

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 15TH APRIL 2015

Present:

Prof Keith Phalp (Chair)	Deputy Dean - Education and Professional Practice (SciTech)
Mr David Foot	Market Research Manager (M&C)
Prof Iain MacRury	Deputy Dean – Research & Professional Practice (FM)
Dr John Oliver, Assoc. Prof	Professoriate Representative (FM&C)
Prof Elizabeth Rosser	Deputy Dean - Education & Professional Practice (HSS)
Dr Gelareh Roushan	Associate Dean - Education (FM)
Dr Philip Ryland	Deputy Dean (Education & Student Experience) (FM)
Ms Catherine Symonds (Secretary)	Head of Quality & Academic Partnerships (AS)
Mr Arvid Thorkeidsen	Director of Undergraduate Programmes, Anglo European College of Chiropractic (AECC)

In Attendance:

Ms Maxine Frampton	Policy & Committees Officer (AS)
Mr Paul Kneller	Senior Lecturer In Environmental Science (SciTech) [Agenda Item ASC-1415-107]
Mr Ricky Rogers	Quality & Enhancement Officer (AS) [AS Representative]
Dr Rick Stafford	Academic Grade 9 (SciTech) [SciTech Representative]

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Mr Alan James	General Manager of the Students' Union (SUBU)
Ms Jacky Mack	Head of Academic Services (AS)
Ms Ellie Mayo-Ward	Vice President (Education) 2014/15, Students' Union (SUBU)
Prof Tim McIntyre-Bhatty	Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Prof David Osselton	Head of Forensic & Biological Sciences (SciTech)
Ms Chloe Schendel-Wilson	President 2014/15, Students' Union (SUBU)
Prof Tiantian Zhan	Head of the Graduate School (GS)

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH FEBRUARY 2015 (ASC-1415-98)

2.1 Accuracy

2.1.1 The minutes of 4th February 2015 were approved as an accurate record with the exception of:

- Prof I MacRury was listed in the 'In Attendance' section on page 1 of the minutes, rather than the 'Present' section. This amendment would be rectified.

Action: Clerk

- Dr Ryland queried Section 3.1.8 and suggested that the first four lines of the paragraph were related to PGT rather than PGR. If this query was correctly captured, it was suggested that Section 3.1.8 should be split into two paragraphs for clarity. Ms Symonds agreed to check this query with Dr Sheridan and advise members by email of the outcome.

Action: CS

- A discussion took place regarding Section 3.1.9 of the minutes and it was questioned whether PGR should read PGT. Ms Symonds agreed to check this query with Dr Sheridan and advise members by email of the outcome.

Action: CS

- 2.1.2 Dr Ryland provided an update to Section 2.2.6 of the minutes and advised that since the last ASC meeting, discussions had taken place within the Faculty of Management (FM) and it had been agreed that a Faculty Student Experience Committee would be established from 2015/16 academic year and would follow the arrangements used within the Faculty of Health & Social Sciences (HSS). The FM Faculty Student Experience Committee would report to the FM Faculty Academic Standards Committee (FASC) and the FM Faculty Academic Board (FAB).
- 2.1.3 The Faculty of Media & Communication (FM&C) and Faculty of Science & Technology (SciTech) would also follow the same arrangement moving forward.
- 2.1.4 Prof Rosser advised that the HSS Student Experience Committee meetings were divided into two one hour sessions. The first hour of the meeting allowed staff to raise and address any issues which had arisen, and the second hour was used for staff development and to also allow staff members to discuss innovation and any changes required which would benefit students' experiences at BU. This meeting was a Faculty version of the main Education and Student Experience Committee (ESEC) meeting. Staff members also have the opportunity to formally comment on the HSS Education and Student Experience Plan (ESEP).

