

FACULTY OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES - FACULTY BOARD

CONFIRMED Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Faculty Board in the 2019-2020 academic session, held on 5th February 2020 at 10:00am in Stockwell Street 11_3003, Greenwich Campus

Present:

Alexandra Fanghanel	Senior Lecturer in Criminology, Law
Chris Bailey	Director of Research & Enterprise
Cos Ierotheou	Director of Learning & Teaching
Darrick Jolliffe	Head, School of Law & Criminology
Ed Wall	Academic Leader Landscape, Design/PGR Lead
James McLaughlin	Lecturer in Drama, HSS
Jono Smith	GSU Office
John Morton	Faculty Employability Lead
Lee Devlin	Faculty Operating Officer
Maria Korolkova	Programme Leader, Design/PGR Lead
Mark O'Thomas	Pro Vice Chancellor, FLAS
Simon Smith	Assistant Principal, Bird College
Steve Kennedy	Head, School of Design
Zoe Campbell	Faculty Officer

Apologies:

Catie Gardner	Faculty Officer
Corine Delage	Director of Student Experience
Darnell White-Russell	Faculty Officer
Esther Olorunsomo	Representation Co-ordinator, Students Union
Louise Owusu-Kwarteng	Associate Prof. in Applied Sociology, HSS
Marc Cavazza	Head, School of CAM
Mayur Patel	Director of Internationalisation & Partnerships
Nadarajah Ramesh	Programme Leader Rep, Maths, CAM
Natasha Oxley	Lecturer in Drama, HSS
Peter Vlachos	Principal Lecturer in Marketing,
Richard Wild	Principal Lecturer, Criminology, Law
Steven Haines	Professor of International Law, Law
Suzanne Louail	Faculty Head of Research & Enterprise Support
Tony Mann	Director/Senior Lead Maths Dept, CMS
Yulia Tasheva	Faculty Officer
Zoe Pettit	Head, School of HSS

In attendance: Sharron Denham, Faculty Executive Officer, Faculty Office

Chair noted apologies and welcomed the Group.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.15 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th October 2019 were **agreed** as an accurate record.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.16 **Actions from Previous Meeting**

Two actions were carried over were agreed to be completed following meeting.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.17 **PVC Update**

Following BREXIT, the Chair reminded the group that as we are now in a transition phase with remaining uncertainty around Erasmus+ and EU funding for research. There are indications of matched funding from Research England, however, this will likely be centred around science/technology.

REF is going ahead. TEF is postponed and as we have prepared well should there be a submission. KEF should be relatively strong as we have a lot of partners and impact statements have already been evidenced from REF. Baroness Wolf has already played an important part in influencing government policy, including her report in 2011 into 14-10 vocational education and being an official panel member on the both the 2017 Sainsbury and 2019 Augar Reviews.

The new appointed VC has shown a great interest and has actively spoken in the VCG Forum on the promotion of the arts and humanities at Greenwich. Jane wants to develop a strategic plan and recognises the limitations of Making Greenwich Great 1 and 2. The VC is ambitious for the University and wants us to stand out as the best. We can expect change!

Brian Shaw from Columbia College will be visiting in the next couple of weeks and the PVC is to make introductions to Simon Smith of Bird College to look at opportunities. The University of Ottawa are working on an agreement with the Drama programmes initially, with University Central Florida, San Francisco SU and UoA Philadelphia in the pipeline.

Action: PVC to connect Principal, Bird College with a view to arranging a meeting with Brian Shaw, Columbia College

The RSA partnership is developing well with a big event planned for 2 March. Recent TEDx event was very successful, and we are keen to progress further with the project.

Next year the Teaching Fellows project to convert HPLs will be rolled out following the Faculty of Business' lead.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.18 **FOO Update**

The Faculty have exceeded our targets across the board on recruitment, with the arrival of the new VC in December this resulted in the first quarter budget meeting review around resourcing into Law and Architecture encouraging and welcome VC's views on processes etc.

We are underway with the main cycle for recruitment 2020 entry and 15th Jan UCAS deadline has improved considerably reporting our application for UG up by 8.5% which is impressive. In context our competitors set defined by UCAS was 0.3% and sector wide increase was 1% across all the Schools, which was pleasing. A lot of work is being done around conversion activities to convert in the main cycle so that we become less reliant on Clearing. At the event last week those who registered the conversion rate to attend was 75% and with another event scheduled for March, Jane is keen to see these improvements in the planning process. FOO is working closely with the Director of Recruitment and Comms to work applications into potential student number planning and SMT will get an indicative view of this when available. Over the next 4 weeks a lot of work around R&E forecasts, TNE, student numbers and another meeting planned with the VC to see the journey of travel and what is specific to this faculty. This will take another year to really embed this cycle and to start planning for the next one in October for 2021/22 which looks extremely positive.

