Programme and Module Approval Board

Minutes of the meeting of the Programme and Module Approval Board held Thursday 31 March 2011 at 12.00 in GO Jones 602.

CONFIRMED

Present:
Prof. Susan Dilly (Chair)
Peter Rosenberg
Dr Andy Robinson
Prof. Ray Croucher
Dr Mark Carroll
Vraj Domalip
Dr Theo Kreouzis
Prof. Julia Shelton
Prof. Omar Garcia-Obregon
Prof. Elizabeth Davenport

In attendance:
Ken Chow (Secretary)
Prof. Joy Hinson (on behalf of Prof. Anthony Warrens)
Roy Gilbar
Dr Chris Reid
Dr Henri Huiberts
Dr Bridget Escolme
Raluca Vasiliu-McIver
Ms. Emma Hare
Jenny Gault

Apologies:
Prof. Anthony Warrens
Angie Raymond
Prof. Olwyn Westwood
Dr Warren Boutcher
Prof. Peter McOwan
Jane Pallant

Part 1 – Preliminary Items

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

2010:093 The Board considered and confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 23 February 2011.

3. Matters Arising from the previous meeting

2010:094 The Board received a paper on the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings of Programme and Module Approval Board. The Board noted that there were a number of outstanding actions still to be addressed both from previous PMAB meetings.

2010:095 The Board discussed the operation of the programme and module approval process, including PMAB and noted the following:

i. A Task and Finish Group would be convened to look at the operation and effectiveness of the programme and module approval process, including PMAB.

ii. In order for any changes to come into effect for the next academic session a proposal detailing these changes would need to be submitted to the next meeting of Senate on the 16th June.
iii. The first meeting of the group would be held in mid April, subject to colleagues’ availability, with another potential meeting held in May.

iv. Members on the group would include Ken Chow, Jane Pallant, Dr. Andy Robinson, Professor Elizabeth Davenport, and either Dr Henri Huijberts or Prof. Julia Shelton. Vraj Domalip was also invited to attend and a representative from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences would also be nominated by Dr Warren Boucher. Raluca Vasiliu-McIver would service the group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 2 – Regulations</th>
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<tr>
<td>2010:096 The Board noted and approved the revisions to the External LLM 2011 Regulations.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Part 3 – Programme Proposals</th>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty of Science and Engineering</td>
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<td>5. School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>i. Part 2 BSc(Eng) Multimedia and Arts Technology / with Industrial Experience and 6 associated module proposals:</td>
<td>PMAB2010-110</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Arts Application Programming</td>
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<td>• Bridging Arts &amp; Technology</td>
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<td>• Creating Interactive Objects</td>
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<td>• Creative Group Project</td>
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<td>• Introduction to Digital Audio</td>
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<td>• Sound Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010:097 The Board considered and approved a Part 2 programme proposal for the BSc(Eng) Multimedia and Arts Technology / with Industrial Experience and 6 associated module proposals. A signed Part 2 proposal and signed module proposal forms were required.</td>
<td>Action: SEECS</td>
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<tr>
<td>ii. Part 2 BEng Electronic Engineering &amp; Computing with Industrial Experience</td>
<td>PMAB2010-111</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010:098 The Board considered and approved a Part 2 programme proposal for the BEng Electronic Engineering &amp; Computing with Industrial Experience. A signed Part 2 proposal was required.</td>
<td>Action: SEECS</td>
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<tr>
<td>iii. Part 2 BEng Electronic Engineering &amp; Telecommunications with Industrial Experience</td>
<td>PMAB2010-112</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010:099 The Board considered and approved a Part 2 programme proposal for the BEng Electronic Engineering &amp; Telecommunications with Industrial Experience. A signed Part 2 proposal was required.</td>
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</table>
iv. Part 2 BSc(Eng) Computing & ICT with Industrial Experience  
PMAB2010-113

2010:100 The Board **considered** and **approved** a Part 2 programme proposal for the BSc(Eng) Computing & ICT with Industrial Experience. A signed Part 2 proposal was required.

Action: SEECS

v. Part 2 BSc(Eng) Computing & ICT with Business Management with Industrial Experience  
PMAB2010-114

2010:101 The Board **considered** and **approved** a Part 2 programme proposal for the BSc(Eng) Computing & ICT with Business Management with Industrial Experience. A signed Part 2 proposal was required.

Action: SEECS

6. **School of Mathematical Sciences**

Part 1 MSc Mathematical Finance  
PMAB2010-115

2010:102 The Board **considered** and **approved** a Part 1 programme proposal for the MSc Mathematical Finance.