2.2 Matters Arising (ASC-1415-99)

- 2.2.1 Minute 3.2.18 – School/Faculty Quality Report – School of Tourism
Action Completed: Both actions had been completed and the outcomes were formally recorded on the School Quality Report Action Plan 2014/15.
- 2.2.2 Minute 3.1.5 - Student Population Statistics
Action Completed: Dr Sheridan had updated the UG award classification graph on page 6 of the papers with the correct years and the updated presentation was available to view at: [I:\Academic Services\Public\Student Administration \(SA\)\Academic Business Intelligence \(ABI\)\Academic Standards Reporting\ASC 14-15\February ASC 2015.pptx](I:\Academic Services\Public\Student Administration (SA)\Academic Business Intelligence (ABI)\Academic Standards Reporting\ASC 14-15\February ASC 2015.pptx)
- 2.2.3 Minute 3.1.6 - Student Population Statistics
Action Ongoing: Members had requested that Dr Sheridan analyse the tariff points of full time UG leavers versus the tariff points of qualifiers, however as the ASC dataset contains qualifiers only, a new dataset containing leavers and their tariff points would be produced for the May ASC meeting.
- 2.2.4 Minute 3.1.7 - Student Population Statistics
Action Completed: In 2012/13, 85% of postgraduate taught entrants were awarded a Masters degree, 5% received a PG Diploma, 5% were continuing on their programme and 3% left without an award. Members requested Dr Sheridan to provide a breakdown by School and Programme in order to investigate this information in more detail at Faculty level. Dr Sheridan provided a pivot table containing the data presented to ASC, together with School and Programme breakdown and was available to view at: [I:\Academic Services\Public\Student Administration \(SA\)\Academic Business Intelligence \(ABI\)\Academic Standards Reporting\ASC 14-15\3\) Outcome\T5 FTPGT NE Outcome.xlsx](I:\Academic Services\Public\Student Administration (SA)\Academic Business Intelligence (ABI)\Academic Standards Reporting\ASC 14-15\3) Outcome\T5 FTPGT NE Outcome.xlsx)
- 2.2.5 Minute 3.1.8 - Student Population Statistics
Action Completed: Dr Sheridan was requested to provide a breakdown of PGR completion rates to programme level. Dr Sheridan confirmed that the data behind the figures in the presentation had been forwarded to the Graduate School, and disseminated onwards to Faculties in order that further discussion could take place at FASC meetings. The distribution of this information would now become a formal process. The information was available to view at: [I:\Academic Services\Public\Student Administration \(SA\)\Academic Business Intelligence \(ABI\)\Academic Standards Reporting\ASC 14-15\3\) Outcome\Doctoral Completion Rates.xlsx](I:\Academic Services\Public\Student Administration (SA)\Academic Business Intelligence (ABI)\Academic Standards Reporting\ASC 14-15\3) Outcome\Doctoral Completion Rates.xlsx)

As the Faculties were not aware that they had received the breakdown of PGR completion rates to programme level, it was agreed that the ASC Clerk would circulate the report to DDEPPs.

Action: Clerk

[Post meeting note: The ASC Clerk circulated all of Dr Sheridan's reports listed in the Actions Log to DDEPPs on 15th April 2015 for information].

It was noted that the Graduate School had forwarded the report to DDRPPs as there was a requirement through the delivery planning process to resolve certain issues within Faculties.

2.2.6 Minute 3.1.9 - Student Population Statistics

Action Ongoing: Prof Zhang commented that for 2010/11 entry, not all PGR students had completed; two of the three cohorts were yet to complete. Dr Sheridan has provided a breakdown by Faculty (as above for item 3.1.8). Scholarships data would be sourced from the Graduate School to match with the completion data for the May ASC meeting.

2.2.7 Minute 3.1.10 – Student Population Statistics

Action Completed: The numbers quoted for 2008/09 were students in their seventh year of study and were near the end of their formal registration period for part time students. It was therefore likely that a number of students would be due to be examined between February 2015 and January 2016. It was believed that most of the students would be BU staff members. Dr Sheridan had provided a list of raw data to Faculties of those 2008/09 part time continuers whose registration period may soon expire (as above for item 3.1.8).

2.2.8 Minute 3.2.10 – Review of the Independent Marking Procedure

Action Completed: The papers for this agenda item were circulated by email to ASC members on 5 February 2015 for comment, due to time constraints at the meeting.