Conversion activities and what had been planned was discussed and it was agreed that this may have come too late as historically there was more involvement with local schools etc. There is a need for development around communication with applicants in conjunction with the CRM systems and support from Recruitment & Comms teams. By June all recruitment and offer holder activity for the forthcoming year should be mapped out to build into our planning.

Action: FOO to confirm what planning was carried out locally in the R&M team and update at next meeting.

International numbers post-BREXIT were reported as good although there are challenging times ahead around EC year after. With predictions of 75% loss of students there is the need to compensate for this drop and to fill the gap, integrating Masters' around Computing and TESOL, particularly around January starts. The Coronavirus within China and Hong Kong has impacted with no signing-off of international travel for the imminent future to these countries.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.19 **Partnership Update**

Director of Internationalisation & Partnerships sent apologies.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.20 **Employability Update**

Graduate Outcomes Survey has now completed one full cycle (Jan 19-Jan 20). Results should be available in April, we currently have data on response rates, which were at 53% for UK FT first degree – the key demographic – which is under the sector target of 60% but just above the sector response rate of 52%. The one area we have significantly underperformed is with international students which is being discussed centrally, and more generally the approach of contacting Alumni only via our Alumni team and only by Faculty will also be discussed in due course. Results of the survey will be available by the next Faculty Board meeting scheduled for May.

Schools continue to put on many events and activities related to Employability for their students, including the upcoming CAM skills week, Law and Criminology's speed interviews with HSBC, Design's end of year show and awards, and HSS's Alumni panel. In addition to this the Faculty is developing more mentoring opportunities with a plan to roll them out across currently under-represented parts of the faculty in due course.

The Faculty is engaged with an Advance HE initiative on embedding Enterprise in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, and there should be events on this to follow which will be promoted to relevant staff.

The Faculty is the second most intensive user of the Employability Passport, with thanks to colleagues who continue to promote this to tutees and via events.

ECS continue to offer drop ins and one to ones to students and they will shortly be running the Graduate Interview Event for final years' and last year's graduates, with jobs advertised and interviewed for on campus.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.21 **DSE Update**

David Watson (apologies sent) has taken over Corine Delage's role in an Interim capacity for Director of Student Experience in addition to running his Studiosity project. Safeguarding Officer, Cecile Laval, Deputy Head, School of HSS, has been appointed in addition to Interim DSE

FLAS_FB_M2/19.23 **Update from Bird College, Principal**

Simon reported that applications are up from last year's 1,500 to more like 1,700, putting in 4 additional admission and ready dates including international within EC and outside with much more diverse students in September. There continues to be a £45 audition fee charge which is a standard charge and is part of the application process, main competitors are much the same amount.

Action: Principal to look at issues around the audition fee in more detail and update at next Board.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.24 **Health & Safety**

Following the recent H&S Audit held w/c 13th January 2020, it was noted 12 areas, although not of any concern, had issues around training records and evidence, H&S monitoring and review. An action plan to be developed around these issues which will be presented for consideration at the next University H&S Committee in May. Due to a delay issuing the report this week it will be included on the SMT Agenda 18th February.

Although York University has reported a case of the Coronavirus London has not.

It was noted that the lift in Stockwell St has broken down 3 times in the last two weeks, and although working now disabled students are voicing very strong concerns.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.25 **Equality & Diversity**

Following the VC's arrival at the University, there will be a re-introduction of Athena Swan and Stonewall in addition to a Race Equality Charter which has been received well by the Faculty.

FLAS_FB_M2/19.26 **Papers for Information Purposes**

P.3/M2/19/FLAS External Examiners_JAN20

P.4/M2/19/FLAS SEC

P.5/M2/19/FLAS FRDC

P.6/M2/19/FLAS FIPC

P.7/M2/19 FLAS FREC

P.8/M2/19/FLAS LQSCUnconfirmed DEC19

P.9/M2/19/FLAS Research & Ethics

P.10/M2/19/Revised ToRs for Faculty Boards

FLAS_FB_M2/19.27 **AOB**

Student Union have launched a new sub-section of their website to allow staff to engage easier with the SU, Link to be circulated to SMT to share amongst Faculty.

BAME attainment Gap amongst students, this is to be placed on the Agenda for discussion at the next Faculty Board.

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