

Programmes Committee (PC)

Tuesday 7 May 2019

10:00-13:00

EEE Seminar Room 909B, Electrical and Electronic Engineering Building

Present

Dr Edgar Meyer (Chair), Ms Jolande Bot-Vos, Dr Lorraine Craig, Ms Lucy Heming, Dr Kate Ippolito, Mr Alejandro Luy, Professor Jonathan Mestel, Professor Sue Smith, Dr Felicitas Starr-Egger, Dr Vijay Tymms, Ms Men-Yeut Wong (Secretary) and Ms Betty Yue.

Apologies

Dr Mike Tennant (Deputy Chair), Ms Ute Thiermann, Mr Rob Tomkies, Dr Roberto Trotta and Ms Judith Webster,

In Attendance

Mr Tim Lam

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and apologies, as above, were noted.

2 PGT Medicine- Academic Regulations

- 2.1 The Committee noted that the Senior Assistant Registrar had been in contact with programme teams from the postgraduate provision of the Faculty of Medicine as it had been acknowledged that further clarification was required in the Programme Specifications on programmes' approaches to classification.

3 PC.2018.119 Programme and Module Modification Procedure

- 3.1.1 Following the publication of the revised Quality Code, with specific reference to the advice and guidance on course design and development, the planned re-launch of the process for periodic review of taught provision for 2019/20, the changes to the student records system and reflecting on previous practice, it is thought timely to review the current process for modifications to programmes and modules.
- 3.1.2 The Committee considered changes made to the Programme and Module Modification Procedure, members raised several issues and it was agreed that a review of the procedure would be carried out and presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

4 Curriculum Review

4.1 PC.2018.120 MEng Design Engineering

- 4.1.1 The Committee considered the redesigned programme above from the Dyson School of Engineering as part of Curriculum Review with effect from October 2019.
- 4.1.2 The Programmes Committee noted that the School had engaged well with the Curriculum Review process and had presented a refreshing and clear proposal in a way which had been unique to other programme teams within College; resulting in a conceptually strong programme.
- 4.1.3 The Programmes Committee noted the following:
- An academic rationale for the 12.5 ECTS weighted modules which do not align to the College's permitted credit size;
 - An academic rationale for the programme specific year weightings which do not align to the College's Academic Regulations.

4.1.4 The Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with effect from October 2019 subject to the following recommendations:

- The Programmes Committee will allow for the exception of the 12.5 ECTS weighted modules subject to a time limit; the Dyson School of Engineering must review the use of 12.5 ECTS weighted modules upon the full College completion of the Curriculum Review process (Curriculum Review of UG & PG);

4.1.5 The Dyson School of Engineering should note the amendments made to the Academic Regulations 2019-20 which were approved at the 1st May 2019 meeting of Senate:

To exceptionally permit integrated Master's programmes with 270 ECTS (due to a pass/fail placement in the summer vacation between years 3 & 4 (Computing, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Design Engineering)) a distinct weighting for classification purposes as follows: Year One 7.5%; Year Two 20%; Years Three and Four 72.5% (i.e. combining the separate weightings of 36.25% for Year Three and Year Four).

5 Major Modifications

Faculty of Engineering

5.1 PC.2018.121 MSc Applied Computational Science and Engineering

5.1.1 The Committee considered a proposal from the Department of Earth Science and Engineering to review the learning outcomes of the core modules below with effect from October 2019:

ACSE-1 Modern Programming Methods
ACSE-2 Modelling Dynamical Processes
ACSE-5 Advanced Programming
ACSE-8 Machine Learning

The Programmes Committee noted that the learning outcomes for the module ACSE-8 Machine Learning had been rewritten.

5.1.2 The Programmes Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with effect from October 2019 subject to the following recommendation:

- That the programme team review if the changes made to the module learning outcomes will affect the programme level learning outcomes.

5.2 PC.2018.122 MEng Electrical and Engineering with Management

5.2.1 The Committee considered a retrospective proposal from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering to change a core module in Year 4 of the above programme from BS0820 BPES Managing Innovation to an elective module choice, and to introduce the module to BPES Strategic Management as a core module with effect from October 2018.

5.2.2 The Committee agreed to recommend the retrospective proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with immediate effect (31 March 2019).

5.2.3 The Committee strongly recommended that the programme team should note the College's annual modifications deadlines which falls on the 31st March- major modifications and 31st July- minor modifications.

Faculty of Medicine

5.3 PC.2018.123 Master of Public Health and MSc Epidemiology

5.3.1 The Committee considered an in-session proposal from the School of Public Health to make changes to the marking scheme of the above programmes to remove the exclusion of the Final Research Project within the compensation rules with immediate effect (April 2019).

5.3.2 The Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with immediate effect subject to the following recommendations:

- To confirm whether the use of 'condonement' in the marking scheme is correct, or whether this should be 'compensation'.

6 Suspensions and Withdrawals

6.1 PC.2018.124 MRes Fluid Dynamics Across Scales

6.1.1 The Committee considered a proposal from the Department of Aeronautics to withdraw the above programme for the 2019-20 academic year with immediate effect.

6.1.2 The Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with immediate effect.

6.2 PC.2018.125 MBBS Medicine (Graduate Medicine)

6.2.1 The Committee considered a proposal from the School of Medicine to suspend the above programme for a further year with immediate effect (to suspend the 2020-21 academic year).

