

Faculty of Engineering & Design Board of Studies

Unreserved Business (Confirmed)

Wednesday, 22nd May 2024 2:15 pm

2 East 3.4 | Faculty of Engineering & Design Board of Studies

Attended

Kirill Cherednichenko

Charles Courtney

Jos Darling

Sabina Gheduzzi

Vaggelis Giannikas

Jonathan Graham-Harper-Cater

Marion Harney

Andrew Heath

Carmelo Herdes Moreno

Emma Emanuelsson Patterson

David Stacey

Apologies

Florin Bisset

Chris Bowen

John Chew

Ricardo Codinhoto

Mirella Di Lorenzo

Jeffrey Gavin

Nathanail Georgiou

Caitlin Grainger-Spivey

Tim Ibell

Nigel Johnston

Patrick Keogh

Tristan Kershaw

Davide Mattia

Benjamin Metcalfe

Despina Moschou

Bhavya Sree Mucharla

Jannis Wenk

2412 Welcome and Quorum

The Chair welcomed members, noted apologies and confirmed quorum.

2413 Declarations of Interest

The Chair asked for any declarations of interests which were not going to be declared during subsequent discussions. There were none.

2414 Minutes of the Previous meeting - ED2023-24/119

The unreserved minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies held on 17 April 2024 (ED2023-24/119) were approved as a correct record of the proceedings.

2415 Actions and Matters Arising

There were no actions or matters arising from the previous meeting.

2416 Chairs Business & Actions

The Chair congratulated Dr Gheduzzi on her unopposed election to Chair of Academic Assembly from 1 August 2024 for three years.

2417 Climate Action Report 2024 ED2023-24/120

The Chair welcomed Professor Steve Cayzer (Climate Action Learning & Teaching Liaison) who introduced the 2024 Climate Action Report. The Report provides an annual update on progress against the 11 guiding principles set out in the University's 2020 Climate Action Framework. Integrating climate action into education is one of the four core thematic areas, the others being research, footprint, and partnerships. Curriculum Transformation (CT) has provided an opportunity for embedding climate change, learning skills and knowledge within the taught curricula and the Faculty has led the way in launching the new MSc in Decarbonisation, currently recruiting the first cohort of students to start in 2024-25. Professor Cayzer drew the Board's attention to the 'monitoring progress' section of the report (page 9) and the two star evaluation of progress to date in learning & teaching (two stars indicating that initial progress has been made). The Board noted the student survey data which indicated that 49% of students agreed that they experienced climate or sustainability education through the course. The Board registered its concern that 50% of students had not been able to recognize these themes within their curricula and the necessity for Departments to clearly demonstrate where climate action and sustainability are reflected in the curricula. Professor Cayzer commented to bear in mind that just under 10% of students had completed the 2023-24 climate action survey and the majority of courses are only in the first year of teaching year one of their CT courses.

Members of the Board queried whether National Student Survey (NSS) data around questions of

sustainability within the curricula were consistent with the results from the University's Climate Action Survey - Professor Cayzer advised that they were comparable.

The Board noted that the University faces difficulties in meeting Scope 3 targets and that international travel is a significant contributor (41%) to the University's the carbon emissions footprint. Professor Cayzer agreed that this was a challenge across the whole HE sector given the volume of international students and innovative solutions will need to be explored for example enriching the student experience across the whole academic year to encourage international students to remain in the UK during University vacation periods rather than flying home.

The Board also noted that the Faculty's core teaching and departmental space occupies the oldest estate on campus which is thermally inefficient, leaking high levels of heat and energy.

The Chair thanked Professor Cayzer for his attendance.

2418 New Courses - Strategic Stage 1 Approval ED2023-24/121

The Board considered the proposal from the Dept. of Chemical Engineering for Stage One Strategic approval of a new PGT course MSc in Sustainable Energy Engineering as detailed in Paper ED2023-24/121. Dr Emanuelsson Patterson introduced the item. The proposed new course will be based in the Department of Chemical Engineering but will have curriculum input from the three other Departments in the Faculty. The course has been developed to deliver the Faculty's strategy to create a PGT course portfolio and also aligns with the Faculty's research strengths and investment in hydrogen and renewable energy. Commonality of course structure has informed the design of the course to enable shared delivery of content with other MSc courses in the Faculty. Dr Emanuelsson Patterson drew the Board's attention to internal and external consultation with students and industry which had informed the course development and the qualitative insight analysis on page 24 of the proposal. 96% of respondents from industry professionals, university students and academics agreed that the programme would prepare engineers for a career within the energy sector either highly or moderately effectively. Links in the curriculum to real industrial challenges is seen to be a particularly attractive feature of the course. The cost of one industrial expert to support course delivery has been factored into the course budget.

