



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

7 October 2014

MINUTES

Present:

Professor Anthony Smith (*Chair*)

Ms Wendy Appleby
Mr David Ashton
Ms Mariana Cecotti
Dr Brenda Cross
Dr Caroline Essex
Dr Julie Evans
Ms Leah Francis
Dr Dilly Fung

Dr Arne Hofmann
Professor Tim McHugh
Mr Derfel Owen
Dr Fiona Strawbridge
Dr Hazel Smith
Ms Olga Thomas
Professor Derek Tocher
Ms Susan Ware

In attendance: Ms Clare Goudy; Ms Judith Hillmore; Ms Sandra Hinton (Secretary); Ms Paula Speller.

Apologies for absence were received from: Mr Marco Federighi; Dr Joyce Harper; Ms Valerie Hogg; Dr Christine Kinnon; Mr Lukmaan Kolia; Dr Helen Matthews; Professor John Mitchell

Key to abbreviations:

AC	Academic Committee
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
CALT	Centre for the Advancement of Learning and Teaching
ECWG	Extenuating Circumstances Working Group
EdCom	Education Committee
V-P (EdSA)	Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs)
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HER	Higher Education Review
IoE	Institute of Education
PMASG	Programme and Module Approval Steering Group
QAA	Quality Assurance Agency

Ms Wendy Appleby, Registrar

Ms Mariana Ceccotti, UCLU Postgraduate Students' Officer

Ms Leah Francis, UCLU Welfare & International Officer

Mr Lukmaan Kolia, UCLU Education & Campaigns Officer *[in absentia]*

Professor Tim McHugh, Chair, Programme and Module Approval Steering Group and the UCL Board of Examiners

Mr Derfel Owen, Director of Academic Services (**also new to UCL**)

- 1.4 It was confirmed that the Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs) had been appointed Dean of Students (Academic) by UCL Council with effect from 1 October 2014.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 19 JUNE and 14 AUGUST 2014

3E Award of Merit [EdCom Min.70, 13-14]

Noted:

- 3E.1 The meeting of EdCom on 14 August had finalised arrangements for the introduction of the Merit. The Director of Student Administration confirmed that a communication to the UCL academic community had been drafted and that he would shortly be discussing a further communication to UCL students with the UCLU Sabbatical Officers. This would be circulated after Boards of Examiners had met.

3F Procedure for the Approval of New Degree Award Titles [EdCom Min.78, 13-14]

Noted:

- 3F.1 The procedure for the Approval of a New Degree Qualification was approved by AC at its 3 July meeting.

3G CL-05/14: Consultation on Part A of the QAA Quality Code – UCL’s response
[EdCom Min.79, 13-14]

Noted:

- 3G.1 UCL’s response, incorporating comments from all interested parties was made to the QAA by its deadline of 27 June 2014.

3H Interruptions [EdCom Min.71, 13-14]

Noted:

- 3H.1 As EdCom had resolved, there would be a follow up meeting on Interruptions between the Director of Student Administration and the Sabbatical Officers and a revised paper submitted to EdCom’s between bme7.2((s)-6 459.642((s)-6 459.642(t)-4.6(w

Discussion:

- 5.3 EdCom endorsed the workplan and in particular the proposal to develop a credit framework at undergraduate level. It was noted that the UCL one-year Masters credit framework might also be revisited in order to reconsider whether to align UCL's allotted 72 credits with the 90 credits allotted by other HEIs.

RESOLVED:

- 5.4 That EdCom receive an update on the workplan at its 2 December meeting. **[Action: Ms Wendy Appleby. Ms Sandra Hinton to note]**

6 CONNECTED CURRICULUM UPDATE

Noted:

- 6.1 At EDCOM 1/05 (14-15), a paper introduced by **the Director of CALT, Dr Dilly Fung**.

Reported:

- 6.2 Connected Curriculum was an institution-wide initiative, approved by AC in July 2014, the main aim of which was to ensure that all UCL students were able to participate in research at all levels of their programme of study, in line with the *UCL 2034* strategy.

Discussion:

- 6.3 Discussion followed of which the main points were as follows:

Members endorsed the initiative and suggested that a 'Town Hall' meeting might spread the word even more effectively among the UCL community. Another opportunity would be the Teaching and Learning Conference on 13 April 2015. The issues raised would come into sharper focus following proposals to change the NSS from 2017 to include questions about student engagement. Variation in current assessment practice across disciplines meant that there

7 DRAFT MARKING POLICY [EdCom Min.74, 13-14]

Received:

7.1 At EDCOM 1/06 (14-15), the draft Marking Policy.

Discussion:

7.2 Discussion centred on two main issues:

The rules for assessments worth more or less than 20%, which were felt to be unclear [section 9]. At the request of the Chair, these would be clarified.

The current inability of Turnitin to support double marking. Despite UCL's lobbying, nothing would be resolved for 1-2 years so it would necessary to use a workaround (which would involve downloading and printing). Staff were asked to be patient while UCL continued to work with Turnitin towards a technical solution.

EdCom also requested that the reference to the 'pass mark' in section 17 be amended to 'class mark/threshold/borderline'.

RESOLVED:

A G E N D A

Key to abbreviations

EDCOM	Education Committee
PGT	Postgraduate Taught
UG	Undergraduate

**16 SUSPENSIONS OF REGULATIONS FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND
 POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT STUDENTS**

Noted:

- 16.1 At EDCOM 1/15 (14-15) – the report on Suspension of Regulations for UG and PGT Taught Students, introduced by the **Director of Student Administration, Mr David Ashton**.

SANDRA HINTON

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