2.2.9 Minute 3.4.9 – Annual Review of Standard Assessment Regulations and associated procedural guidance

Action Completed: The papers for this agenda item were circulated by email to ASC members on 5 February 2015 for comment due to time constraints at the meeting, with the relevant sections being presented to Senate in June 2015 for approval.

2.2.10 Minute 4.1.2 – Reconsideration of Professional Doctorate Titles

Action Ongoing: An update was not available for this meeting, therefore the action would carry forward to the next meeting on 14th May 2015.

2.2.11 Minute 4.2.9.4 – FM&C Proposal: Change of Title from MA Media Arts Practice to MA Creative Media Arts: Data and Innovation

Action Completed: Ms Symonds agreed to discuss with EDQ how best to manage proposed changes to course titles that occur during the programme evaluation process. Ms Symonds had clarified the process and the proposed changes that occur at any point during the programme evaluation process could/would be remitted to the next meeting of ASC.

2.3 **Ratification of Chair's Action – FM&C Proposal: Change of Title from MA Media Arts Practice to MA Creative Media Arts: Data and Innovation (ASC-1415-100)**

2.3.1 The Committee **ratified** the Chair's Action to approve the change of title from MA Media Arts Practice to MA Creative Media Arts: Data and Innovation.

3 PART ONE: FOR DISCUSSION - INSTITUTIONAL MONITORING

3.1 EDQ Annual Report 2013/14 (ASC-1415-101)

3.1.1 Mr Rogers introduced the EDQ Annual Report which had brought together a number of key areas of activity from the 2013/14 cycle, including Evaluation Events: Review, approval, closure and modifications; Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRB) activity; Annual Monitoring and Central ARFM Audit; External Examining arrangements and Academic Offences.

3.1.2 There were currently 375 programmes across the University and its Partners, compared to 421 in 2012/13. 23% of all BU programmes were delivered at Partners, compared to 25% in 2012/13 and there were 53 frameworks in operation. The key developments relating to partner provision was closure of the partnerships with Bridgwater College, Met Film School and the BBC Academy. The proposed partnership with Pearson College Ltd had not been progressed.

- 3.1.3 Work had been carried out by EDQ to streamline certain aspects of the programme evaluation processes with the aim of ensuring a more consistent approach across programmes/Faculties. The Briefing and Resources document had been streamlined and templates had been further developed to ensure only critical information was provided. A Design Phase Aide Memoire and a Review for Closure briefing document template had also been introduced. A Framework Evaluation Checklist for Faculties had been created which detailed who/where responsibility for evaluation activities/actions was placed. Members requested that EDQ provide guidelines for External Panel Members which explained that provision may include units which were already in approval in other programmes.

[Post meeting note: Mr Rogers confirmed that the information for External Panel Members was already included in ARPP 4C – External Panels Members: Procedure. Mr Rogers would pass on the feedback to the Faculty Support and Curriculum Development work stream in EDQ for consideration during the forthcoming review of the evaluation event process].

- 3.1.4 The number of programmes reviewed had decreased during the 2014/15 academic year, which was possibly due to the events in the previous year making changes to align with the new academic structure. The volume of activity with regards to partner provision had remained stable and the number of events had slightly reduced but remained higher than previous years. On a positive note, the number of events with PSRB involvement had increased steadily. The number of modifications had increased to a four year high due to the updates of units or change to unit titles; much of this activity reflected the desire of academic staff for units to remain fit for purpose in response to developments in the subject area and in response to feedback.

- 3.1.5 2013/14 saw an increase in the number of programme closures undertaken as part of the evaluation process. Dr Oliver questioned how many programmes had closed which had never recruited to as a huge amount of resources are used to develop and market new programmes. Members agreed they would be interested to see this information included within Section 3.5 moving forward. It was noted that it was not always a decision made by BU to close a programme, but was, in some instances, a decision made by a Partner College.

[Post meeting note: Mr Rogers would provide the numbers of closed programmes which had not recruited moving forward. The instruction had been added to the Internal Guidance Note].

- 3.1.6 Members also suggested they would like to see information regarding the number of programmes which ran for one year and then closed. It was recognised that the closure of a programme should not necessarily be seen as a failure, and may reflect a reorganisation of the programme portfolio.