7. **Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry**

MSc Endodontic Practice and 6 associated module proposals:  
PMAB2010-116

- Advanced sciences in relation to Endodontology and integrated clinical endodontics
- Audit Project in Endodontic Practice
- Basic Sciences in relation to Endodontontology
- Clinical skills in Endodontics
- Literature Review in relation to Endodontic Practice
- Preclinical Endodontic Skills

2010:103 The Board **considered** a Part 2 programme proposal for the MSc Endodontic Practice and 6 associated module proposals and **noted** the following:

i. A Part 1 proposal for a Postgraduate Diploma in Endodontic Practice was approved on the 4th May 2006 at SMD Education Board: the MSc award had not received Part 1 approval.

ii. Approval at Part 1 stage lapsed after 2 years and this practice should in future be adhered to; however, the Board had sufficient information to consider the case at Part 2 in this instance.

iii. General dental practitioners would be attracted to the programme.

iv. The 3 year programme duration for the part-time MSc was a particularly innovative development and would be attractive to students who were in employment.

v. External advisor comments had been circulated to colleagues in advance of the meeting. These comments were missing from the Board papers.
vi. Discussion with students about the development of the programme had been positive.

vii. A number of inconsistencies with regards to module titles and study hours in the Part 2 and the module proposal forms were highlighted and required addressing.

Action: RC

viii. The Board discussed whether the use of the term ‘pre-clinical’ within module titles was an accurate reflection of their content. It was stated that a change in module title was also likely to necessitate a change in the JACS codes specified.

ix. The Board approved the Part 2 programme proposal and associated module proposals subject to the clarification of the points detailed above and the submission of a revised Part 2 Programme Proposal form and revised Module Proposal forms. The revised documentation would be considered outside of the Board by Chair’s Action.

Action: RC / Chair

### Part 4 – Programme Amendments

**Faculty of Science and Engineering**

8. **School of Biological and Chemical Sciences**

i. BSc Zoology with Aquatic Biology (C3C1) and 1 associated module proposal (Advanced Aquatic Biology) PMAB2010-117

2010:104 The Board considered a programme amendment to apply to the BSc Zoology with Aquatic Biology and 1 associated module proposal and noted the following:

i. This amendment was considered at the February meeting of PMAB but was not approved due to a number of issues that were raised.

ii. Students had now been consulted regarding the programme amendment. The Advanced Aquatic Biology module proposal had now been revised to take in account comments from students and the external examiner.

iii. The external examiner was supportive of the changes.

iv. The Students’ Union was satisfied that this matter had now been dealt with.

v. The exam was the final element of assessment for Advanced Aquatic Biology.

vi. The Board approved the programme amendment to the BSc Zoology with Aquatic Biology.

ii. BSc Zoology (C300) and 1 associated module proposal (Advanced Aquatic Biology) PMAB2010-118

2010:105 The Board considered and approved a programme amendment to apply to the BSc Zoology and 1 associated module proposal.
iii. BSc Psychology (C800) and 1 associated module proposal (The Psychology of Sociality and the Origins of Morality)  

2010:106 The Board considered a programme amendment to apply to the BSc Psychology and 1 associated module proposal and noted the following:

i. The module was developed in line with the expertise of new members of staff and the requirements of the British Psychological Society.

ii. The Board approved the programme amendment to the BSc Psychology and 1 associated module proposal.

9. School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science

BSc Computer Science & Mathematics (GG41)  

2010:107 The Board considered and approved a programme amendment to apply to the BSc Computer Science & Mathematics. A signed programme amendment form was required.

Action: SEECS

School of Medicine and Dentistry

10. Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry

MSc Oral Biology and 2 associated module proposals:  

- Introduction to Oral Biology
- Use and Investigation of Dental Tissues

2010:108 The Board considered a programme amendment to apply to the MSc in Oral Biology and 2 associated module proposals and noted the following:

i. A number of irregularities with regards to study hours were highlighted and required addressing.

ii. Colleagues questioned the difference between the terms Calendar Year and Academic Year that were detailed and referred to programme duration and whether these terms were made explicit within the Academic Regulations. It was suggested that these terms should be clarified within the Academic Regulations.

Action: Academic Secretariat

iii. The Board approved the programme amendment to the MSc Oral Biology and 2 associated module proposals, subject to addressing the points detailed above the submission of a revised programme amendment form and module proposal forms.

Action: RC

Part 5 – Module Proposals

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

11. School of Economics and Finance

Econometrics C  

PMAB2010-122
The Board considered and approved a module proposal for Econometrics C.

12. School of Law

The Board considered and approved a module proposal for Medical Law & The Family.

13. School of English and Drama

i. Mapping the Nation, 1707-1801
ii. James Joyce's Finnegans Wake
iii. Feminist Thought: History, Criticism and Theory
iv. Milton: Revolutions in Writing
v. Performance and Celebrity
vi. Renaissance Performance and the Lyric Voice
vii. Staging the UK
viii. The Court of Henry VIII: Then and Now
ix. The crisis of culture: literature and politics, 1918-1948
x. Writing Seventeenth-Century Lives

The Board considered a number of module proposals from the School of English and Drama (detailed above) and noted the following:

i. Associate students would undertake the same assessment as Queen Mary students.

ii. The use of a qualifying mark for Mapping the Nation, 1707-1801 and James Joyce's Finnegans Wake was an error and did not apply.

iii. The Board approved the modules detailed above.

