

STAFF-STUDENT COMMITTEE

Minutes

A meeting of the Philosophy Staff and Student Committee was held on Tuesday 2nd February 2016 at 1.05 p.m. in the Philosophy Faculty Board Room

Present: Clare Dickinson (Principal Secretary), Heather Sanderson (Administrator), Jenni Lecky-Thompson (Librarian), Charlie Evans (Secretarial Assistant), Professor Tim Crane (Faculty Chair), Joao Pedro Borges Santos, Tara Alia Khalid, Eugene Chua, Anni Raty (Chair), Jonathan Emery, Francis Smallwood, Shyane Siriwardena, Ralph Weir, Samuel Hughes.

- 1 Starring of items was invited.
- 2 Apologies were received from Emily Dyson, Olivia Hylton-Pennant and Dr Arif Ahmed.
- 3 The minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2015 were approved. These minutes were previously circulated to all students via e-mail for information.
- 4 Election of Student Representatives
It was noted that following the nominations received by Tuesday 17th November 2015, the following three students have been appointed as Faculty Board Representatives:
Alia Khalid, Part IA — Sidney Sussex
Olivia Hylton-Pennant, Part IA — Newnham College
Shyane Siriwardena, Graduate (PhD) — Newnham College
Please note that the reps can be reached on phil-studentreps@lists.cam.ac.uk

Council representatives – Election of 26 November 2015

It was reported that all students on the electoral roll were also eligible to stand to be elected as either an undergraduate or a graduate representative to the Council of the School of Arts and Humanities. It was noted that the new representatives for the Council of the School of the Arts and Humanities are:

Undergraduate rep: Mr Nicholas Worsnop (ndw28@cam.ac.uk)

Graduate rep: Miss Lizzie Marx (esm38@cam.ac.uk)

- 5 Academic vacancy
Congratulations were given to Craig French, who has been appointed to an Assistant Professorship at the University of Nottingham, from September 2016.
It was noted that Dr French has resigned from his fellowship on the New Directions in the Philosophy of Mind project from the end of June 2016, and that the Faculty will seek to fill this position.

Congratulations were also given to Dr Daniel Schneider, who has been appointed to a permanent position at the University of Haifa from October 2016. It was reported that the Faculty will seek to re-fill the temporary position here at Cambridge.

It was noted that Dr Dragos Calma will be joining the Faculty on 1 March 2016 as a Newton International Fellow for a period of two years. It was further noted that Dr Calma will work on the research project entitled “Premodern Metaphysics without Aristotle? The unpublished commentaries on the book of causes”. It was noted that Dr Calma will be working with Professor John Marenbon.

- 6 General Board Learning & Teaching Review – Philosophy
It was noted that the Faculty is due to have a General Board Learning & Teaching Review on Monday 8 February 2016. It was reported that Members of the Faculty will need to be available, meaning that some lectures will have to be re-scheduled. It was

also noted that the elected student representatives, the SSC year representatives, and a selection of other students will also be involved. The Teaching and Learning Teaching Review will involve meetings with a Committee made up of one Philosopher, three other academics and a CUSU student rep. Prof Crane explained that the students involved had been invited to a briefing session on Friday 5th February to give them more of an idea of what the review will involve. It was explained that a schedule of meetings is being arranged and email invitations are being sent out.

7 Discussion Groups for Part IB students

It was noted that the following seven discussion groups will be running from weeks 2-7 of Lent Term 2016:

Metaphysics & epistemology – Alexander Greenberg – Thursdays, 10-11am, LB4

Ethics – Dan Brigham - Mondays, 2-3pm, LB11

Logic – Lukas Skiba – Mondays, 4-5pm, RFB 331 & RFB 327

Philosophy of Science – Carlo Rossi - Wednesdays, 11am-12pm, Weeks 2-4, RFB Room 207, Weeks 5-7, Faculty Board Room

Political Philosophy – Jens Van T-Klooster – Weeks 2-3 & 5-7 – Mondays 1-2pm, Faculty Board Room, Week 4 – Faculty Common Room

Early Modern Philosophy – Alex Moran – Fridays 10-11am – LB11. However, it was noted that this group has now been cancelled due to non attendance of students.

