

**Faculty of Humanities
Programme Approvals Subcommittee**

**Confirmed Minutes of the meeting held on
Wednesday 27th April 2016 in Whitworth Council Chamber**

Present: Carol Rowlinson (Chair), Mark Baker – MB (SEED), David Brown – DB (SALC), Ken Clark – KC (SoSS), Liam Harte – LH (SALC), Norma Hird – NH (Law), Nicola Lord – NL (TLO), Elinor O'Connor – EO'C (AMBS), Ally Routledge – AR (Student Rep), Emma Sanders – ES (TLO), Rachel Walton – RW (T&LO * Secretary), Lisa McAleese – LMc (TLO)

By Invitation: Javed Siddiqui - JS (AMBS), Jacqueline Suthren-Hurst – JSH (SALC), Catherine Abel – CA (SoSS), Nick Turnbull – NT (SoSS), Alison Walker-Twiste – AWT (AMBS)

1. Apologies for absence

Received: Becki Bennett, Anna Goatman, Anna Verges-Bausili, Bruce Wardhaugh

2. Minutes of the last Meeting

Action: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Reported: Agenda Item 2 – Minutes were recirculated by GD
ES confirmed collaboration items are recorded in enough detail

Agenda Item 5.1 – SoSS politics agreement of changes to LLB Law with Politics is complete

Agenda Item 5.2 – Course structure changes to year 3 LLB Law with Criminology is complete

Agenda Item 5.3 - The arrangements for the compulsory research training sessions for late starters who miss the induction period still requires clarification. BW to feedback on this

Agenda Item 5.4 – The revised MA Philosophy paperwork is to be tabled later in the meeting

4. NPP1 Programme Approvals “in principle”

4.1) MSc Accounting

Reported: JS introduced the rationale for the creation of the MSc Accounting programme.

The need for a separate MSc in Accounting was acknowledged during the 2014-2015 review of the Accounting and Finance programme run by AMBS. The programme is aimed at providing students who would not necessarily be recruited by top accountancy firms due to their undergraduate classification, or international students with professional finance qualifications gained overseas, a second chance to join the accountancy profession. The programme proposal has the full support of Elinor O Connor.

Discussed: It was questioned as to whether there was a demand for a single degree programme as only limited Universities currently offer a similar programme. JS highlighted that Glasgow, the only comparable Russell Group University offering an MSc Accounting programme, made offers to 262 students in 2012/2013.

The group queried the decision not to have links with the profession. JS explained that by not

having the professional accreditation AMBS would have more control over the programmes content and delivery. The group wished to know why students would apply here without the accreditation, JS reported that the Universities who have accredited courses are struggling to recruit and this programme would allow them flexibility to choose their own profession and will widen the scope of the financial markets they can choose. JS further confirmed that discussions have been had with professional firms to ensure that this will be the case.

LMc questioned the finance forms as the sums did not seem to add up. NL confirmed that Ian Rodd had a copy of these and she was waiting for his approval.

The group queried the entry requirement of 2:1, given that a 2:1 is the requirement to enter the profession. JS confirmed that the applicants would most likely have a lower 2:1.

JS confirmed that the 4 new units for this programme will not be shared. CR expressed concern over unit viability if this was the case. JS agreed to consider opening them up to other programmes. This opened a wider discussion as to the Faculties stance on new units and programmes and how long they would be given to bed in. LMc confirmed that they are reviewed yearly along with all other programmes however generally it is the first 3 years.

It was pointed out that with the exception of one core and one optional unit, the course used the same units that were available to the MSc Accounting and Finance Programme (barely any difference between the courses). The A&F programme was heavily oversubscribed and therefore some students could take this course instead.

The group noted the risk of over reliance on the Chinese market. JS agreed that there was a risk with this; however the recruitment team are working to open the market as a whole.

Agreed: The programme proposal was AGREED subject to AD sign off and Ian Rodd confirming the business case.

5. Programme Amendments

5.1)/5.1a) BA (Hons) Theology CertHE Theology (Pioneer Ministry)

Reported: JSH introduced the rationale to change the course unit options within the BA Theology and BA Theology (Practical Theology) pathway for Nazarene College. The aim of the change is to ensure that that there is a reduction in placement hours in line with the National Credit framework and to allow more optionality in unit choice.

Further the College wished to introduce a new CertHe qualification within Pioneer Ministry which is designed to allow professionals working alongside the church who offer non-traditional means of ministry and mission the opportunity to gain a formal qualification..

Discussed: The group noted that the credits on the marketing form did not add up correctly and the wording needed amending: the 60 credits in Practical and Social Theology included a 30cr placement, but the marketing form said, "All candidates will ALSO complete a supervised placement". Remove "also".

It was confirmed that those on the CertHE must take different units to the BA programmes and that the placement element for CertHE is at Level 4.