6.2.2 The Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with immediate effect.

7 Short Courses and Summer Schools

7.1 PC.2018.126 Data Science Summer School

7.1.1 The Committee considered a proposal from the Data Science Institute to introduce the above short course with effect from July/August 2019.

The summer school is designed for China University of Science and Technology (USTC) and their partnering universities students studying computer science, computing, software engineering, electronics engineering, mechanical engineering and other relevant engineering degrees in the final two years of their undergraduate studies.

7.1.2 The Programmes Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with effect from July 2019.

7.1.3 The Committee were made aware that the teaching staff may change for the Summer School. If changes are to be made, this should be reflected in the printed information to students.

7.2 PC.2018.127 IMPACTS - Inclusive Module for Professional and Critical Thinking Skills

7.2.1 The Committee considered a proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to introduce the above short course with effect from October 2019. - A short course for internal students – Postgraduate Medicine students who are keen to develop their professional and critical thinking skills and learn how to use them efficiently in their discipline.

- 7.2.2 The Programmes Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with effect from October 2019 subject to the consideration of the recommendations below:

Comments from the Graduate School (please note that the same comments applied to the Attributes and Aspirations Short Course):

1. There was no mention of the Graduate School's professional development programme or its bespoke offer (courses tailored to suite departmental needs) within the competitor section of the forms. It would be helpful to understand more clearly what distinguishes these courses from the existing Graduate School provision.
2. There is no mention of the Graduate School's work with Professor Sue Smith (FoM) to achieve Royal Society of Biology (RSB) accredited status of our professional development opportunities for Master's and PhD students.
 - The Graduate School's programme enables students to receive Registered Scientist and/or membership status of RSB, it also provides an accelerated route to chartership which can be achieved in 3 years instead of 6. Only the Graduate School courses are part of this accreditation. Will students in the FoM need to choose between the Graduate School accredited programme or the IMPACTS/AA programme? Will both opportunities be available? Will students have time to do both?
3. Students attending Graduate School courses have an opportunity to meet students from elsewhere across the College. This is an important part of the PG experience at College and facilitates the development of collaborative skills and interdisciplinary discussions. Will Master's students need to make a choice between attending IMPACTS and Graduate School courses?

- 7.2.3 The Short Course team are recommended to contact the Graduate School in particular the Head of Strategy and Operations for further discussion of the points above.

7.3 PC.2018.128 AA - Attributes and Aspirations

- 7.3.1 The Committee considered a proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to introduce the above short course with effect from October 2019. - This is a short course for Postgraduate Medicine students who are keen to develop their graduate attributes beyond their core scientific discipline.

- 7.3.2 The Programmes Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with effect from October 2019 subject to the consideration of the recommendations below:

1. There was no mention of the Graduate School's professional development programme or its bespoke offer (courses tailored to suite departmental needs) within the competitor section of the forms. It would be helpful to understand more clearly what distinguishes these courses from the existing Graduate School provision.
2. There is no mention of the Graduate School's work with Professor Sue Smith (FoM) to achieve Royal Society of Biology (RSB) accredited status of our professional development opportunities for Master's and PhD students.
 - The Graduate School's programme enables students to receive Registered Scientist and/or membership status of RSB, it also provides an accelerated route to chartership which can be achieved in 3 years instead of 6. Only the Graduate School courses are part of this accreditation. Will students in the FoM need to choose between the Graduate School accredited programme or the IMPACTS/AA programme? Will both opportunities be available? Will students have time to do both?

3. Students attending Graduate School courses have an opportunity to meet students from elsewhere across the College. This is an important part of the PG experience at College and facilitates the development of collaborative skills and interdisciplinary discussions. Will Master's students need to make a choice between attending IMPACTS and Graduate School courses? The College requires PhD students to attend Graduate School courses as part of milestone progression. Will attending Attributes and Aspirations add further time pressure within the PhD?

7.3.3 The Short Course team are recommended to contact the Graduate School in particular the Head of Strategy and Operations for further discussion of the points above.

7.4 PC.2018.129 Mendelian Randomisation in Medical Research

7.4.1 The Committee considered a proposal from the School of Public Health to introduce the above short course with effect from May 2019. - This is a short course for Postgraduate Medicine students who are keen to develop their graduate attributes beyond their core scientific discipline.

7.4.2 The Programmes Committee agreed to recommend the proposal to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee for approval with effect from May 2019 subject to the consideration of the recommendations below:

- Learning Outcomes should be added to the course specification, though there are no assessments for this course a delegate should be informed of what they should expect to achieve at the end of the course.

8 Dates of Future Meetings

Tuesday 9 July 2019, 10:00 - 13:00, TBC.

Proposed dates for 2019-20

Tuesday 10 September 2019, 10:00 - 13:00

Tuesday 22 October 2019, 10:00 - 13:00

Tuesday 3 December 2019, 10:00 - 13:00

Tuesday 14 January 2020, 10:00 - 13:00

Tuesday 18 February 2020, 10:00 - 13:00

Tuesday 31 March 2020, 10:00 - 13:00

Tuesday 12 May 2020, 10:00 - 13:00

Tuesday 14 July 2020, 10:00 - 13:00