents a significant and welcome investment in funding to support PGR Studentships.
- g) That the following AHRC doctoral awards were available for 2011-12:
- English Language and Literature: 2 awards
 - Film Studies and Television Studies: 2 awards
 - History: 2 awards
 - History of Art: 1 award
 - Philosophy: 2 awards
 - French: 1 award
- h) That there were three Wolfson awards available for 2011-12 in the disciplines of History, Literature and Languages. The Doctoral awards will be worth £25,000 per year per student.

CONSIDERED:

The list of candidates who were nominated by their departments and scored by the relevant faculty as outlined above, to determine:

- (i) which candidates should be made WCPRS/ DARO, Wolfson Foundation, CIS, Chancellor's, AHRC Doctoral Awards;
- (ii) which candidates should be put on a reserve list.

RESOLVED:

- (iii) That funding be awarded in order to maximise awards in the best possible way. Noting that there would be:
 - (a) 44 Full Chancellor's Awards
 - (b) 21 Full Chancellor's International Awards
 - (c) 1 Chancellor's Fee Only Award
 - (d) 27 Chancellor's International Fee Only Award
- (iv) That priority is to 'top up' fees only awards, rather than allocate funding to lower ranked students.
- (v) That offer letters should include a strict deadline for acceptance of awards.

05/11-12 Santander

REPORTED:

- a) That three awards of £5000 and six awards of €5000 were made to current postgraduate taught students in this year's Santander competition.
- b) That the number of scholarships able to be offered for 2012-13 entry with Santander funding is confirmed as two.
- c) That the level of 2012/13 scholarships would be £5000.

06/11-12 China Scholarship Council Awards

REPORTED:

- a) That there are six awards to be allocated.
- b) That close of business on Friday 30 March is the deadline for departments to make Unconditional offers to Chinese PGR applicants whom they wish to be considered for China Scholarship Council Awards. As of 15 March, 19 out of a possible 217 Chinese PGR applicants had been made Unconditional offers.

07/11-12 Any other business

REPORTED:

- a) That faculty scorers will receive a list of nominated applicants to score on 2 April 2012 for the PGT combined competition. Scores will be due back 23 April 2012.
- b) That faculty scorers had invested a considerable amount of time in considering equivalences of international qualifications when scoring applications.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Assistant Registrar (Graduate School) discuss with PG Admissions the possibility of developing a more systematic approach to providing equivalences of qualifications at application stage.