Greek and Roman Philosophy – Carlo Rossi – Tuesdays 10-11am – RFB Room 332

Students were reminded that IB discussion group readings and reading lists can be accessed on Moodle.

There was some discussion of the fact that the numbers of students signing up for IB discussion groups has been less this year. (In previous years it has sometimes been necessary to run two groups for some of the topics because of demand, but this hasn't been the case this year). Anni Raty reported that she had had some feedback from students, with some indicating that they felt that discussion groups wouldn't help with exam preparation, and another student saying they felt particularly aware of their gender in discussion groups, and under pressure to speak more. There was also feedback that the timetabling of the groups meant that some people were reluctant to sign up, because several groups take place on a Monday, which would involve a lot of preparation the day before.

However, Anni also reported that since they groups have started, she has had positive feedback from those students who are attending. Prof Crane also said that he felt it is important for students to consider education not just in terms of exam preparation, when deciding whether to sign up to these groups. Jonathan Emery reported that he finds the groups useful as an opportunity to share and discuss ideas. It was agreed that maybe more thought needs to be given to how these groups are organised, and that perhaps timeslots could be agreed in advance and clearly timetabled.

8 Deadline for handing in Extended Essays/Dissertations

Students were reminded that the deadline for submitting extended essays for Part IB and Part II is **Friday 11th March at 12 noon**. It was noted that if students miss this deadline without prior approval from the Chair of Examiners, they will be required to instead sit the written exam for this paper (although students should be aware that Friday 11th March is also the deadline for amendments to exam entries. If a student does not submit their extended essays by the deadline, and then does not ask the

College to amend their exam entry to sit the written paper, they would then fail that paper).

Students were further reminded that the deadline for submitting dissertations for Part II is **Friday 29th April at 12 noon**. It was noted that if students miss this deadline without prior approval from the Chair of Examiners, students will then fail that paper, as by April 29th, the final deadline would have passed for amending exam entries.

9 Philosophy Examinations/Marking Criteria in 2016

Students were reminded that the Philosophy Faculty uses a numerical marking scheme.

It was reported that at the meeting of the Staff-Student Committee on 10 November 2015, there was some discussion about how clear marking criteria are to students, and Prof Tim Crane asked students reps to get some feedback from fellow students on this matter, to find out how the Faculty could potentially make things clearer. Francis Smallwood explained that he had received some feedback from students, saying that they are still not clear on what is expected from them at Exam time, or about how exams are marked. He also reported that some students found out about exams from other students, rather than via the Faculty. Francis reported that some students had asked for information about exams to be provided in booklet form, which could include information on exam preparation, number of questions to expect in an exam, etc. Francis explained that some students taking Experimental Psychology had found that there was a lack of information from the Faculty about what to expect from these particular exams. Francis reported that students would also like to see more sample answers for Part IB and Part II, of a 2:1 standard, but showing examples of different writing styles. Prof Tim Crane explained that in regards to making marking criteria clearer to students, a pdf showing just Marking Criteria is now available on the Faculty website:

<http://www.phil.cam.ac.uk/curr-students/ugrads-exam-folder/marking-criteria-pdf>

Charlie Evans said that she would speak to Dr Arif Ahmed, undergraduate co-ordinator, to see whether any more exam scripts could be typed up and made available to students now, or whether this would have to happen once Tripos 2016 exams have taken place. Students were also reminded that examples of good extended essays and dissertations are available for students to consult at the Library Issue desk. Charlie Evans also agreed to send an email round to students, to remind them where past papers, sample exam answers, etc can be found on the Faculty website. Shyane Siriwardena said that she would also ask fellow graduate supervisors to bring this information to the attention of their students.

10 Proposed syllabus changes for Tripos 2016-2017

The Committee noted the syllabus changes listed below, proposed at the Faculty Board meeting held on Monday January 25th 2016, following Caucus meetings:

i) Part IA Paper 1 Metaphysics

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- God: existence of; the problem of evil; miracles.
- Causation and induction
- Free will: concepts of freedom; determinism and fatalism
- Mind and matter
- Identity: persons and other objects

Suggested changes for 2016-17:

Delete “and induction” (and move to Part IB Paper 1), and change “free will: concepts of freedom; determinism and fatalism” to just “free will” for consistency. Delete full stops at the end of bullet points.

