

STAFF-STUDENT COMMITTEE Minutes

A meeting of Philosophy Staff and Students was held for on 30th October 2018, at 1.05 p.m. in the Philosophy Faculty Board Room, Sidgwick Site

Present: Senthuran Bhuvanendra (PhD), Clare Dickinson (Principal Secretary), Charlie Evans (Graduate Secretary) Dr John Filling (Undergraduate Coordinator), Jo Harcus (Librarian), Professor Rae Langton, Cathy Mason (PhD), Sahanika Ratnayake (PhD), Heather Sanderson (Faculty Administrator), Anna Simpson (Administrative Assistant).

- 1 Senthuran Bhuvanendra put himself forward to chair the meeting.
- 2 Starring of items was invited.
- 3 No apologies for absence were received.
- 4 The minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2018 were approved.

Minute 7, Diversifying the curriculum.

John Filling commented on the positive progress made, including substantial updates to reading lists, to address authors and topics. Thanks were extended to Jo Harcus for her work on the reading lists and identifying new resources.

(No students attended the Open meeting on 16 October 2018, so there were no minutes for this meeting.)

5 Staff-Student Committee

a) A short outline of the way the Staff-Student Committee functions was circulated **for information**, and **any questions**.

b) Year Delegates on the Staff-Student Committee

Volunteers were sought from all Parts of the Tripos and from amongst the graduates. In practice not all students would wish to attend all meetings but it was hoped/expected that at least two delegates from each year would regularly attend. It was explained that students who agreed to be representatives for their year group would perform a different function from the elected Faculty Board Representatives (see below for more information on elections of Student Representatives).

The following graduate students agreed at the meeting to be Year Delegates from 31st October 2018 until the Open Meeting in the Michaelmas Term 2019:

Representing Graduates:	Senthuran Bhuvanendra (PhD)	HH
	Sahanika Ratnayake (PhD)	N

c) Student Representation Review 2018-19

A letter from the Educational and Student Policy Section was circulated for discussion. 'Fact-finding Questions' about current student representation in Philosophy was also included. The Committee addressed the 'Questions for Discussion' section and it was agreed that Heather Sanderson would formulate the Faculty's response. This would also go to Faculty Board in November.

6 Election of Student Representatives

A guidance document from CUSU was circulated. Students would also be able to access a CUSU produced Faculty Reps Handbook at:

<http://www.cusu.cam.ac.uk/officers/facultyboard/>

It was noted that the elections for student representatives on the Philosophy Faculty Board would be held on **Tuesday 13 November 2018** with the closing of nominations a week earlier on **6 November 2018**.

Clare Dickinson would email a reminder and nomination form to students later in the week. In addition, it was agreed that Clare Dickinson would email lecturers to ask them to publicise the elections and promote student participation.

This year the Faculty would continue to use an online voting system for the student elections. More details about this voting system would be sent to students in due course.

Council representatives

It was noted that all students on the electoral roll would also have the chance to be elected to serve on Councils of the Schools. These elections would use the on-line ballot and would be managed by the Educational and Student Policy (ESP) Section. The date has yet to be confirmed by the Council of the Schools, but it is likely that elections would take place towards the end of November 2018. CUSU and the ESP Section would contact students directly about this.

7 Specimen question papers for Meaning and Formal Methods (Part IA) in the Philosophy Tripos

It was noted that the papers were in production and would be published online shortly. An email would be sent to all Part IA students and DoSs.

8 Faculty of Philosophy – Casimir Lewy Library Committee:

It was noted that the date of the meeting would be announced in due course.

Elections for Student Representatives would take place in November/December, as above. The Library Committee meeting would take place in the Lent Term 2019 to ensure that newly elected Faculty Board Representatives can be present at that meeting.

It was noted that the Library Committee consists of the following members:

The Librarian

The Chair of the Faculty

The Secretary of the Faculty

The Director of Graduate Studies

The Undergraduate Co-ordinator

The Chair of the Staff Student Committee

The two Undergraduate Representatives on the Faculty Board

The Graduate Representative on the Faculty Board

9 Email lists

It was explained that the Faculty has two email lists which are used for publicising events relating to Philosophy – Phil-events, which is for Philosophical events/groups based in Cambridge, and phil-bulletin, which is for philosophical events taking place further afield. Students could find more information on these lists, and subscribe to them by visiting <https://lists.cam.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo> and entering the name of the relevant list.

10 Extended Essays in Part IB/Extended Essays and Dissertations in Part II

It was noted that examples of good work are available for perusal from the library issue desk. There were also several examples on the faculty website under 'Undergraduate Exams'.

Clare Dickinson reminded students that the deadline for application was 12:00 noon on Friday 16 November 2018.

All titles have to be approved by the Chair of Examiners before students leave for the Christmas break.

Students were also asked to note that any student who does not submit their Extended Essay on time, will have no option but to sit the corresponding exam paper. Any student who did not submit their dissertation on time would effectively fail the paper, as the deadline for submitting dissertations was after the final deadline for amending exam entries.

