



FACULTY BOARD OF PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY

A meeting was held on **Friday 23 October 2015**
in the Committee Room, Hoyle Building, Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road

There were present: Professor Serena Best (Chair), Mrs M Howe (Secretary), Professor M Blamire, Dr C Ducati, Professor AC Fabian, Professor CA Haniff, Mr RAC Hay, Dr HRN Jones, Dr KM Knowles, Professor JA Pyle.

Apologies were received from: Professor C Abell, Professor MJ Duer, Professor GF Gilmore, Dr W Nolan, Professor MA Parker, Dr JM Riley, Professor M Thomson.

MINUTES

Unreserved Business

The Chairman welcomed Marie Dixon as the incoming Degree Committee Secretary.

- 15601 **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2015 were approved.
- 15602 **Matters arising from the minutes**
There were none.
- 15603 **Reported Business (Items dealt with under Chairman's action)**
i. Membership of the NST Committee
The Chairman had approved on behalf of the Faculty Board the nomination of Dr James Keeler and Professor John Richer to continue as members of the NST Committee.
- 15604 **Election of the Chairman of the Faculty Board for 2016**
There being only one candidate for Chairman the Board unanimously approved the nomination of Professor Gilmore for the calendar year 2016. He would also continue as the Board's member of the Council of the School of Physical Sciences.
- 15605 **Nominations for a member of the Faculty Board in class (b)**
Professor MJ Duer's membership in this class comes to an end on 31 December 2015. The Faculty Board agreed to propose Professor Duer, Mrs Howe and Dr Jones for this vacancy, for Council appointment.
- 15606 **Co-option of members of the Faculty Board in class (d)**
Depending on the outcome of item 15605 above, the Faculty Board agreed to co-opt the following three members to serve for the calendar year 2016: 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.
- 15607 **Membership of other committees**
i. Faculty Appointments Committee
The Board noted the following general Board appointees:
Professor J Driscoll to replace Professor RE Cameron

Professor AN Lasenby to replace Prof D Ward

15608 **Observers on other Faculty Boards**

The following were appointed as Observers to other Faculty Boards for 2016:

Biology	Prof MJ Duer
Earth Sciences and Geography	Mrs M Howe
Engineering	Dr KM Knowles
Mathematics	TBA

15609 Faculty Membership

The Board considered the request from the PostDocs of Cambridge Society, as paper FB/15609, for Faculties to consider including all postdoctoral research staff among the members of the Faculty. The Board concluded that membership of the Faculties should be considered as part of the whole review of Governance proposed in paper FB/15610.

15610 Faculty/Departmental Governance

The Board received for discussion, as FB/15610, the General Board paper on the future of Governance for Faculties and Departments and a request for feedback to the School. The Board agreed that there was inhomogeneity across the University but that the work carried out by Faculty Boards would still have to be done. Schools would have to deal with everything if Faculties were removed, and abolition could create problems which currently did not exist. In the School of Physical Sciences the structure seemed to work particularly well. Should the Faculty disappear, so also would the Degree Committee; that could simply allow for a different membership, or might allow for the Graduate Schools to assume responsibility. Members of the Board were requested to provide any further thoughts to Prof Gilmore and the Secretary and a response would be circulated for agreement before submission to the School.

15611 i. Student Elections 2015

It was noted that elections for the student members of Faculty Boards would be held on Thursday, **26 November 2015**, with nominations closing a week earlier, on 19 November.

ii. Consultation on Student Workload

The Board received, as papers FB/15611ia and FB/15611ib, a letter from the Pro-Vice Chancellor for Education together with a questionnaire about student workload. The Board agreed that this was best discussed by departmental teaching committees first and then brought to the next Faculty Board meeting.

15612 **Any other business**

There was no other business.