[Post meeting note: Mr Rogers would provide the numbers of programmes which run for one year and then close. The instruction had been added to the Internal Guidance Note].

- 3.1.7 There were variations in the way that Design Phases were taking place and managed across Faculties which had been identified by Ms Symonds and shared with DDEPPs in September 2014. These variations would be kept under review. The areas being monitored were the variation of administrative support allocated to quality assurance and enhancement processes in Faculties; the extra care required for modifications which involve cross-Faculty provision and the requirement that Faculties need to pay particular attention to transitional arrangements for current students, as there has been an increase in the number of issues arising post-review. The development of the Design Phase Aide Memoire aimed to help with management of the meeting itself. Ms Symonds would be holding a further meeting with DDEPPs shortly and these issues would be discussed.

- 3.1.8 Mr Rogers recapped Section 3.7 and provided an update of the previous issues arising from Evaluation Event activity in the 2012/13 academic year.

- 3.1.9 Section 4.0 – The increase in the number of relationships with Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies was very positive. There had been a steady increase in the number of professional bodies linked to BU, and the number of programmes linked to more than one professional body was also increasing. Members noted the significant amount of work created for administrative staff when programmes linked to professional bodies.

- 3.1.10 A central University database for PSRBs was in place which should be regularly updated by Faculties. Unfortunately the database was not always being updated in a timely fashion, therefore EDQ now send regular emails to Faculties to remind them of this requirement and this was also being discussed at Academic Administration Team (AAT) meetings.
- 3.1.11 The Annual Review of Framework Monitoring (ARFMs) was generally positive with a number of good Framework Leader reports and a number of areas where the process was working particularly well. However, there were a few areas where improvements could be made in order to align with the process. It was noted there had been issues with Weymouth College submitting suitable ARFMs for a number of Schools/Faculties. Steps had been taken to attempt to rectify the situation.
- 3.1.12 Dr Ryland was concerned about Table 5 of the report, in particular the column titled 'ARFMs Submitted on Time'. Dr Ryland advised that the figure quoted for the School of Tourism (ST) in this column was incorrect as the School of Tourism had two cycles for ARFM submission as there were too many reports to discuss in a single meeting, therefore all ST ARFMs were submitted on time. Mr Rogers agreed to update Table 5 accordingly.

[Post meeting note: Mr Rogers updated the Table 5 of the report accordingly and the updated report was circulated to members on 16 April 2015].

- 3.1.13 Members discussed the ARFMs from Partner Colleges which had either not been submitted or had been received but deemed 'not fit for purpose' and therefore returned for further work to be carried out. It was thought that this was the result of staffing changes at the Partners. It was suggested that more support from Academic Partnerships would be appreciated by Faculties.
- 3.1.14 Members suggested that the Unit Monitoring Report (UMR) be amended to include reference to Mid Unit Student Evaluation (MUSE) as the UMR was due to be revised to include a requirement to comment on unit statistics (pass/fail rates) over a three year period that Dr Sheridan was making available. Members also suggested that a carefully worded explanation be provided in the new MUSE section of the report which would clarify to staff members why the MUSE section needed to be completed. The newly updated UMR would be available for the forthcoming Assessment Boards.

Action: RR

- 3.1.15 Following a discussion regarding Section 6.1, External Examining, members suggested that the opening paragraph be reformatted moving forward to reflect the comments made by external examiners in a more positive light as there had been many commended actions made by external examiners in their reports.

Action: RR

- 3.1.16 Mr Rogers asked the Committee whether Tables 6a and 6b were useful to members and whether the information should continue to be provided within the report. It was agreed that this information was no longer required and therefore would not be provided moving forward.

- 3.1.17 Some external examiner reports included suggestions/observations which, after consideration, were not taken forward by Faculties. Whilst external examiners would have received an explanation for the basis for this decision, in some cases, the same issues were repeatedly included in external examiner reports and this was recorded as an 'Unresolved issue'. Ms Symonds reminded the Committee that observations received from external examiners were to be considered and a response provided, but BU is not obliged to make any of the suggested changes if they are not appropriate to our provision.