CR therefore questioned whether the CertHE was a free standing programme i.e. CertHE Pioneer Ministry or a pathway on an existing programme, i.e. CertHE Theology (Pioneer Ministry). JSH reported that as it stands it is a stand-alone award however it is anticipated that completion of this

award will also allow for the option of further study onto the BA programmes.

Discussed: The group noted that the credits on the marketing form did not add up correctly and the wording needed amending.

It was confirmed that those on the CertHE must take different units to the BA programmes and that the placement element for CertHE is at Level 4.

CR questioned whether the CertHE was a free standing programme or a pathway on an existing programme. JSH reported that as it stands it is a stand -alone award however it is anticipated that completion of this award will also allow for the option of further study onto the BA programmes

Agreed: The Amendments were AGREED subject to AD sign off and the amendments being made to the paperwork

Action: JSH to amend the programme amendment form to say 'two main changes proposed' and amend the wording on the marketing form

5.2) MA Theology (Nazarene College)

Reported: JSH tabled new paperwork for this amendment and introduced the rationale for this amendment.

UoM has validated the MA Theology since 1992 and over this period has introduced a number of new pathways however the use of the terminology 'study streams' has been used interchangeably between them thus causing confusion. The introduction of these 2 new pathways will allow for a formal recognition of them all as separate awards, as follows:

MA Theology

1. (Christian Holiness)
2. (Wesley Studies)
3. (Biblical Studies)
4. (Urban Mission)
5. (Compassionate Ministry and Humanitarian/Development Practices)
6. (Christian Engagement with Islam)
7. (Theology and Community Justice)

The following two named pathways will be added to the suite for first entry 2016:

8. (Global Mission and Culture)
9. (Transforming Leadership)

Discussed: It was confirmed that there will be no change to the ILOs or the content of the pathways, this is simply a name change that will satisfy market demand and complement the Urban Studies programme offered by the College.

Wider discussion opened up over why this amendment was tabled at this committee, as it had already been approved by NTC, R&T Academic Panel and SALC's PGT Director? LMc confirmed that role of this committee is to look at the overarching issues and that the UoM has a responsibility to Senate to ensure effective QA of all validated programmes.

Agreed: The amendment was AGREED subject to Faculty checking the new paperwork and AD sign off

Action: Faculty to check the new paperwork tabled by JSH

5.3) BA Theology (Cliff College)

- Reported:** JSH presented the proposal to allow Cliff College to add four Level 4, and one Level 6 units as optional units to the BA Theology programme. These are units currently only offered to students on the BA Mission and Ministry programme however following consultation it has been deemed they would be appropriate optional units for students on the BA Theology programme.
- Discussed:** NL queried the paperwork, notably the progression and assessment regulations as they appeared to be outdated and incorrect, there was also reference to the Faculty of Arts on page 24 which needed amending. JSH would go back and make any necessary amendments.
- Agreed:** The amendment was AGREED subject to AD sign off and JSH amending the paperwork and resubmitting to ES
- Action:** JSH to check and amend the progression and assessment regulations

5.4) MA International Politics

- Reported:** NT presented the proposal to change the MA International Politics from having two pathways to becoming two separate programmes: MA International Relations and MA International Political Economy

The amendment is tabled in order to allow the charging of premium fees for the MA International Relations pathway and that there was therefore a requirement to change the name of the programme from International Politics to International Relations for marketing purposes.

- Discussed:** The group questioned the statement that the charging of higher fees would allow for more 'personal teaching' and sought clarification as to what this meant. NT confirmed that there would be the ability to provide guaranteed supervision and would have the ability to invest more time with the students as a separate cohort.

It was also queried as to whether the change of name would mean greater numbers and impact on this claim. NT responded with the statement that whilst they do anticipate higher numbers, the increased fees will keep numbers manageable.

NT further confirmed that all students currently holding offers for the MA International Politics are happy with the programmes name change.

LMc queried the paperwork and the following missing information:

- The inclusion of the part time option on the marketing forms
- The TOEFL requirements on the marketing information do not match the specification and require correction

Clarification is also required as whether the ESRC recognise the programme and if they are happy with the title changes

- Agreed:** The proposal was AGREED subject to the changes in the paperwork, clarification of the ESRC stance and AD sign off

- Action** Marketing forms for MA International Relations to be amended to include the part time options

Confirmation is required as to whether the ESRC recognise and are happy with the changes to the programmes

The TOEFL requirements on the marketing information do not match the specification and require correction

5.5) MA Philosophy (SoSS)

Reported: CA re-tabled the proposal initially heard at PASC in February 2016 which was not approved as more information was required. PASC had supported the principle of introducing a 60 credit dissertation route into the programme but requested further information before a decision on approval would be made.

The following had been done:

- It was now clear that students will be asked to choose whether they will take the 60 or 90 credit option at the beginning of the year
- The PG Diploma has been added to the programme specification as an exit award
- There is clear distinction as to the expectations of the 90 and 60 credit dissertations articulated on the amendment and programme specifications

This new amendment had reduced the word count for the 60 credit dissertation as requested, however was now lower than the Faculty guidelines at 9,000 – 12,000 words.