The revised syllabus would then read as follows:

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- God: existence of; the problem of evil; miracles
- Causation **and induction**
- Free will: **concepts of freedom; determinism and fatalism**
- Mind and matter
- Identity: persons and other objects

ii) Part IB Paper 1 Metaphysics and epistemology

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Mind-dependence; primary and secondary qualities, idealism
- Metaphysics of modality: possible worlds, modal realism.
- The nature of knowledge: externalism and internalism; theories of warrant and justification.
- Scepticism: the problem of scepticism and responses.
- Sources of knowledge; evidence; perception; a priori knowledge; testimony.

Suggested changes for 2016-17:

Add “; induction” after “testimony”, delete “possible worlds” and add “and alternatives” after “modal realism”. Amend punctuation, so that there are colons after the main topic and semicolons in lists. Delete full stops at the end of bullet points.

The revised syllabus would then read as follows:

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Mind-dependence; primary and secondary qualities; idealism
- Metaphysics of modality: **possible worlds**, modal realism **and alternatives**
- The nature of knowledge: externalism and internalism; theories of warrant and justification
- Scepticism: the problem of scepticism and responses
- Sources of knowledge; evidence; perception; a priori knowledge; testimony; **induction**

iii) Part II Paper 1 Metaphysics

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Realism and idealism: varieties of realism; conceptual schemes: transcendental arguments.
- Particulars and properties: the contrast of particular and universal, and of abstract

and concrete, nominalism; conceptualism, realism, tropes.

- Causation: causation and agency; realism about causation, for and against; direction of causation.
- Time: dynamic versus block conceptions; the direction of time; the existence and persistence of entities in time.
- Persons: their persistence and unity; animalism and alternatives.

Suggested changes for 2016-17:

Delete “, nominalism; conceptualism” and “tropes”. Amend “, realism” to “; realism about universals and alternatives”. Amend colon to semicolon before “transcendental arguments”. Delete full stops at the end of bullet points.

The revised syllabus would then read as follows:

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Realism and idealism: varieties of realism; conceptual schemes; transcendental arguments
- Particulars and properties: the contrast of particular and universal, and of abstract and concrete, **nominalism; conceptualism, ; realism, tropes. about universals and alternatives**
- Causation: causation and agency; realism about causation, for and against; direction of causation.
- Time: dynamic versus block conceptions; the direction of time; the existence and persistence of entities in time
- Persons: their persistence and unity; animalism and alternatives

iv) Part II Paper 2 Philosophy of mind

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Metaphysics of mind: physicalism and alternatives (dualism, functionalism, mindbrain identity); mental causation
- Epistemology of mind: knowledge of one’s own mind; knowledge of other minds
- Consciousness: varieties of consciousness; intentional theories of consciousness; the explanatory gap
- Intentionality and mental representation: the nature of intentionality; intentional objects; reductive theories of content; externalism and internalism
- Mental faculties: intention and the will; emotion; imagination

Suggested changes for 2016-17:

Delete “(dualism, functionalism, mindbrain identity)” for consistency.

The revised syllabus would then read as follows:

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Metaphysics of mind: physicalism and alternatives **(dualism, functionalism, mindbrain identity); mental causation**
- Epistemology of mind: knowledge of one’s own mind; knowledge of other minds
- Consciousness: varieties of consciousness; intentional theories of consciousness; the explanatory gap
- Intentionality and mental representation: the nature of intentionality; intentional

- objects; reductive theories of content; externalism and internalism
- Mental faculties: intention and the will; emotion; imagination

v) Part II Paper 9 Special subject specified by the Faculty Board

In **2015-2016**: Wittgenstein

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Tractatus
- Philosophical Investigations
- On Certainty
- Study of the following topics is also included: the development throughout Wittgenstein's work of his views on solipsism and the self, and the nature of philosophy.

Suggested changes for 2016-17:

Amend title from “Special subject specified by the Faculty Board” to “Wittgenstein”, and remove “In 2015-16: Wittgenstein”. Delete full stops at the end of bullet points.