The Board agreed that

- 1) the adoption of the 'common' Faculty MSc model was a core strength and feature of the course and was consistent with the Faculty's PGT strategy
- 2) the input and contribution of colleagues from Arch & Civil, Elec and Mech Eng departments would be key to the success of the course
- 3) the Dept.(Chemical Eng) should establish whether comparable courses at other HE Institutions were professionally accredited and explore whether accreditation would be appropriate for this course (and could then be used as a promotional marketing tool)
- 4) in the next stage of the proposal development the Dept. to consider whether it would be pedagogically appropriate for the 20 credit unit(s) to be delivered as smaller 10-credit units.

The Board fully supported the proposal and recommended it to Academic Programmes Committee (APC) for strategic approval.

2419 Boards of Examiners ED2023-24/122

The Board approved the updated membership of Boards of Examiners as detailed in paper ED2023-24/122

2420 Reports from Ex Officio members ED2023-24/123

The Board received the update reports from ex officio and academic leaderships members of the Board as detailed in paper ED2023-24/123.

It was noted that the lack of detail in some reports meant that they were not informative and did not provide a meaningful update.

2421 Report from Student Representatives and/or Students' Union Officer

A report had not been provided and no student reps attended the meeting.

2422 Library Matters

Mr Stacey provided the following update,

1) the Library has signed up to the Green Libraries Manifesto see:

<https://www.cilip.org.uk/general/custom.asp?page=greenlibrariesmanifesto>

2) updated University Facts & Figures have been published on the Library website

3) the Library Consultative Group has met with department library reps.

4) the Summer library loan arrangements have started - books borrowed or renewed by 24th May won't be due for return until 2 October

5) post-exam messaging to students will be starting soon including communications to alumni

6) there is a new sensory room on level 3 of the Library and the PGR study room on level 5 is now open to all PG students.

7) reminder to academic departments to keep the library updated on any changes to library booklists (new requests) so that library staff have sufficient planning time, ideally all new resources to be notified by early July.

8) subject librarian for mechanical & electrical engineering Depts, Tom Rogers, will be retiring in July - with the current recruitment chill this may mean that the position is vacant for up to 6 months.

2423 Sub-Committee Minutes ED2023-24/124-126

The Board received the minutes of the following sub-committee meetings,

1) Faculty Executive Committee 8 April 2024 ED2023-24/124

2) Faculty Research & Knowledge Exchange Committee (FRKEC) 3 April 2024 ED2023-24/125

3) Faculty Learning Teaching & Quality Committee (FLTQC) 8 May 2024 ED2023-24/126

2424 Committee Minutes (SSLC, DBoS, FDSC) ED2023-24/127-133

The Board received the minutes of the following Committee meetings

1) Dept. of Architecture & Civil Engineering Architecture SSLC ED2023-24/127a and Civil SSLC ED2023-24/127b meetings 27 March & 25 April 2024

2) Dept. of Chemical Engineering meetings 20 February, 21 March & 23 April 2024 ED2023-24/128

3) Dept. of Electronic & Electrical Engineering 21 February & 20 March 2024 ED2023-24/129129

4) Dept. of Mechanical Engineering SSLC meeting 16 April 2024 ED2023-24/130

- 5) Faculty PGT SSLC meeting 21 March 2024 ED2023-24/131
- 6) Faculty Doctoral Studies Committee (FDSC) 17 April 2024 ED2023-24/132
- 7) Doctoral Board of Studies (DBoS) 21 February & 27 March 2024 ED2023-24/133

2425 Any Other Business

There were no other items of unreserved business.

2426 Date of next meeting

Date of next meeting of the Board - 3 July 2024 (Special Board) at 11.00 a.m. (to be held online via TEAMS)