School of Oriental and African Studies
Faculty of Law and Social Sciences
Faculty Learning and Teaching Committee

Thursday 26th April, 2007
9.00am in Room 116

MINUTES

Members:

Ms Sonja Ruehl  (Associate Dean – Postgraduate)
Prof. Robert Ash  (Associate Dean – Undergraduate)
Dr Alfredo Saad-Filho*  Development Studies Department representative
Dr Sanzhu Zhu  The School of Law representative
Dr Laleh Khalili  Politics Department representative
Dr. Helen MacNaughtan  Financial and Management Studies Department representative
Dr. Graham Smith  Economics Department representative

In Attendance:
Mr Nicholas Page  Deputy Registrar
Mrs Barbara Spina  Faculty Librarian
Ms Wangari Muoria-Sal  Committee Secretary

* = not present – apologies received

46. Minutes:
Approved: The minutes of the last meeting held 8th February, 2007 were APPROVED.

46.1 Clarification was sought, and given, that point 30.2 /30.3 did not include the MSc Quantitative Finance, whose syllabus was still under development.

47. Matters Arising:

47.1 Part 2 LLM Degree Programme Proposal:
Noted: Part 2 section 36.1 – comments and signatures received from Support Services.

47.2 LLM Course Proposals:
Noted: FLTC was also asked to NOTE the amendments made to the 32 Course Proposals appendices M1-M32 – as seen and agreed at FLTC on February 8th.

48. Postgraduate Programme Reviews:
FLTC CONSIDERED Postgraduate Programme Reviews from all Departments, as in Appendix C to Appendix M, plus MA ICLS (tabled). It was NOTED that the Associate Dean would prepare a summary report to the Faculty Board which would also be NOTED at the next FLTC.

49. Deletion of Undergraduate courses:
FLTC NOTED the deletion of the following undergraduate courses, necessitated by staff changes, and agreed to RECOMMEND APPROVAL to Faculty Board:

Development Studies:
• 151010023 BA Development in the Era of Globalization,

Politics and International Studies:
• 153400027 Japanese Politics
• 15 3400050 Modern Political Ideologies

50. Deletion of Postgraduate courses:
FLTC NOTED the deletion of the following Postgraduate courses, mainly necessitated by staff
changes, and agreed to RECOMMEND APPROVAL to Faculty Board:

50.2 Development Studies:
- 15PDSH011 - Children and Development
- 15PDSH007 - Globalisation and Development (incorporated into new core course)

50.3 Economics:
- 15PEC046 – Comparative Political Economy
- 15PEC012 – Cost Benefit Analysis for Developing Countries
- 15PEC015 – Economics of Industry
- 15PEC001 – Economics, Social Theory and Economic Development

50.4 New Postgraduate LLM Course Proposals:
Further LLM courses for the new LLM SOAS programme were CONSIDERED:
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Law and Social Movements
- Law, Institutions and Political Economy of Transition
- Legal Regulation of the Music Industry*
- Modern Chinese Law
- Law and International Inequality: Critical Legal Analysis of Political Economy from Colonialism to globalisation (PG)

Three of these replaced previous LLM courses. It was noted that Legal Regulations of the Music Industry* was a SOAS and Kings course and held at Kings, co-taught by SOAS and Kings staff members – therefore no MOU was required. With minor amendments, FLTC were happy to RECOMMEND APPROVAL to Faculty Board.

50.5 Other New Postgraduate Course Proposals:
FLTC CONSIDERED the following:
- Defims: Advanced Japanese for Business and Management (PG)
- Development Studies: Security (PG)
- Development Studies: Problems of Development in the Middle East and North Africa (PG)

50.6 New Undergraduate Course Proposals:
The following new undergraduate course proposals were CONSIDERED:
- NYUL: History of Southern Africa (available to all SOAS students as a floater)
- Law: Law and Institutions of Contemporary China
- Development Studies: Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Development

FLTC were happy to RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO Faculty Board.

50.7 Amendments to Undergraduate Course Proposals:
FLTC CONSIDERED the amendments to Law in a Globalised World 15 520 0052, which would affect 2006/07 session only. This was due to unpredictable problems which arose during the teaching of the course this session only – eg late return of first course work and the rescheduling of 6 classes during the year. FLTC agreed to RECOMMEND APPROVAL to Faculty Board.

50.8 Amendments to Postgraduate Course Proposals:
The FLTC CONSIDERED the Postgraduate course amendments (Appendix J.1) to State and Society in Asia and Africa 15PPOC008. It was NOTED that the amendments to the course weighting were retroactive since at least 2001. FLTC to RECOMMEND APPROVAL to Faculty Board.

50.9 Amendment to Grading criteria for Distance Learning:
The grading criteria for distance learning Masters programmes in the Centre for Financial and Management Studies have been amended, to reflect the changes made to the on-campus programmes. FLTC to RECOMMEND Faculty Board to NOTE.

50.10 Programme Specification for two-subject degrees with a year abroad
Dr Marten attended the FLTC to speak to his proposal (Appendix L.1), expressing QAA’s concern for students who were doing a four year language combined degree. It was NOTED that students who returned after a year abroad of language study, were not expected to take a language unit in their
final year at SOAS. Dr Marten told the FLTC members that students achieved only a pass or fail from their year abroad studies – and this did not count towards their SOAS degree, but only ensured progression to 4th year. It was therefore agreed that in order for Language Students to graduate with a SOAS two-subject degree including a language, four year students should be treated as three year students – and would be expected to take a language unit in their final year. FLTC were happy to RECOMMEND Dr Marten’s proposal to the Faculty Board for APPROVAL.

58. **Written Work that Falls Over Assigned Word Limits:**
   FLTC CONSIDERED the paper which discussed imposing penalties on over length written assessments. Overall FLTC members felt that imposing such a limit would be too draconian and did not support the proposal. Members noted that existing Masters Regulations already permit over length work to be penalised; though in the Faculty, most students conform to the required word limit. However, it was suggested that regularly notifying students of the need to keep to word-limits, before deadlines, would be helpful.

59. **Briefing procedures for new teaching staff:**
   Mr Nick Page, The Deputy Registrar’s, recommendation to provide all new teaching staff with a copy of the Course Proposal form for each course being taught was well received. FLTC were happy to RECOMMEND APPROVAL of this procedure to the Faculty Board.

60. **Any Other Business:**