

**Faculty of Humanities  
Programme Approvals Subcommittee**

**Unconfirmed Minutes of the meeting held on  
Wednesday 24 February in Whitworth Council Chamber**

**Present:** Emma Rose - ER (Chair), Mark Baker – MB (SEED), David Brown – DB (SALC), Ken Clark – KC (SoSS), Fred Craig – FC (Student Rep), Gail Divall – GD (T&LO & Secretary), Liam Harte – LH (SALC), Norma Hird – NH (Law), Nicola Lord – NL (T&LO), Elinor O’Connor – EO’C (AMBS), Ally Routledge – AR (Student Rep), Emma Sanders – ES (T&LO), Rachel Walton – RW (T&LO), Bruce Wardhaugh – BW (Law)

**In attendance:**

**1. Apologies for absence**

**Received:** Becki Bennett, Anna Goatman, Lisa McAleese, Anna Verges-Bausili

**2. Minutes of the last Meeting 16 December 2015**

**Action:** The minutes will be re-circulated and ES to provide additional information in order for the collaboration proposals to have a record that can be used for evidence.

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

**Reported:** Agenda Item 3.1 – Papers have now been re-submitted and are with Fiona Smyth for chairs action.

Agenda Item 4.1 – set up

Agenda Item 4.2 – ES provided further information as the Hong Kong visit has now happened and Lisa Carter is in the process of completing a report. The NPP2 paperwork is with the School and will be seen at their committee next week. An additional panel will be set up for this approval.

*Secretary’s Note: The process of holding separate NPP2 Panels was raised as an additional issue, the current process is that NPP2s remain to have separate meetings outside of PASC to allow more in-depth scrutiny. Outcomes will be fed back to PASC via standing item 9) Approvals by Panel.*

Agenda Item 5.1 - ES confirmed that MISS have revised documents and can be removed from the Agenda.

Agenda Item 5.2 – ES reported that Flexible Honours is moving forward.

Agenda Item 5.3 - ES confirmed set up in Campus Solutions.

Agenda Item 5.4 – ES reported that the title is still currently being discussed with SoSS.

Agenda Item 5.5 – NL confirmed revisions have been made and is reported under Item 10) as being approved.

Agenda Item 8.1-8.5 – Confirmed revisions have been made and set up in Campus Solutions.

#### 4. NPP1 Programme Approvals “in principle”

None

#### 5. Programme Amendments

##### 5.1) LLB Law with Politics (Law)

**Reported:** NH reported on the rationale for amending the programme structure to ensure Politics units are taken in the first year

**Discussed:** NL raised whether LAWS20100 Constitutional and Administrative Law being dropped as any significant implications. NH confirmed that this is LAWS10100 Public Law retitled.

**Agreed:** The programme proposal was APPROVED subject to the following actions to be carried out.

**Action:** Confirmation of Politics (SoSS) agreement to the changes will be added to the paperwork as they have now been received.

##### 5.2) LLB Law with Criminology (Law)

**Reported:** NH reported on the rationale for amending the programme structure to ensure Criminology units are taken in the first year

**Discussed:** GD raised the issue that the new structure appeared to hold too many credits within Year 3, giving a total of 140 Credits. NH confirmed that this is a typo and that the optional units should read 40 credits and not 60 credits.

**Agreed:** The programme proposal was APPROVED subject to the following actions to be carried out.

**Action:** Correction to be made to the course structure Year 3 credits.

##### 5.3) MSc/MA/PGDip Healthcare Ethics and Law (Law)

**Reported:** BW reported on the rationale behind moving a core unit to optional as there are no pedagogy reasons behind it currently being a core unit. The unit will remain optional for students who wish to select it.

**Discussed:** ER raised whether there were any ILO implications to the changes being suggested. BW confirmed that this had been checked and there are no changes to the ILOs.

DB raised why this paper was being submitted to PASC after the recent agreement that major amendments with no impact on ILOs can be approved at School level. GD confirmed that Law had been reminded of this on submission of the paperwork but that they still wanted it to go through PASC.

*Secretary's Note: October 2015 PASC meeting it was agreed “..there is no formal requirement to report to Faculty, but it is recommended that these changes are still submitted to the TLO for information”. This is also included in the Programme Amendment Process document which is provided as a standing item to PASC.*

*Secretary's Note: LM provided comments in her absence, clarity is sought as to the arrangements for the compulsory research training sessions (during the induction period) for*

*those students who arrive late.*

**Agreed:** The programme proposal was APPROVED.

#### **5.4) MA Philosophy (SoSS)**

**Reported:** KC reported on the rationale behind introducing an additional 60 credit dissertation with 30 credits course units for students not wishing to take the current 90 credit dissertation. It will be attractive to students who don't currently wish to proceed to PhD level.

It was also pointed out that currently if a student fails the 90 credit dissertation there is only the option of a PGCert however students failing the 60 credit dissertation would potentially get a PGDiploma.

**Discussed:** Due to the major assessment change it was raised whether there had been consideration into the different expectations and how this will be articulated to the students. KC highlighted that the research methods unit would cater for the different requirements and prepare the students accordingly.

RW highlighted that the 60 credit dissertation student could be seen as at a disadvantage, having to complete additional course units. Members discussed that student' expectations of quality and work load allocations will need to be considered.

NH confirmed that different dissertations would be expected and EO'C agreed that the additional credits are not merely about additional words but the content. The School will need to be explicit about the different expectations for each dissertation route and students advised appropriately in order to avoid potential student appeals/complaints.

LH raised the rationale behind the current 90 credit dissertation which seems high, ER confirmed that the MA Philosophy used was renamed from the MRes Philosophy and the 90 credit dissertation was an approved part of the MRes for which appropriate student support is designed into the programme.

Administratively there may need to be an additional plan code generated in order that the separate advisements can be entered into Campus Solutions.

**Agreed:** PASC 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:

**Action:** Confirm how/when students choose which dissertation path they wish to take either at the beginning or after semester 1.

To bring the word limits of the 60 credit dissertation in line with the Faculty 12,00-15,000.

Ensure there is distinction between the expectations of the 90 credit dissertation and 60 credit and articulate that for PASC and for potential students.

To include PGDiploma as an exit award for the 60 credit dissertation.

#### **6. Programme Suspensions**

**Reported:** None

#### **7. Programme Withdrawals**

**Reported:** None

## 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 December 2015.

## 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 December 2015

## 13. Any other business

**Noted:** Carol Rowlinson will be taking over from Emma Rose as Head of TLSS from the end of March.

## 14. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 27 April 2016, 2-4pm, Whitworth Council Chamber

### ACTIONS

Agenda Item	Action	By Whom
2	Re-circulate the minutes of December To check Collaboration items are recorded in enough detail	GD ES
5.1	To incorporate SoSS Politics agreement of changes to LLB Law with Politics	GD
5.2	Correction to be made to the course structure Year 3 credits.	NH
5.3	<i>Secretary's Note: Clarity is sought as to the arrangements for the compulsory research training sessions (during the induction period) for those students who arrive late.</i>	LM'A
5.4	Revise and re-submit to future PASC	KC