

FACULTY BOARD OF PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY

A meeting was held on Friday 23rd April 2010 in the Committee Room, Institute of Astronomy. There were present:

Professor G.F. Gilmore (Chairman), Mr P.M. Aslin, Dr J.R. Batley, Professor S.M. Best, Dr. M.J. Duer, Mr R.A.C. Hay, Dr H.R.N. Jones, Professor W. Jones, Mr D. Newgas, Dr W. Nolan and Professor D.R. Ward.

Apologies were received from Professor C. Abell, Professor G.T. Burstein, Professor A.L. Greer, Professor R.C. Kennicutt, Professor P.B. Littlewood, Mr. F. Floether, Dr J.M. Riley and Ms J. Horsley.

MINUTES

10301 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2010 were approved.

10302 Matters arising from the minutes

Minute 10202, Certificate awarded by the Institute of Continuing Education

The Chairman and Secretary reported on a meeting with the Programme Directors from the Institute of Continuing Education. It has been agreed to add in to the proposal for a Certificate of Higher Education in Astronomy the following statement: "The Certificate of Higher Education in Astronomy, while contributing significantly to the public understanding of science, is not intended as preparation for a natural sciences degree as it offers a different academic focus." With this amendment the Faculty Board agreed to recommend the Education Committee approve the proposal.

10303 Ordinary Examinations and the Ordinary Degree

The Faculty Board were content with the revised proposals received from the Education Section for the abolition of the Ordinary examination and the revision of Regulations for the Ordinary B.A. Degree.

10304 Students' issues

Frederik Floether, unable to attend the meeting, had sent a message to the Secretary querying whether the postponement of a Part II Theoretical Physics Examination by a week due to the absence of a number of students because of travel disruption caused by the Icelandic volcanic eruption was fair to those students who had prepared themselves and had other deadlines the following week. The Faculty Board heard from the Senior Examiner that a large number of students had been stranded abroad and that the Physics Examiners had had good communication with the students so the Board was satisfied that the Physics Examiners were taking the most sensible course of action in the circumstances.

10305 Honorary Professorships

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10306 Faculty Promotions Committee

The following membership was agreed for the Faculty Promotions Committee for the 2011 exercise:

Professor G.F. Gilmore (Chairman);
Professor T.W. Clyne;
Professor A.C. Fabian;
Professor A.L. Greer;
Professor C.P. Grey;
Professor R.L. Jones;
Professor W. Jones;
Professor R.C. Kennicutt;
Professor P.B. Littlewood;
Professor M.A.Parker;
Professor M.C. Payne;
Mr P.M. Aslin (Secretary).

10307 Any other business

There was no further business.

R* These items remain Reserved