

## Engineering Studies Committee

11 November 2015

15:00

G41, RSM Building

South Kensington Campus

### Minutes

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**Present:** Dr L Craig (Chair), Professor P Lindstedt, Professor M Sergot, Dr R Palacios Nieto, Professor N Thornhill, Dr P McBrien, Dr M Streule, Dr K Fobelets, Professor M Boutelle, Dr M McLachlan, Dr M Bluck, Mrs Hamzic-Maguire, Ms J Glass, Dr L Picinali

**In Attendance:** Mr E Roney (Secretary)

#### 1 **Constitution and Terms of Reference**

1.1 The Constitution and Terms of Reference of the Committee for 2015 – 2016 [**Paper A**] were received.

1.2 It was reported that this was the last meeting of the Committee. The format of the succeeding committee (Faculty Education Committee (FEC) for Engineering) is expected to be finalised early 2016.

#### 2 **Apologies for Absence**

2.1 Apologies received for: Dr E Hauke, Dr E Meyer, Professor D Wright, Dr D Mortlock, Professor L Gardner.

#### 3 **Minutes**

3.1 The Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 May 2015 [**Paper B**] were confirmed.

#### 4 **Matters Arising**

None Reported

#### 5 **Chair's Action**

5.1 It was noted that the following item has been approved under Chair's Action since the

previous meeting of the Committee:

## **Imperial College Business School**

An amendment to the assessment format of the Business Economics module (BS0815) **[Paper C]**. The module will now be assessed by 50% MCQ (20 questions), 25% Short Answer Questions and 25% short essay questions.

### **6 Representation on Senate**

It was reported that this Committee is currently represented on Senate by the Chair, Dr Lorraine Craig. Other members of the Committee, Professor D Humphris, Professor L Gardner, Dr K Fobelets, Professor D Wright and Mr Chun-Yin San are also members of Senate.

### **7 Modifications to Undergraduate Programmes**

#### **Aeronautics**

**7.1** The Committee considered the proposal to suspend the BEng degree **[Paper C]**. It was reported that no students had graduated with this degree recently since is no longer a viable exit route, nor will the department request for it to be accredited in this round.

**APPROVED:** Suspension of the BEng degree for the academic years 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18.

### **8 Reorganisation of Undergraduate Courses and Examinations**

#### **Aeronautics**

**8.1** The Committee considered the proposal to award ECTS credits for activities undertaken in vacations (e.g. UROP projects or internships in industry or at academic institutions) **[Paper D]**.

**8.2** The Committee agreed that a decision on the proposal should be postponed. Due to developments of the ASF, the Committee agreed a wider, cross-department proposal could be on a future Faculty Teaching Committee agenda.

### **9 Student Exchange Partner: Renewals**

**9.1 APPROVED:** The Committee approved a proposal to renew an exchange agreement with Utrecht University (Earth Sciences) (Year Abroad) **[Paper E]**

**9.2 APPROVED:** The Committee approved a proposal to renew an exchange agreement

with The University of Queensland (Civil) (Year Abroad) **[Paper F]**

**9.3 APPROVED:** The Committee approved a proposal to renew an exchange agreement with NUS (Aero; Bioeng; Chem Eng; EEE; Mech Eng) (Year Abroad) **[Paper G]**

**9.4 APPROVED:** The Committee approved a proposal to renew an exchange agreement with TUM - Munich (Aero) (MEng Final-Year project) **[Paper R]**

## **10 Surveys**

### **10.1 SOLE**

**10.1.1** The Committee considered the UG SOLE Lecturer Module Results **[Paper H]**.

**10.1.2** The Committee considered that the SOLE tool may not be as conducive to student participation as desired, or give departments sufficiently detailed feedback for project work, such as final year projects. The Committee considered that other survey tools such as specifically Qualtrics may be useful as was currently in use in some departments.

### **10.2 Surveys Calendar**

The Committee considered the surveys calendar for 2015 - 2016 **[Paper I]**.

## **11 Academic Standards Framework**

**11.1** The Committee considered the report of the ASF Steering Group to Senate **[Paper J]**.

**11.2** The Committee noted the emphasis on the standardisation of module sizes for ECTS. Concerns were noted that this may limit module content and put pressure on the way content is taught. The Committee discussed the need for a standardized module structure across the College and questioned what the arguments for moving to such a structure were. The majority of the Committee agreed that, although there would be issues to overcome, a single academic qualifications framework would be helpful for programme comparability.

## **12 Appointment of Examiners**

The committee noted the changes to the appointment of External Examiners for the 2015-16 academic year **[Paper K]**.

## **13 Senate Executive Summary**

**13.1** The Committee noted the Senate Executive Summary for the meetings held on 24 June 2015 **[Paper L]**, and 21 October 2015 **[Paper M]**.

**13.2** The Committee in particular considered the summary of the HEA Pilot Study

Outcomes on use of a GPA system, and agreed that introduction would not be beneficial.

**14 QAEC Executive Summary**

**14.1** The committee noted the report by the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee 2 June 2015 Meeting [**Paper N**] and 14 July 2015 meeting [**Paper O**].

**15 SSC Executive Summary**

**15.1** The Committee noted the report by the Science Studies Committee from the June 2015 meeting of Senate [**Paper P**].

**16 MSC Executive Summary**

**16.1** The Committee noted the report by the Medical Studies Committee from the June 2015 meeting of Senate [**Paper Q**].

**17 Dates of Next Meetings**

It was noted that the first meeting of the Faculty Education Committee for Engineering will be held on Wednesday 9 March 2016.

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Mr E Roney November 2016