- 3.1.18 It was suggested that a mechanism be put in place to allow Faculties to conclude the observations. Ms Symonds agreed that EDQ would consider how to take this forward and if appropriate a note would be added to the external examiner report template.

Action: CS

- 3.1.19 The number of Faculty/School Academic Offences Panels/Boards held during 2013/14 had continued to decrease, although the number of University Academic Offences had increased. Now that students have the opportunity to submit their work through Turnitin once before they formally submit their work, this may have contributed to the improved figures, as well as the introduction of more skilfully worded Assignment Briefs.
- 3.1.20 The Committee thanked Mr Rogers for the informative EDQ Annual Report acknowledging the extensive work required in collating all the information.

4 PART TWO – FOR APPROVAL AND ENDORSEMENT

4.1 Fusion 1 Postgraduate Taught Project Report (ASC-1415-102)

- 4.1.1 Prof MacRury introduced his report and asked the Committee to recognise and support the new initiative.
- 4.1.2 As part of the initiative to promote inter-Faculty programme development within BU, Prof MacRury and the project group had carried out a significant amount of background work to make the proposal feasible. The focus would be on Postgraduate taught curriculum development. The new Fusion 1 Building would be the first part of the BU estate which would not belong to an individual Faculty or Service and was intended to be a 'collaborative space'.
- 4.1.3 The report provided was a preface to a suite of five PGT programmes which would be presented to the next ASC meeting to consider and approve for development. A Steering Group had been established and would meet regularly in order to guide and manage the work to be carried out. The intention was for the Steering Group to report to ASC.
- 4.1.4 The framework for the new programmes would be housed within the Centre for Excellence in Media Practice (CEMP).
- 4.1.5 It was agreed that the Fusion 1 Building development should be used as a catalyst to innovative programme development. The development of the new PGT programmes would show the very best of what BU could achieve when Faculties work collaboratively. An example of the new proposed programmes included: MSc Apps Development, MA Sports Media, E-health, Health Leadership/ Management and possibly Digital Humanities.
- 4.1.6 Prof Rosser agreed that the proposal was very aspirational, however she was concerned that resources would need to be completely assured when drawing them from the Faculties. Prof Rosser also suggested that a staff member in a leadership position from each Faculty be included in the management arrangements. This person would need to be familiar with University processes, including quality assurance.
- 4.1.7 Members agreed that resources were a crucial issue. It was important that the proposals were included in Faculty Delivery Plans, and that authorisation of the Deans/owning Faculty was essential in order for the proposals to go forward and to ensure resources were in place.
- 4.1.8 Members agreed there would be problems encountered with the allocation of finances with shared units. This issue had been a problem within BU for a number of years, but would have to be resolved.
- 4.1.9 The report had recommended that there would be four Steering Group meetings per year. It was suggested that for such an important project, the Steering Group should meet more regularly in the early stages to ensure everything goes according to plan and in a timely manner. The project would need to be driven forward and the introduction of a Project Manager would be essential to the success of the project. The Project Manager would ensure resources were in place and the appropriate staff members were leading each programme. With the huge expenditure on a new building, it was important that some funding should be allocated to this activity to help ensure the project was a success and was completed on time. ASC was asked to make a number of decisions.

4.1.10 **Approved:** The Committee agreed to the proposed formation of a Steering Group to oversee the delivery of the programmes.

4.1.11 **Approved:** The Committee agreed that the proposed course structures appeared appropriate. The future ASC programme proposals would refer to this structure.

4.1.12 **Approved:** The Committee understood the scope and limitations of the project and its place alongside 'business as usual' in BU's validation processes.

4.2 Quality Assurance and Enhancement Group (QAEG) – New Nominations Received (ASC-1415-103)

4.2.1 The nominations listed below were **approved** for QAEG membership.

- Anastasios Theofilou, Faculty of Media & Communication
- Natalia Lavrushkina, Faculty of Management
- Amanda Jones-Harris, AECC
- Josie Harris, Faculty of Management
- Huseyin Dogan, Faculty of Science & Technology

4.3 Kingston Maurward College – Shared Delivery/Programme (ASC-1415-104)

4.3.1 The proposed partnership with Kingston Maurward College (KMC) was with a known Partner College. It was relatively low risk as BU had been associated with KMC for many years. The proposed partnership programme had been very carefully considered and no issues had been identified. The proposed programme would follow the shared delivery model.

