



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

FACULTY BOARD OF PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY

A meeting was held on Friday 28 October 2011 in the Hoyle Committee Room, Institute of Astronomy.

There were present: Professor GF Gilmore (Chairman), Mrs VR Bennett (Secretary), Professor SM Best, Dr C Ducati, Professor D Frenkel, Professor AL Greer, Mr RAC Hay, Dr HRN Jones, Dr JM Riley, Professor D Ritchie, Professor M Thomson, Professor J Robertson (Observer)

Apologies were received from: Professor C Abell, Dr MJ Duer, Professor RC Kennicutt, Dr W Nolan, Professor WJ Stirling, Mr F Floether, Ms J Hlavacek-Larrondo, Mr J Norris

MINUTES

Unreserved Business

11501 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2011 were approved.

11502 Matters arising from the minutes

In relation to item 11404, it was noted that the Secretary had written to the NST Committee suggesting that they take the lead on reviewing the provision of mathematics teaching, as recommended in paras 24 and 25 of the Learning and Teaching Review of the Department of Physics. It was noted that the NST Committee had discussed this at its meeting on 11 October 2011 (item 608), and that a decision had been taken to defer the review until after the General Board's Education Committee had received the Learning and Teaching report, and other relevant Learning and Teaching reports had been received. It was anticipated that a review might take place later in the academical year.

11503 Items dealt with under Chairman's action

It was noted that the Chairman had taken the following actions between meetings on behalf of the Faculty Board:

- (i) *Faculty Promotions Committee*
Professor C Grey (Department of Chemistry) had been replaced by Professor D Wright.

11504 Appointment of the Secretary of the Faculty Board

The Faculty Board noted the appointment of Mrs VR Bennett as Secretary from 1 October 2011.

11505 Election of the Chairman of the Faculty Board for 2012

It was agreed to re-elect Professor GF Gilmore as Chairman to serve for the calendar year 2012.

11506 Appointment of a member of the Council of the School of the Physical Sciences
Professor GF Gilmore's membership of the Council of the School of the Physical Sciences comes to an end on 31st December 2011. The Faculty Board agreed to re-appoint Professor GF Gilmore for the calendar year 2012.

11507 Nominations for a member of the Faculty Board in class (b)
The Faculty Board agreed the following three nominations for appointment in this class from 1 January 2012 for two years:
Dr MJ Duer
Mrs VR Bennett
Dr HRN Jones

11508 Co-option of members of the Faculty Board in class (d)
Mrs Bennett was co-opted into this class of membership from 1 October – 31 December 2011 to fill the vacancy arising from Mr Aslin's resignation. For membership from 1 January 2012, under item 11507, three nominations had been made for a single appointment by the Council in class (b). The Faculty Board agreed to co-opt whichever two of these three were not appointed by the Council into class (b) onto the Faculty Board in class (d) for the calendar year 2012, along with Dr C Ducati.

11509 Observers on other Faculty Boards
Observers to other Faculty Boards for 2012 were appointed as follows:

Biology	Dr MJ Duer
Earth Sciences and Geography	Mrs VR Bennett
Engineering	Professor GT Burstein
Mathematics	Professor M Thomson

11510 Changes to the style, form and/or conduct of examinations, 2011-12
The Faculty Board noted the guidance received from the Education Section as paper FB/11510.

11511 Learning and Teaching Review of the Department of Material Sciences and Metallurgy

The Faculty Board received, as paper FB/11151, the report of the Review Committee for the Department of Material Sciences and Metallurgy. The Head of Department, Professor Greer, reported that the Department was happy on the whole with the way the review had been conducted, and the recommendations in the report.

The Faculty Board noted the extensive list of recommendations in relation to the NanoMPhil (para 4.2), and especially para 6.6.1.6, recommending a full review of the course with external representation. The Faculty Board was aware that the Degree Committee had already conducted a detailed review of the NanoMPhil with the result that academic standards had improved noticeably. It was agreed to write to the Education Section and make clear that a full review by the Degree Committee had already taken place.

The Faculty Board also noted recommendations 4.10 and 4.18 regarding the use of Teaching Fellows, a practice adopted from the Department of Chemistry, and non-UTO posts. The Board hoped that the new Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Institutional Affairs would be addressing these issues at University level.

It was noted that – within the Faculty – Chemistry was the next Department due for review (in the current academical year).

11512 Pilkington Teaching Prize

The Faculty Board noted that it would receive a nomination from the Department of Chemistry for approval at its November meeting.

11513 Students' issues

No students were present at the meeting.

11514 Any other business

There was no further business.

Date of next meeting: Friday, 18 November 2011 at 14:15
(following the Annual Meeting)