



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

30 October 2017

MINUTES

Present:

Professor Anthony Smith (Chair);

Dr Tracey Allen; Ms Sarah Al-Aride; Ms Stefanie Anyadi; Ms Wendy Appleby; Dr Simon Banks; Dr Ben Clifford; Mr Ian Davis; Dr Julie Evans; Ms June Hedges; Dr Arne Hofmann; Professor Tim McHugh; Ms Blathnaid Mahony; Dr Helen Matthews; Mr Derfel Owen; Professor Norbert Pachler; Dr Aeli Roberts; Dr Mike Rowson; Dr Hazel Smith; Dr Fiona Strawbridge; Ms Olga Thomas; Professor Angie Wade.

In attendance: Ms Lizzie Vinton (Secretary).

Apologies were received from: Mr Mark Crawford; Professor Dilly Fung; Dr Clare Goudy; Dr Christine Hoffman; Ms Aiysha Qureshi; Professor Eva Sorensen.

Key to abbreviations

ARQASC	Academic Regulations and Quality Assurance Sub-Committee
EdCom	Education Committee
FTC	Faculty Teaching Committee
IOE	Institute of Education
LSA	Late Summer Assessment
NSS	National Student Survey
PGT	Postgraduate Taught
PTES	Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey
PMAP	Programme and Module Approval Panel
SSCC	Staff Student Consultative Committee
UG	Undergraduate

PART I: PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- 1 **TERMS OF REFERENCE, CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP 2017-18**
 - 1.1 Noted - There were no major changes to the Terms of Reference for EdCom or its sub-committees. The Chair welcomed the new members to the Committee.
 - 1.2 **Approved** the Education Committee Terms of Reference, Constitution and Membership 2017-18 at EDCOM 1-01 (17-18).
 - 1.3 **Approved** the Terms of Reference, Constitution and Membership 2017-18 for the Academic Partnerships Review Group, the Academic Regulations and Quality Assurance Sub Committee, the Programme and Module Approval Panels and the Quality Review Sub Committee at EDCOM 1-02 (17-18) to EDCOM 1-05 (17-18).

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

2.1 **Approved** the minutes of the meeting held 25 July 2017, with the following amendment to minute 80.3:

- b) Six different models were therefore proposed - three each for 3 year and 4 year degree programmes matched in three pairs as Models 1 and 4, 2 and 5 and 3 and 6. Models 1 and 4 reflected better where condonement was possible, whereas Models 2 and 3 and 5 and 6 would not allow condonement.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3A **Anonymous Marking** (*EdCom Minute 78A, 25 July 2017*)

3A.1 Noted - The Director of Academic Services had been talking to Faculties about overcoming potential barriers to implementing . Consultation was still ongoing and the Director hoped to bring some proposals back to EdCom later in the year.

4 ACTION TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING

4.1 Noted The Chair had approved changes to the regulations in order to meet the deadline for the annual publication of the Academic Manual. This included the Modern Foreign Language Requirement (addition of British Sign Language,) extending the sample in second-marking (in response to concerns from External Examiners) and new Module Selection deadlines.

PART II: MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION
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5 UCL ACADEMIC MANUAL, CHAPTER 2: QUALIFICATIONS AND CREDIT 759 47 reW*n2 4731'

- 5.6 **Approved in Principle** The UCL Qualifications and Credit Framework 2018-19, subject to the amendment in 5.4 above, and subject to potential minor amendments raised through the forthcoming Programme Summaries data collection.

6 CONDONEMENT REGULATIONS 2017-18

- 6.1 **Noted** - At its meeting on 13 June 2017, EdCom approved a recommendation from ARQASC that, from 2017-18, students who met the condonement criteria at the first attempt would not be offered the opportunity to resit. Following considerable lobbying from a small number of representatives within the academic community, ARQASC reconsidered the original recommendation at its October 2017 meeting. ARQASC agreed that an in-session amendment to the regulations be put forward to Education Committee for approval.
- 6.2 **Approved** Following a detailed discussion of the options presented in the paper, EdCom agreed the following amendment to the main UCL Undergraduate Progression and Award regulations for 2017-18:

some practices had, after careful consideration, not been included.

- 7.2 Noted - At this stage, EdCom was being asked to give **approval in principle** for two reasons:
- a) To allow Faculties and Departments to consider the final set of proposed changes, ask questions and seek clarifications and, if necessary, submit requests for further consideration. Whilst ARQASC would want to avoid fundamental changes to underlying principles, some points may benefit from clarification or further detail.
 - b) To inform the Programme Summaries data collection over the coming months. This exercise will also allow programmes time to ask questions, consider the changes in detail and request permitted variations which will be formalised in the Programme Summaries.
- 7.3 Noted - Any additional issues raised during the Programme Summaries exercise would be discussed by ARQASC and, where appropriate, incorporated into a final version of the regulations for formal approval at EdCom later in the year.

Taught Postgraduate and Graduate condonement

- 7.4 Noted - The proposed change of decision around Taught Postgraduate and Graduate condonement

Mathematical and Physical Sciences	<i>tbc</i>
Medical Sciences	
MBBS:	Not classified/ Non-modular regulations
iBSc:	Scheme A
Other Honours Degrees:	Scheme A
Population Health Sciences	Scheme A
Social and Historical Sciences	Scheme A

7.8 Of the outstanding Faculties, some Departments wanted to use Scheme B or C for reasons (pedagogical reasons). Faculties were however asked to note that these schemes had been specifically designed for professionally-accredited programmes which do not permit condonement. If used, students could be unfairly disadvantaged in comparison to other UCL students, because they would not be able to

have chosen to be condoned instead of resitting. Non-attendance was higher amongst

appropriate.

- c) Once the data had been collated, it would be possible to produce reports from the new Academic Model, for example lists of non-condonable modules.
- d) Condonement has to be determined at programme level. This means that a module might be non-condonable on one programme but not another.

7.13 Noted - Whilst the discussion did not lead to a full consensus amongst all members of EdCom, the committee did agree on the importance of s academic standards and of establishing a consistent approach for all students across UCL. Members were also keen to ensure that the proposed transitional clause was developed and included to ensure that students were not disadvantaged by the changeover in regulations. The new regulations would also need to be monitored for a number of years to evaluate the actual impact on student outcomes.

7.14 **Agreed** - From 2018-19, students at all levels of study who meet the condonement criteria at the first attempt will be condoned and will not be required or permitted to resit.

PART III: OTHER MATTERS