The revised syllabus heading and syllabus would then read as follows:

Part II Paper 9 **Wittgenstein**

~~In 2015-2016: Wittgenstein~~

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Tractatus
- Philosophical Investigations
- On Certainty
- Study of the following topics is also included: the development throughout Wittgenstein's work of his views on solipsism and the self, and the nature of philosophy

vi) Part II Paper 4 European philosophy from Kant

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason* to the end of the Transcendental Dialectic (A704, B732);
- Hegel, *The Phenomenology of Spirit*, Introduction, Consciousness, Self-consciousness (paragraphs 73-230); *Hegel's Logic: being part of the Encyclopaedia of the Philosophical Sciences*, paragraphs 1-111; *Introduction to Lectures on the Philosophy of History*, as far as (but not including) *The Geographical Basis of World History*;
- Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*, *The Birth of Tragedy*, *Beyond Good and Evil*.

Suggested changes for 2016-17:

Add Hegel's “Introduction to the Philosophy of Right, paragraphs 1-40, 104-114, 141-157 and 257-259”. This would increase the set texts for Hegel by around 70 pages (to 456 pages), bringing it roughly level with the total number of pages set for Nietzsche (459 pages), and keeping it significantly less than that set for Kant (536 pages).

The revised syllabus would then read as follows:

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason* to the end of the Transcendental Dialectic (A704, B732);
- Hegel, *The Phenomenology of Spirit*, Introduction, Consciousness, Self-consciousness (paragraphs 73-230); *Hegel's Logic: being part of the Encyclopaedia of the Philosophical Sciences*, paragraphs 1-111; *Introduction to Lectures on the Philosophy of History*, as far as (but not including) *The Geographical Basis of World History*; **Introduction to the Philosophy of Right, paragraphs 1-40, 104-114, 141-157 and 257-259**
- Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*, *The Birth of Tragedy*, *Beyond Good and Evil*.

vii) Part II Paper 5 Philosophy in the Long Middle Ages

This paper covers philosophy in the period from c. 400 to c. 1700, in the Latin, Arabic and Hebrew traditions. All texts are studied in translation. For 2015 - 2016, the two set themes will be (a) Universals and (b) Scientific Truth and Revelation. The examination will consist of fifteen questions on the set texts below. Of these, two will be commentary questions, one on an extract from each of the two asterisked texts under Theme 1, the other one on extract from each of the two asterisked texts under Theme 2. Candidates must answer **three** questions, **including one or both** of the commentary questions. They may answer essay questions using texts on which they have commented in a commentary question, so long as any substantial repetition of material is avoided.

Theme 1: Universals

1. Boethius on universals from second commentary on Porphyry's Isagoge
- *2. Abelard *Logica Ingredientibus* (7.25-32.12)
3. Avicenna *Shifa'*: Isagoge – chapter on universals as translated in M. Marmura 'Avicenna's Chapter on Universals in the Isagoge of his *Shifa'* in *Islam: past influence and present challenge*, Edinburgh, 1979; *Metaphysics V*, 1-2, in Avicenna. *The Metaphysics of The Healing*, transl. M. Marmura, Provo, Utah, 2005.
- *4. Duns Scotus *Ordinatio* II, d. 3, part I, q.1 and q.6
5. William of Ockham *Ordinatio* I, d.2, q.6 and q.8
(1,2, 4 and 5 as contained in: *Five Texts on the Medieval Problem of Universals*, transl. P.V. Spade, Indianapolis, 1994)
6. John Locke, *Essay concerning Human Understanding* III, chapters 1-6

Theme 2: Scientific Truth and Revelation

1. Averroes *Decisive Treatise*
2. Maimonides *Guide of the Perplexed*, II 15-27
- *3. Boethius of Dacia *On the Eternity of the World*
4. Duns Scotus *Ordinatio*, Prologue, part 1, qu. unica [abridged]
5. Pietro Pomponazzi *On the Immortality of the Soul*
6. Spinoza *Tractatus Theologico-Politicus*

Suggested changes for 2016-17:

Theme 1 topic 'Universals' is due to be replaced. The proposed topic is **'Thinking and the Self'**. John Marenbon will draw up a precise list of set texts in Lent Term 2016.

