

Programmes Committee (PC)

Thursday 26 May 2016
Confirmed Minutes

Present

Dr Lorraine Craig, Professor Sue Gibson, Dr Martyn Kingsbury, Professor Emma McCoy (Chair), Mr Daniel Smith (secretary), Professor Alan Spivey (for items 1-6.1), Ms Sophie White, Professor Denis Wright (for items 1-6.1)

Apologies

Mr Liucheng Guo, Professor Myra McClure, Dr Edgar Meyer, Mr Chun-Yin San, Dr Jane Saffell, Ms Lucinda Sandon-Allum, Dr Roberto Trotta, Ms Judith Webster, Ms Betty Yue

In Attendance

Professor Claire Adjiman (for item 5.3), Dr Marios Christou (for item 5.1), Ms Veronica Russell (for Dr Edgar Meyer), Professor Sue Smith (for items 1-6.1, for Dr Jane Saffell), Dr Mike Tarbutt (for item 5.2), Professor Richard Thompson (for Professor Myra McClure), Dr Andrew Williamson (for item 5.2)

1 **Welcome and Apologies**

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

2 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting [PC.2015.42]**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with no amendments

3 **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising not appearing elsewhere on the agenda.

4 **Strategic Approval of New Programmes**

There were no new programmes to be considered for strategic approval

5 **New Programme Proposals**

5.1 **MSc Engineering Fluid Mechanics for the Coastal, Offshore & Built Environment [PC.2015.43] and [PC.2015.43a]**

The Committee considered a proposal from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering to introduce the above programme with effect from October 2017. The proposal was presented by Dr Marios Christou of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

5.1.1 The committee recommended that the fourth external review be submitted to the committee for consideration alongside a departmental response.

5.1.2 The committee agreed to recommend the proposal to QAEC for approval with effect from October 2017 subject to the recommendation above.

Post Meeting Note

The committee's recommendation was met and confirmed by the Chair. Chair's action was taken on behalf of QAEC to approve the proposal.

5.2 **MSc Quantum Engineering (1+3) [PC.2015.44], [PC.2015.44a] and [PC.2015.44b]**

The committee considered a proposal from the Department of Physics to introduce the above programme with effect from October 2016. The programme was presented by Dr Mike Tarbutt and Dr Andrew Williamson of the Department of Physics.

5.2.1 The committee noted that the programme had not been developed with a modular structure as a large amount of material is shared with existing programmes across the College. The Committee further noted that the funding for the programme is fixed for two years and that the

department currently only expect to deliver the programme during the 2016/17 and 2017/18 academic years.

- 5.2.2 The committee further noted that the programme had already been advertised publicly via the departmental website and that potential applicants had been invited to apply for this programme using an alternative programme code. The department informed the committee that they were unaware that they could not advertise the programme prior to approval and confirmed that this would not happen in future.
- 5.2.3 The committee recommended that a module leader be confirmed for the modules 'Innovation in Quantum Engineering' and 'Entrepreneurship for Quantum Engineering'.
- 5.2.4 The committee recommended that the department further develop the programme learning outcomes to ensure they are consistent with the characteristic statements for programmes at FHEQ level 7.
- 5.2.5 The committee agreed to recommend the proposal to QAEC for approval with effect from October 2016 subject to the two recommendations above.

Post Meeting Note

The committee's recommendations were met and confirmed by the Chair. Chair's action was taken on behalf of QAEC to approve the proposal.

5.3 MRes Molecular Science and Engineering [PC.2015.45] and [PC.2015.45a]

The committee considered a proposal from the Department of Chemical Engineering with the Institute for Molecular Science and Engineering to introduce the above programme with effect from October 2017. The programme was presented by Professor Claire Adjiman of the Department of Chemical Engineering.

- 5.3.1 The committee was extremely supportive of the proposal and noted that the programme aligned perfectly with the strategic aims of the College. The quality of the proposal paperwork was commended.
- 5.3.2 The committee were concerned that students, particularly those without a background in Chemistry, would not be capable of successfully completing some of the Level 7 material in the way it was described in the programme proposal.
- 5.3.3 The committee recommended that the institute establish a working party between the Department of Chemical Engineering and Department of Chemistry to review whether there is sufficient introductory molecular science material to enable students (without a background in Chemistry) to complete the relevant modules at level 7 of the FHEQ.
- 5.3.4 The committee further recommended that the Education Development Unit is consulted (after the working party has met) to ensure that the learning outcomes for these modules are described appropriately.
- 5.3.5 The committee further recommended that the department map the skills and knowledge required for each module and any relationships between these (e.g. where one module is delivered before/after another on which it depends).
- 5.3.6 The committee invited the department to further develop the proposal. The committee noted that the Department wished to announce the programme at the Institute's launch event on Wednesday 22 June and therefore agreed to review the revised paperwork electronically before the next meeting.

Post Meeting Note

The committee's recommendations were met and confirmed by the Chair and two representatives from the committee (Professor Sue Gibson and Professor Alan Spivey). Chair's action was taken on behalf of the Programmes committee to recommend this programme for approval and reported to the committee on 30 June. Chair's action was taken on behalf of QAEC to approve the proposal.

6 Major Modifications to Existing programmes

6.1 MBBS | BSc Medical Science with (specialism) [PC.2015.55]

The committee considered a proposal from the School of Medicine to change the format of the year 6 clinical assessment with effect from October 2016.

6.1.1 The committee recommended that the student consultation be completed and submitted to the committee for consideration.

6.1.2 The committee agreed to recommend the proposal to QAEC for approval with effect from October 2016 subject to the recommendation above.

Post Meeting Note

Chair's action was taken on behalf of QAEC to approve the proposal.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7 The meeting was formally abandoned as there were insufficient members present following the departure of Professor Alan Spivey and Professor Denis Wright. Additional items remaining on the agenda were discussed informally by those members present. Chair's action was taken by Professor Emma McCoy to recommend a number of proposals to QAEC for approval. These items are detailed in the Chair's report which will be submitted at the next meeting on Thursday 30 June 2016.

8 Dates of Meetings

Thursday 30 June, 09:30, SALC 8, Level 5, Sherfield Building