Discussed: The group was concerned about the 9,000 word limit and felt that in comparison to other disciplines this was short. The rationale is that philosophy is a theoretical discipline, and dissertations are expected to consist predominantly of theoretical argument. Furthermore, 9,000 – 12,000 words is comparable in other institutions offering philosophy and students would be put off applying to Manchester if they were not in line with other programmes elsewhere.

The group felt that this was not sufficient as other disciplines would also use that rationale to argue similar cases for their programmes and therefore the guidelines would be obsolete

It was felt that, whilst a compelling case for the dissertation word length had been made, the impact of this change across the faculty had to be discussed with the Associate Dean before a final decision could be made. CR would take this forward.

LMc also highlighted that the progression and assessment regulations on the programme specification are incorrect and require amendment

Agreed: The amendment was NOT AGREED as CR is to discuss further with the AD the reduced word count issues. Agreement could then be sought by Chairs Action prior

Action: CR to discuss the wider issue of word counts with FS

The progression and assessment requirements on the programme specification require amendment as they are not in line with current PGT regulations

5.6) Global MBA – Accelerated and Finance Accelerated

Reported: AWT presented the rationale to introduce a Finance Accelerated pathway to the 'new' Global MBA programme being delivered from January 2017, which is an existing pathway on the current Global MBA programme.

Also presented was the proposal for a change of name from the previously agreed 'High Flyers' route to 'Global Accelerated' on the advice of marketing, and the offering of this pathway onto the GMBA programme which was not previously presented at PASC.

The proposal to offer a Global Accelerated MBA pathway onto the GMBA to a select group of senior executives (closed cohort who will be invited) is made on the basis of the demand for the GMBA programme at very senior executive level from those who did not wish to undertake the GEMBA programme (see item 6.1)

Discussed: The group queried why recruitment to the Global Accelerated would be stronger than on GEMBA. AWT confirmed that there were added elements to the Global Accelerated programme in regards to career and value added attributes. In addition this programme is considerably cheaper.

There were questions over the programme specifications in regards to the credits available and units on offer. AWT confirmed that this was dependent on where the APEL falls on application.

The group felt that the programme specifications were unclear and did not reflect the rationale and statements in the amendment forms. It was requested that the programme specifications be revisited and laid out separately for clarity.

Clarification of the fee is also sought.

Agreed: The title change from 'High Flyers' to 'Accelerated' was s AGREED for July 2016.

The structure of the 'Accelerated' version from January 2017 and introduction of 'Finance Accelerated' were NOT AGREED as clarity is required on what is proposed, including revisions to the Programme Specification. NL will then submit the revised proposal to the Associate Dean for approval by Chair's Action.

6. Programme Suspensions

6.1) GEMBA

Reported: AWT presented the proposal to suspend the GEMBA programme due to low numbers. There are currently 18 students who have now completed the programme with no resubmissions due. CR queried why the course could not be withdrawn. Whilst, there are currently no plans to re-introduce the programme the School wished to keep their options open. It was agreed that the suspension would be reviewed in 12 months time with a view to withdrawing the programme.

Agreed:

The proposal to suspend the programme was AGREED

7. Programme Withdrawals

Received: A list of programme withdrawals to be made following recommendations from PAG was circulated with the papers.

8. Collaborative Proposals

Reported: None

9. *Approvals by Panel since the last meeting

Reported: None

10. *Chair's Action taken since the last meeting

Received: Notes of all Chairs Action taken since February 2016:

11. *Current Portfolio

Received: A full list of all Programme Approvals, Amendments, Suspensions, Withdrawals and

Collaborations

12. *Approval of External examiner since the last meeting

Received: A list of external examiner appointments made since February 2016

13. Any other business

None

14. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 25th May 2016, 2-4pm, Whitworth Council Chamber

ACTIONS

Agenda Item	Action	By Whom
3.	The arrangements for the compulsory research training sessions for late starters who miss the induction period still requires clarification (this was questioned as part of the MSc/MA/PGDip Healthcare Ethics and Law Programme Amendment at the February 2016 meeting)	BW
5.1	JSH to amend the programme amendment form for the BA Theology with Nazarene College to say 'two main changes proposed' and amend wording on the marketing form	JSH
5.2	Faculty to check the new paperwork tabled by JSH	TLO
5.3	JSH to check and amend the progression and assessment regulations	JSH
5.4	Marketing forms for MA International Relations to be amended to include the part time options	NT
	Confirmation is required as to whether the ESRC recognise and are happy with the changes to the programmes	
5.5	The TOEFL requirements on the marketing information do not match the specification and require correction The progression and assessment requirements on the programme specification require amendment as they are not in line with current PGT regulations	CA/KC
5.6	CR to discuss the wider issue of word counts with FS Programme specifications to be amended and laid out separately for the Global Accelerated and Finance Accelerated pathways	CR AWT