Theme 2 topic 'Scientific Truth and Revelation' should stay the same next year and perhaps even for the following one, but it would be an idea to make some changes in the texts set. **John Marenbon will propose to alter two of the texts at the most.** He will produce this in Lent Term 2016.

viii) Part II Paper 6 Philosophy of Science

Candidates are asked to answer three questions out of at least ten set.

- Philosophy of Physics I: the metaphysics of space and space-time; geometry and conventionalism absolute and relational theories of space; space and space-time.
- Philosophy of Physics II: the interpretation of quantum mechanics; non-locality.
- Philosophy of Biology: biological kinds, the nature of species; biological laws; functional and causal explanation in biology.
- Philosophy of Social Science: social science versus natural science; rational choice theory and social science; social ontology.
- Annual topic (2015-16): Philosophy of cognitive science: explanation in cognitive science; the role of neurotechnologies; embodied cognition; conceptual change, with special reference to mental illness

Suggested change for 2016-17

Change “Annual topic (2015-16)” to “**Special topic (2016-17)**”.

Heather Sanderson has emailed Marta Halina (HPS) to check any suggested amendments to the syllabus wording of the special topic which will still be on the philosophy of cognitive science. This is because Philosophy aims to cross-list some of the teaching that Marta teaches on this topic for HPS.

Prof Tim Crane went through these proposed changes with the Committee, and explained that most changes would be small, and were essentially just a small change in wording. Prof Crane explained that one larger change is that Part II, Paper 9, which has previously been referred to as a special paper whose subject could in theory change from year to year, will now be a paper on Wittgenstein, as this is the topic which has recurred year after year. Another larger change is the proposal to bring more Hegel into the Part II, Paper 4 syllabus, and to update the list of texts for Part II, Paper 5 (although Prof Marenbon who co-ordinates the paper is still discussing the exact content of this list).

It was explained that all the above suggested changes have been approved in principle by the Faculty Board and that unless the Staff-Student Committee had any strong objections to any of these changes they will be implemented with effect from October 2016. It was also explained that any feedback from students would need to be discussed at the next Faculty Board meeting on 29 February 2016. No objections to these proposed changes were raised at the meeting.

11 Titles for Parts IB and II extended essays

It was explained that at the meeting of Faculty Board on January 25th 2016, the Chair of Examiners proposed that from next year (2016/17) students who opt to do extended essays should choose their titles from a list produced by the Faculty, rather than submitting their own titles for approval by the Chair of Examiners.

It was further explained that the lists would be revised each year at the Easter Term caucus meetings and approved by Faculty Board at the end of Easter Term, so that students could choose their titles over the summer if they wish. Students were told that there would be no requirement for them to register their titles with the Faculty Office in advance of submission, so they would be free to change to a different title (within the same paper) without formality. Students were also told that they would still, of course, register their intention to do extended essays in their exam entry early in Michaelmas Term.

It was explained that each list would contain at least a dozen titles, but for popular papers might contain a lot more. It was also noted that the titles would be in groups (between 3 and 6 groups per paper, typically corresponding to the paragraphs in the syllabus), and the only restriction would be that a candidate could not choose two titles from the same group. It was explained that in fact students often write on the same topics under the current system, and that the list of titles would be drawn up by looking over previous titles that had been approved.

It was also explained that the main advantages of the proposal for candidates are: (a) it eliminates the uncertainty whereby students may do the bulk of their work on essays in the summer vacation or the Michaelmas Term and then have difficulty getting the titles approved because of a potential difference in interpretation between supervisors and the Chair of Examiners over which titles fall under the syllabus; (b) it solves the problem that arises when students change their minds in Lent Term about what they want to write about.

It was noted that this proposal was adopted in principle at the Faculty Board meeting, but feedback from students is welcomed.

Students were also informed that no change is proposed to the current arrangements for dissertation titles.