4.3.2 The BSc (Hons) Marine Ecology and Conservation Top Up degree was being proposed in order to allow students to maintain links with KMC, utilise their specialist resources but also benefit from teaching at BU and supervision for dissertations by marine scientists at BU.

4.3.3 **Approved:** The Committee approved the Shared Delivery proposal for development.

4.3.4 **Approved:** The Committee considered and approved the Due Diligence report for Kingston Maurward College.

4.4 New Programme/Framework Developments Proposals

4.4.1 SciTech Proposal: New Programme – BSc (Hons) Marine Ecology and Conservation (ASC-1415-105)

4.4.1.1 The proposed BSc (Hons) Marine Ecology and Conservation programme would provide an additional top up route for students on the FdSc Marine Ecology and Conservation programme at Kingston Maurward College (KMC). The current top up routes were not popular with students and less than 50% of students were opting to continue their studies on these programmes. Surveys carried out with current students had indicated that the proposed programme was popular with 90% of students indicating they were likely to opt for the BSc (Hons) Marine Ecology and Conservation Top Up programme.

4.4.1.2 Students studying the programme would visit KMC on one (or two) days per week and there would be only a very small additional cost to BU as the BU units were part of other programmes. It was noted that BU would not pay for the cost of transportation of the students to BU, therefore this cost would need to be included in the marketing literature. The programme would start in September 2016.

4.4.1.3 **Approved:** The Committee approved the BSc (Hons) Marine Ecology and Conservation programme for development.

4.4.2 SciTech Proposal: New Programme – MSc Marine and Freshwater Management (ASC-1415-106)

4.4.2.1 The proposed MSc Marine and Freshwater Management programme fits well with staff expertise, student demand and also has a strong fit to the proposed new framework. There would be a potential feeder route from the FdSc Marine Ecology and Conservation programme and the top up BSc for this programme. The proposed programme would target the skills needed for employment in this sector e.g. managing the environment. There would be some shared units with existing BU Masters programmes. The expected start date would be September/October 2017.

4.4.2.2 **Approved:** The Committee approved the MSc Marine and Freshwater Management programme for development.

4.4.3 SciTech Proposal: New Programme – BSc (Hons) Archaeological and Forensic Sciences (ASC-1415-107)

4.4.3.1 The proposed BSc (Hons) Archaeological and Forensic Sciences programme was proposed due to the redevelopment of the framework and would replace the existing Archaeological, Anthropological and Forensic Science degree (AAFS). This programme would offer academic depth in the two subject areas. The existing programme had more breadth but experience had indicated that students preferred a more specific programme; this was evidenced by some students transferring out of this programme into more specific programmes at the end of their first year.

4.4.3.2 Members agreed that those students who had already applied for the AAFS programme should be advised as soon as possible.

4.4.3.3 **Approved:** The Committee approved the BSc (Hons) Archaeological and Forensic Sciences programme for development.

5 PART THREE – FOR NOTE

5.1 Partner Quality Reports (ASC-1415-108)

BU International College Quality Report – Summary of Cross-Programme Themes – Academic Year 2013/14 and Action Plan

5.1.1 Ms Symonds introduced the BU International College Quality Report which had been produced in line with Kaplan requirements. This report had previously been discussed by the Joint Academic Board and was presented to the Committee for note.

5.1.2 **Noted:** The Committee noted the BU International College Quality Report.

Weymouth College

5.1.3 The Weymouth College Quality Report had been delayed being presented to ASC as the report had been returned for further work to be carried out.

5.1.4 **Noted:** The Committee noted the Weymouth College Quality Report.

Defence School of Communications and Information Systems (DSCIS)

5.1.5 The Defence School of Communications and Information Systems (DSCIS) Quality Report had been delayed being presented to ASC as the report had been returned for further work to be carried out.