14. School of Languages, Linguistics and Film

i. Brazilian Cities in Cinema
ii. Ethnography of Communication (Level 6)
iii. Ethnography of Communication (Level 7)
iv. Experimental Linguistics
v. Linguistic Typology and Grammatical Theory

The Board considered and approved a number of module proposals from the School of Languages, Linguistics and Film (detailed above).

15. School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science

Design for Human Interaction

The Board considered and approved a module proposal for Design for Human Interaction.

16. School of Mathematical Sciences

i. Advanced Combinatorics (UG)
The Board **considered** a module proposal for Advanced Combinatorics and noted the following:

i. The learning outcomes for the module could benefit from enhancement in order to reflect that the module was a level 7 module. Specifically, the use of the word ‘some’ within the outcomes was rather vague. This issue required clarification.

ii. No transferable skills or practical skills learning outcomes were detailed in the proposal.

iii. The Board **approved** the module proposal subject to the submission of a revised module proposal form to address the above issues. The revised documentation would be considered outside of the Board by Chair’s Action. **Action: SMS / Chair**

ii. Advanced Combinatorics (PG) PMAB2010-141

The Board **considered** a module proposal for Advanced Combinatorics and noted the following:

i. The learning outcomes for the module could benefit from enhancement in order to reflect that the module was a level 7 module. Specifically, the use of the word ‘some’ within the outcomes was rather vague. This issue required further clarification.

ii. No transferable skills or practical skills learning outcomes were detailed.

iii. The Board **approved** the module proposal subject to the submission of a revised module proposal form to address the above issues. The revised documentation would be considered outside of the Board by Chair’s Action. **Action: SMS / Chair**

iii. Complex Systems (UG) PMAB2010-142

The Board **considered** and **approved** a module proposal for Complex Systems.

iv. Complex Systems (PG) PMAB2010-143

The Board **considered** and **approved** a module proposal for Complex Systems.

v. Further Topics in Algebra (UG) PMAB2010-144

The Board **considered** and **approved** a module proposal for Further Topics in Algebra.

vi. Further Topics in Algebra (PG) PMAB2010-145

The Board **considered** and **approved** a module proposal for Further Topics in Algebra.

**Part 6 – Module Updates**

**Summary of Approved Module Updates to Note** PMAB2010-146
The Board received and noted a summary of approved module updates.

**Part 7 – Module Withdrawals**

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<th>School of Biological and Chemical Sciences:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Freshwater Biology (SBC316)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Aquatic Ecosystems: Science, Policy &amp; Management (SBC314)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Genes &amp; Human Behaviour Module Withdrawal (SBC343)</td>
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N/A

The Board considered and approved module withdrawals for the modules detailed above.

**19. Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry:**

- Introduction to Oral Biology

N/A

The Board considered and approved the withdrawal of Introduction to Oral Biology.

**20. School of English and Drama:**

- The crisis of culture: literature and politics, 1918-1948 (ESH353)

N/A

The Board considered and approved the withdrawal of The crisis of culture: literature and politics, 1918-1948.

**21. School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science (various)**

PMAB2010-147

The Board considered and approved the withdrawal of a number of modules by the School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science that were detailed within the PMAB documentation.

**Part 8 – Delayed Proposals**

**22. School of Engineering and Materials Science (Programme Amendment)**

MSc Dental Materials

PMAB2010-148

The Board considered a programme amendment to apply to the MSc Dental Materials and noted the following:

i. The proposed programme amendment involved the development of a joint programme managed between SEMS and SMD (Institute of Dentistry) and built upon the use of current modules to offer improved coherence and logic.
ii. The fee structures would be changed in line with the current fee structure within the Dental School.

iii. The Academic Regulations only permitted 15 credits to be taken at level 5, whereas the diet on the amendment form indicated 30 credits at level 5. This was not permissible. Consequently, it was agreed that a module proposal for Science and Biocompatibility (at level 6) would come to the April meeting of PMAB. This module would be taught jointly between SEMS and SMD, whilst Surfaces and Interfaces in Dentistry would remain a level 5 module.

iv. Both Schools were committed to this joint development.

v. The Board approved the programme amendment to the MSc Dental Materials.

23. Centre for Commercial Law Studies (Module Proposal)

Financial Models and Derivatives in a Legal Context

PMAB2010-149

2010:126 The Board considered and approved a module proposal for Financial Models and Derivatives in a Legal Context.

Part 9 – Other Business

| 24. | Any other business | N/A |
| 24. | Any other business | N/A |
| 2010:127 | No any other business was reported. | |

25. Date of next meeting

2010:128 The next meeting date of the Programme and Module Approval Board is Wednesday 27th April (1-4pm) in the Council Room.

The deadline for papers for this meeting is Wednesday 6th April.