Students provided quite a lot of feedback on this proposal. There was concern that the proposed system would restrict students from the possibility of writing on a topic that while within the syllabus, was not obvious, and therefore would be unlikely to be on the list of pre-approved titles. Jonathan Emery and Anni Raty both reported that they have chosen quite obscure topics to write on this year, and Jonathan explained that he had really valued the opportunity to write on a topic that particularly interests him. Prof Tim Crane and Heather Sanderson both pointed out that the proposal only concerns extended essays, so that if students have a particular niche interest, they are free to write on this if they chose to do a dissertation at Part II (as long as the Faculty is able to examine the topic). However, Jonathan Emery explained that the workload for the dissertation is a much greater commitment, and he felt that the proposed system might put students off from taking the option of writing extended essays. Jonathan also reported that the History Faculty have a similar system – their Themes and Sources paper, which involves pre-set titles, and which he had heard isn't popular with students:

<http://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/tripos-papers/themes-sources>

Anni Raty said that it would be a shame if the new system removed the possibility of students being able to pursue a topic that they really enjoy. However, Prof Crane underlined that this proposal was in response to the real problem of several students each year having to change their title because it hadn't been approved, which would then lead to extra work for these students, which could be avoided by using pre-approved titles. There was some discussion on how broad or narrow these titles might be. It was agreed that the best course of action would be for the Chair of Examiners to provide a list of potential titles, so that students could give constructive feedback before a final decision is taken by Faculty Board.

12 Exam scripts now available on the Philosophy website

Students were reminded that several sample exam scripts have been made available on the website, anonymised and with the permission of the authors. They can be found on the following web page:

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

It was reported that it is hoped that further exam scripts will also be made available.

- 13 Lecture materials online
Anni Raty reported that students had asked about the possibility of lecture materials (such as handouts and slides) being routinely shared online. The request was not that all lecturers should provide handouts, but that those who do be asked to also provide these online, possibly via Moodle, so that students could access them for revision purposes. Prof Tim Crane said that it was helpful to know that students found it useful to have handouts online. It was also mentioned that it would be better if handouts weren't shared via the academia website, as this can be hard to navigate.
- 14 Performance of Cohorts
A document comparing the performance of cohorts of students from the Philosophy Faculty, alongside the Department of HPS, the Faculties of HSPS, Classics and Divinity was circulated. It was noted that data showing distribution of classes by gender is included. It was explained that this has document been provided to Faculty Board since 2006, and that it was felt that it would be useful to also share it with the Staff Student Committee. It was noted at the November 2015 Faculty Board meeting again that there does not seem to be any noticeable trend, and it was agreed to include this as a standing item on the agenda of the Lent term of the SSC from now on.
- 15 National Student Survey 2016
Students were reminded that the National Student survey launched on January 11 2016. It was reported that all part II students should have been emailed a link to this survey, which will run until April. It was noted that the NSS is an independent survey asking students to rate the quality of their Higher Education experience, and it was further noted that the results of this survey help prospective students, their families and advisors to make study choices. Prof Crane encouraged students to take part in this survey, and it was noted that the results will not be published unless at least 50% of Philosophy students participate.
- 16 Graduate Questionnaires
It was noted that the results of the MPhil questionnaire for Michaelmas Term 2015 are available to current graduate students. Students were asked to email Zoe Walker first if they wish to see them.
- 17 Lecture Evaluation Sheets
It was reported that summary Evaluation sheets for Lectures, Discussion Groups and Logic Classes held in Michaelmas Term 2015 are now available for consultation at the Library Issue Desk. A copy of the general comments made by students during Michaelmas 2015 was circulated for information. It was noted that the main comments made in this document were that Ethics in Part II isn't practical enough, that students would like to see more diversity of lecturers, and within the reading lists, and that it was felt that Logic shouldn't be compulsory at Part IB. Because the meeting was drawing to a close when this subject was discussed, Prof Tim Crane said that the discussion about the topics raised on the general comments document would continue at the briefing session due to take place on the afternoon of Friday 5th Feb, as the Teaching and Learning Review also focuses on how the Faculty responds to requests from students.
- 18 Undergraduate Lecture Questionnaires
Students were reminded that questionnaires will be distributed again at the end of all lecture series' in Lent Term 2016, as well as used to assess Logic Classes and Discussion Groups. It was noted that if students would like to give feedback, but miss the session when questionnaires are handed out, questionnaires can also be downloaded from the Faculty website at:

<http://www.phil.cam.ac.uk/curr-students/questionnaires/ugrad-questionnaires>

Students were also reminded that there is a box on the questionnaire for comments on other aspects of the Philosophy Course, and students were encouraged to use this box for any comments on lectures they attend that are borrowed from other Faculties.

