



FACULTY BOARD OF PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY

A meeting was held on **Friday 24 October 2014**
in the Committee Room, Hoyle Building, Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road

There were present: Professor GF Gilmore (Chair), Mrs M Howe (Secretary), Professor M Blamire, Dr C Ducati, , Professor CA Haniff, Mr RAC Hay, Dr HRN Jones, Dr KM Knowles, Dr JM Riley, Professor M Thomson, Mr T Wenzel.

Apologies were received from: Professor C Abell, Professor SM Best, Dr MJ Duer, Professor AC Fabian, Professor D Frenkel, Dr W Nolan, Professor MA Parker.

MINUTES

Unreserved Business

- 14601 **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2014 were approved.
- 14602 **Matters arising from the minutes**
There were none.
- 14603 **Election of the Chairman of the Faculty Board for 2015**
There being only one candidate for Chairman the Board unanimously approved the nomination of Professor Gilmore for the calendar year 2015.
- 14604 **Nominations for a member of the Faculty Board in class (b)**
Dr JM Riley's membership in this class comes to an end on 31 December 2014. The Faculty Board agreed to propose Dr Riley, Mrs Howe and Dr Jones for this vacancy, for Council appointment.
- 14605 **Co-option of members of the Faculty Board in class (d)**
Depending on the outcome of item 14605 above, the Faculty Board agreed to co-opt the following three members to serve for the calendar year 2015: Mrs M Howe, Dr C Ducati, and Dr HRN Jones. All have agreed to serve again. The Faculty Board would be asked to approve the nominations as soon as the Council appointment in class (b) had been confirmed.
- 14606 **Membership of other committees**
- i. Faculty Appointments Committee
The Board approved the following membership in class (c):
Mrs Mary Howe
Professor Martin Haehnelt
Professor Michiel Sprik
And in class (d):
Professor Ruth Cameron
Professor David Ward
 - ii. Sackler Fund for Astronomy: Managers
The Board approved the nomination of Dr Mark Wyatt in class (b).

14607 **Observers on other Faculty Boards**

The following were appointed as Observers to other Faculty Boards for 2015:

Biology	Dr MJ Duer
Earth Sciences and Geography	Mrs M Howe
Engineering	Dr KM Knowles
Mathematics	Professor M Thomson

14608 Relocation of Administrative Support for Faculty Board

The Board received, as FB/14608, the proposal to move the Administrative support for the Faculty Board from Astronomy. The role had been assigned to Astronomy when the Department was first set up but Astronomy no longer felt that it was appropriate for their Departmental Secretary to continue to undertake Faculty duties which include being Secretary of the Appointments Committee and the Senior Academic Promotions Committee as well as of the Faculty Board. Members of the Board felt the system worked well, but acknowledged that the workload for the roles of the officers had increased significantly since the current working arrangements began. The Board was willing to advocate a change on the following conditions:

- There should be no degradation of the quality of service, which was reported as excellent from the perspective of departments in the Faculty
- Meetings of the Faculty Board and Degree Committee should continue to be sequential and co-located, preferably at IoA.

14609 NST Mathematics Report

The Board received for information, as FB/14609i and FB/14609ii, the NS Mathematics Report and a request for feedback. Analysis of the Report and feedback from Departments will be considered at the next meeting of the Board in November. Student course representatives would also be asked to participate in the consultation.

14610 *i. Student Elections 2014

It was noted that elections for the student members of Faculty Boards would be held on Tuesday, **25 November 2014**, with nominations closing a week earlier, on 18 November.

14611 **Any other business**

The retiring student representative emphasized that few items of business included discussion of relevance to student views. He also noted the absence of any practical system to communicate with other students beyond his immediate acquaintance.

One option worth consideration is to have an "open" session of the degree Committee before reserved business, so any relevant education-related items might be discussed more widely.



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MINUTES

Reserved Business

14612R **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2014 were approved.

14613R **Matters arising from the minutes**

14614R Reported business (Items dealt with under Chairman's action)

i. Membership of the Search Committee for a new Head of the Department of Chemistry

The Chairman has approved on behalf of the Faculty Board the following nominations for membership of the Committee:

Professor SM Best
Professor H Sirringhaus

Search Committee is to report to the Faculty Board in the Lent Term 2015.

14615R Reported business

i. *Part II/III Appeals*

The Board received for information, as paper FB/14615Ri, the statistical breakdown by department and gender of the outcome of the appeals considered by the Faculty Committee in 2014.

ii. *Part II Student Applicant*

The Board received for information, as paper FB/145Rii, a copy of the Chairman's approval of an application by a student to enter Part II Physics, and to progress to Part III, subject to satisfactory academic progress.

14616R **Pilkington Teaching Prize**

The Faculty Board had been invited to nominate one person for a Pilkington Teaching Prize, this year from the Department of Physics. Dr William Allison was proposed and agreed by the Faculty Board. The Secretary was asked to ensure that the nomination and citation reached the School of the Physical Sciences by the specified deadline.

14617R **Membership of Boards and Committees**

i. *Hamilton Prize*

It was reported that one entry had been received this year for the Prize from Sean Maguire (Engineering) whose eligibility had been checked. His title was 'Low frequency radio polarisation sensor with attitude estimation'. Dr Elroy de Lera Acedo will be the examiner on behalf of Cavendish Astrophysics and Dr Ramji Venkataramanan will examine on behalf of Engineering.

ii. *Sims Fund*

The Faculty Board approved Dr Stuart Clarke as Manager for the Sims Fund (to replace Dr DA Jefferson) for four years from 1 January 2015.

iii. *Tata Steel Fund*

The Faculty Board approved the nomination of Professor G Gilmore as a manager of the Fund for as long as he remains Chairman of the Faculty Board, or to 30 September 2018, whichever should be sooner.

14618R **Senior Research Associate in the Department of Chemistry**

The Faculty Board received papers in support of the appointment of Dr Andrew Bond to Senior Research Associate, with effect from 1 November 2014. The appointment was duly approved, subject to the usual University probationary period

14619R **Any other reserved business**

There was none.