Students were also asked to note details of this upcoming training session:

Research Tools in Philosophy Training – Part IB and Part II

Monday 12th November, 3-4pm, Philosophy Board Room

How to find resources for your extended essays and dissertation.

Students were reminded that a selection of samples of good work of Part IB and Part II extended essays and dissertations are available to view from the Philosophy library issue desk.

11 Sample Answers

Students were reminded that there are now several sample answers to Tripos Exam Questions available on the Faculty website:

<http://www.phil.cam.ac.uk/curr-students/ugrads-exam-folder/sample-answers>

12 Examiners' reports

It was noted that the reports for 2018, including external reports, would be available on the Faculty website under "Examiner reports" by the end of the week:

<https://www.phil.cam.ac.uk/curr-students/exam-reports>

A raven login would be required to access the reports.

13 Discussion Groups for Part IB students:

It was noted that the Faculty Office was in the process of arranging discussion groups for Part IB for the Lent Term 2019 (weeks 2-7). The leaders and topics of the discussion groups would be:

Logic: Kyle Mitchell

Metaphysics & Epistemology: Benjamin Marschall

Ethics: Karamvir Chadha

Early Modern Philosophy: Kyle Mitchell

Greek & Roman Philosophy: Matt Dougherty

Philosophy of Science: Benjamin Marschall

Political Philosophy: Lucy McDonald

Students would be emailed with details and may sign up for as many groups as they wish, but need to bear in mind the additional work involved. Once a student has signed up, it is expected that s/he will attend all the sessions.

14 Lecture questionnaires

Students were encouraged to complete the paper questionnaires, which would be distributed in final lectures in weeks 4, 6 or 8 of Michaelmas Term, depending on the length of the lecture series. Students were also encouraged to complete questionnaires circulated in Discussion Groups and Logic Classes. If any students

missed the final lecture, or did not get the opportunity to complete a questionnaire in their lecture, it was possible to download questionnaires from the Faculty website: <http://www.phil.cam.ac.uk/curr-students/questionnaires/ugrad-questionnaires>

15 Lecture Questionnaires evaluation sheets

Students were reminded that evaluation sheets for completed lecture questionnaires from past years were available for consultation from the Library issue desk.

16 Old Library

New students were reminded that the Old Library was a common area where undergraduate students could meet informally, have coffee/tea and discuss philosophy. Due to the nature of the location discussions would have to be kept fairly quiet because of the various offices adjacent to it. Hot Chocolate and coffee were available to purchase for 60p, and tea for 50p – payment should be placed in the black honesty tin next to the coffee machine. In line with the University's Sustainable Food Policy: (http://www.unicen.cam.ac.uk/files/cambridge_sustainable_food_policy_2016_0.pdf) the hot chocolate, tea and sugar provided in the coffee area are all Fairtrade products. Students were reminded that if they were using one of the mugs provided by the Faculty for their hot drink, they should wash it up and return it to the top of the coffee machine please. It was noted that washing up was not part of the cleaners' job and it would be appreciated if everyone took responsibility for their washing up. The Old Library area should be left as you would wish to find it.

17 Social Committee for undergraduates

It was noted that the Faculty was able to provide some funding for social events for undergraduates. If any students were interested in setting up a social committee, they should contact Heather Sanderson.

18 Graduate Social Events

It was noted that the Faculty was able to provide some funding for social events for graduates, such as the graduate dinner. If any students were interested in setting up a social committee, they should contact Heather Sanderson.

19 NUS Green Impact

The Faculty was awarded a Silver Green Impact award in June 2017, and the Green Impact Team in the Faculty were now working towards a Gold Award. If any students were interested in joining the Philosophy Green Impact Team, they should contact Clare Dickinson in the Faculty Office – cil30@cam.ac.uk or Charlie Evans in the Grad Students Office – cme34@cam.ac.uk

20 Cambridge Postgraduate Open Day

The University would be holding its first Postgraduate Open Day on Friday 2nd November 2018. See the following webpage for more details: <https://www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events/postgraduate-open-day>

There would be an information stand in the University Centre in the afternoon, as well as events arranged by the Faculty in the afternoon, including a tour of the Faculty.

21 Cambridge Open Days for prospective undergraduates

Thursday 5 July and Friday 6 July 2018.

The committee thanked everyone who helped with the Arts Open Day. Particular thanks went to Dr John Filling and Anna Simpson for the organisation and the smooth running of the events for these two days.

Next year's Open Days would be on 4 and 5 July 2019.

- 22 Introductory Day, 3rd October 2018
The Introductory Day for all new Philosophy students took place on Wednesday 3rd October 2018. The committee thanked Nesta Smith for talking about being a student rep. It is hoped that a student rep would give a similar talk at the next Introductory Day in October 2019.
- 23 Amoral Sciences, Immoral Sciences and Moral Sciences Clubs etc
It was noted that details of the Amoral Sciences Club, Immoral Club, Moral Sciences Club, and other discussion groups and seminars could be found at:
<http://www.phil.cam.ac.uk/seminars-phil/seminars-discussions>
- 24 Any other business.
There was no other business.