It was reported that the Faculty is again considering trialling online questionnaires, using the Qualtrics system, which is currently used successfully for the Library and MPhil questionnaires. Heather Sanderson explained that part of the decision on whether to use online lecture questionnaires would rest on the expected take up of filling out such questionnaires. She explained that it was felt that the best way to get a response from students would be to allow them time within lectures to fill out the online questionnaires. There was some discussion of how many students usually have a smart phone/lap top with them in lectures, and therefore would be able to complete such questionnaires within the lecture. Heather Sanderson said that it would be very helpful if students could have a look at the links to proposed questionnaires below, to see how easy they are to complete. In particular, she asked if students could try filling these questionnaires out in the Lecture Block, as there was some concern about the wifi signal there.

Links to some possible test questionnaires are below (not yet live):

Lecture Questionnaire:

https://jfe.qualtrics.com/preview/SV_5zfyS5GXzMkZnq5?Preview=Survey&BrandID=caret

Logic Classes:

https://jfe.qualtrics.com/preview/SV_1G2DOZi4zHyuM85?Preview=Survey&BrandID=caret

Discussion Group:

https://jfe.qualtrics.com/preview/SV_6x64TF2jxGBSCTX?Preview=Survey&BrandID=caret

Some students expressed concern that it would be harder to make such detailed comments via online questionnaires, because they found it easier to quickly write down their comments using the current paper system. Prof Crane acknowledged that it is the comments, rather than just the numerical ratings, that are of particular use to lecturers.

19 Immoral Sciences Club Forum – Testimonials Document

It was reported that at the SSC meeting held on November 10th 2015, Emily Dyson explained that the Immoral Sciences Club would be holding a forum looking into the experiences of women in Philosophy. It was noted that a document containing a number of student/academic's testimonials has been put together, and passed on to the Faculty's Gender Group, who will be discussing it at their meeting this term.

20 Library Committee meeting

Mrs Jenni Lecky-Thompson reported that the date for the meeting this year will be Tuesday 1st March at 1.05 pm in the Philosophy Faculty Board Room. She asked students who wish to raise any concerns at this meeting to contact the Faculty Reps.

21 Library Questionnaire

It was noted that the Library questionnaire will run between 1-6 February. It was also noted that there is a link to this questionnaire on the Library website, and that students completing the questionnaire will have the chance to win £25 of Amazon vouchers.

- 22 Department Reps for Student Minds Cambridge
It was noted that this year, The Student Minds Cambridge committee (formerly MentalWealth) of 2016 are looking for (Graduate) Department Reps from each department to circulate information and publicise events within their department, as well as informing them of any mental health events that their department puts on. It was further noted that students have been contacted about this - and that applications closed on January 25th.
- 23 Use of the Graduate Centre
Students were reminded that the computers in the Graduate Centre are reserved for Graduate students and visiting graduate students. It was also noted that computers in the Philosophy Faculty Library are available for use by all students and visiting scholars.
- 24 Philosophy Masterclass
It was reported that for the 6th year, the Cambridge Admissions Office (CAO) is organising Subject Masterclass events for prospective applicants during 2016-17. It was noted that this year Tom Dougherty will be speaking for Philosophy, at the Masterclass to be held on 6 February 2016.
- 25 Cambridge Open Days:
It was reported that The Cambridge Open Days for prospective undergraduate students will be on Thursday 30 June and Friday 1 July 2016.
- 26 NUS Green Impact – Bronze Award
The Committee noted that Clare Dickinson has taken on the role of Environmental and Energy Co-ordinator for the Faculty. It was further noted that Modern and Medieval Languages, who share the Raised Faculty Building, were awarded NUS Green Impact Bronze, and then Silver, Awards, and are working towards the Gold Award in 2016. It was noted that the Faculty already has various green initiatives and would like to work towards obtaining a NUS Green Impact Bronze Award this year in recognition of this. It was noted that Clare would welcome suggestions for improvements from staff and students.
- 27 Any other business
There was no further business.

The meeting ended at 2.10pm.