5.1.6 **Noted:** The Committee noted the Defence School of Communications and Information Systems (DSCIS) Quality Report.

5.2 The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (October 2014) (ASC-1415-109)

5.2.1 *The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies* was republished in October 2014 and formed part of *The UK Quality Code for Higher Education*. This version had brought together *The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications of Degree-Awarding Bodies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ)* and *The Framework for Qualifications of higher Education Institutions in Scotland*.

5.2.2 EDQ compared the new document to the earlier version and noted that much of the text was identical or very similar. The key requirements of the framework, specifically the Qualification Descriptors, remain unchanged. Ms Symonds noted that BU processes require alignment with the earlier document and as this new FHEQ was almost entirely unchanged no changes were required to BU processes.

5.2.3 **Noted:** The Committee noted *The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies* document.

5.3 Sector Consultations Update (ASC-1415-110)

5.3.1 The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) had recently issued a range of consultations over the last few months. BU had provided a response to each of the documents. In addition, The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) was in the process of reviewing quality assurance arrangements for HE. A response to the discussion document was submitted and staff at BU had attended discussion meetings. A further consultation document would be published in the next few months and more information would be provided in due course.

5.3.2 The Committee **noted** the report.

5.4 Partnership Agreements (ASC-1415-111)

5.4.1 The Committee **noted** the report.

5.5 Completed Framework/Programme Reviews, Validations and Reviews for Closure (ASC-1415-112)

5.5.1 The Committee **noted** the report.

5.6 Pending External Examiner Appointments (ASC-1415-113)

5.6.1 The Committee **noted** the report.

5.7 External Examiner Nominations and Examination Teams for Research Degrees (ASC-1415-114)

5.7.1 The Committee **noted** the report.

5.8 BU Institutional Review Report for Pearson (Edexcel) (ASC-1415-115)

5.8.1 The Committee **noted** the report.

5.9 Kingston Maurward College Partner Review Report and Action Plan (ASC-1415-116)

5.9.1 The Committee **noted** the report.

6 REPORTING COMMITTEES

6.1 International and UK Partnerships Committee Minutes (ASC-1415-117)

6.1.1 The minutes of the IUPC meeting held on 28 January 2015 (confirmed) were **noted**.

6.2 Partnership Board Minutes (ASC-1415-118)

6.2.1 The following Partnership Board minutes were **noted**.

- Sony Partnership Board minutes of 26 January 2015 (unconfirmed)
- Weymouth College Partnership Board minutes of 12 February 2015 (unconfirmed)

6.3 Quality Assurance Standing Group Minutes (ASC-1415-119)

6.3.1 The minutes of the Quality Assurance Standing Group meeting of 23 March 2015 were **noted**.

6.4 Faculty Academic Standards Committee Minutes (ASC-1415-120)

6.4.1 The following FASC minutes were **noted**.

- Faculty of Health & Social Sciences FASC minutes of 14 January 2015 (unconfirmed)
- Faculty of Media & Communication FASC minutes of 14 January 2015 (unconfirmed)
- Faculty of Management (Business School) FASC minutes of 11 February 2015 (unconfirmed)
- Faculty of Science & Technology FASC minutes of 21 January 2015 (unconfirmed)
- Faculty of Management (School of Tourism) FASC minutes of 25 February 2015 (unconfirmed)

7. GRADUATE SCHOOL, SCHOOL ACADEMIC BOARD MINUTES (ASC-1415-121)

7.1 The minutes of the Graduate School, School Academic Board meeting of 25 February 2015 (unconfirmed) were **noted**.

8. AECC ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT & QUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES (ASC-1415-122)

8.1 The minutes of the AECC Academic Development & Quality Committee meeting of 11 February 2015 (unconfirmed) were **noted**.

9. JOINT ACADEMIC BOARD MINUTES (ASC-1415-123)

9.1 The minutes of the Joint Academic Board meeting of 27 January 2015 (unconfirmed) were **noted**.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 There was no other business.

11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 14th May 2015 - 9.00am to 12.00pm in the Board Room