ACADEMIC BOARD

Wednesday 20 March 2024

2pm

EWD 1-04 (in person) or MS Teams (online) [hybrid]

Members are reminded that the items of business under *Items for formal approval* and *Items for report* are starred. This means that those items will be taken as read, and approved or noted as appropriate, without discussion, unless any are unstarred by members contacting the Secretary by **5pm on Monday 18 March 2024,** detailing the reasons in accordance with the unstarring protocol. Members are also requested to provide items of AOB to the Secretary 5pm on the Monday preceding the meeting.

Those papers not attached will be circulated shortly. Late papers circulated after the deadline for unstarring will be unstarred.

Agenda

Procedural

Where meeting is online/hybrid – Colleagues are reminded that the meeting will be recorded for the purposes of the minutes only. The recording is automatically deleted after 60 days in accordance with the MS Teams retention policy.

Colleagues joining online are asked to please raise your hand on MS Teams when you wish to speak.

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

    To welcome new members. Apologies will be noted in the Minutes.   JS

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

    To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 29 November 2023   AB   *Attached*

3. **Matters arising**

    To note the following actions have been completed since the last meeting: JS

23/240	Present recommendation on additional Honorary Degree to Council for approval	AB/CM	November 2024
23/224	Provide update on implementation of a mark management system and assessment changes as part of Assessment Futures project **See item 13**	MH	March 2024
23/238	Give further consideration regarding input into the AB governance review a wider pool of staff than those sitting on the Board.	AB	January 2024
	Present report and recommendations from external AB governance review **See item 12**	AB	March 2024

To receive an update on other actions due:

23/174 and 23/175	**To receive a verbal update from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Strategy, Planning and Resources) on progress with the review of Academic Restructuring**	MF	June 2024
23/209	Receive final update on the last year of the current strategic plan (June 2024) **Will be presented to the next meeting of Academic Board**	MF/AW	June 2024
23/211	Provide an update on discussions at AQuASC about degree outcomes in Economics, Electronic Engineering and Geography **Board will receive an update at their meeting in June**	MH	June 2024

4. **Actions taken by the Chair**

   None   JS

5. **Unstarring of items**

   To note the unstarring of any *Items for formal approval* and *Items for report.*   JS/AB

Formal Reports

6. **Vice-Chancellor and Principal's Report**

   To receive a written report from the Vice-Chancellor and Principal   JS   AB/24/01

7. **Regulatory and Legislative update**

   To receive a report from the University Secretary, including an update on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech   AB   AB/24/02

8. **Report from the Students' Union President**

   To receive a report from the Students' Union President   HH   AB/24/03

   To note the Postgraduate Taught Student Policy Inquiry Survey Infographics and Recommendations 2023   HH and NB   AB/24/04

9. **Report from the Council**

   To receive the minutes from the Council meetings held on 5 October 2023 and 23 November 2023   JS   AB/24/05

10. **Reports from Schools**

    To receive a presentation from the Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor Postgraduate Research, Professor Dawn Watling   DW   AB/24/06

Strategy Discussion

11.	**Strategic Update**		
	To receive an update on RH2030s	MF/AW	AB/24/07

Major Items of Business

12.	**Academic Board Effectiveness review**		
	To receive the initial findings from the external governance review of external governance review of Academic Board Please note that the external reviewer has been invited to join us to present this paper	AB	AB/24/08
13.	**Assessment Futures**		
13.1	To receive a report on the initial results from Assessment Futures	MH	AB/24/09
13.2	To receive an Extenuating Circumstances Improvement Project update	RM	AB/24/10
14.	**Access and Participation Plan**		
	To receive an overview of progress on the APP so far, and the key objectives that have been identified as the focus for the new plan.	ZK/KG	AB/24/11
15.	**Portfolio review and diversification**		
	To receive an update on the development of application to IfATE for Higher Technical Qualification approval. To discuss the opportunities to enter the accelerated degree market	ZK/A Wilby	AB/24/12
16.	**Research**		
16.1	REF 2029 To receive an update and proposed governance structure	RL	AB/24/13
16.2	Festival of Research: to receive a verbal update about this celebration of Royal Holloway's research culture 10-14 June 2024	RL	
17.	**Department name change**		
	To approve a department name change for the Department of Digital Innovation and Management	CT	AB/24/13a

Items for formal approval

*	18.	**Academic Regulations**		
		To approve proposed amendments to the Regulations on the Conduct of Assessment, the Academic Misconduct Regulations, the Fitness to Practise Policy and Procedures, Ratification and Revocation of Awards and Regulations on Access Arrangements for Assessment from 2024-25	MH	AB/24/14

*	19.	**Research Degree Regulations**		
		To approve proposed amendments to the research degree regulations from 2024-25 2024-25	DW	AB/24/15
*	20.	**Admissions Policy and Terms and Conditions**		
		To approve the Admissions Policy and Terms and Conditions 2024-25	MF	AB/24/15a

Items for report

*	21.	**Student Number Count**		
		To receive the February Student Number Count	MF/AW	AB/24/16
*	22.	**Annual Review**		
*	22.1	To note that the the composite School report from the annual review of undergraduate provision in 2022-23 in the School of Engineering, Mathematical and Physical Sciences is being finalised and will be remitted to AB in June 2024.	MH	
*	22.2	To receive the composite School reports from the annual review of postgraduate taught provision in 2022-23 in the Schools of Humanities, Law and Social Sciences and Performing and Digital Arts. The reports from the Schools of Business and Management and Life Sciences and the Environment will be circulated with the June Academic Board papers.	MH	AB/24/17
*	22.3	To receive the Principal External Examiner's Report of Postgraduate Taught provision in 2022/23	MH	AB/24/18
*	22.4	To receive the Postgraduate Research Annual Enhancement Review Report for 2022/23	DW	AB/24/19
*	23.	**University Education Committee**		
		To receive the minutes of the University Education Committee meeting held on 20 November 2023 and 27 February 2024	ZK	AB/24/20
*	24.	**Assessment, Quality Assurance and Standards Committee**		
		To receive the minutes of the Assessment, Quality Assurance and Standards Committee meeting held on 20 February and 29 February 2024	MH	AB/24/21
*	25.	**Doctoral School Committee**		
		To receive the unconfirmed minutes of the Doctoral School Committee meeting held on 16 February 2024	DW	AB/24/22
*	26.	**Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee**		
		To receive the minutes from the Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee held on 16 January 2024	RL	AB/24/23

Other Matters

	27.	**Any other business**		
	28.	**Date of next meeting**		
		Wednesday 5 June 2024 at 2pm in EWD-1-04	JS/AB	

29.   **Topics for Discussion**

To discuss ideas for inclusion at future Academic Board meetings. Suggestions include:

Topic	Timeline
Assessment Platform	Tbc
Artificial Intelligence and HE	Tbc
Global Strategy update, including the international student experience and reflections on the recruitment of international students (Executive Dean of Humanities)	Tbc
Research Leadership and Research Catalysts	Tbc
Research Culture	March 2024 and to become a regular item for the spring term agenda
REF 2029	To become a regular autumn and summer term update
'Update from the Doctoral School' (Associate PVC Postgraduate Research)	March 2024
Academic freedom and Freedom of Speech	March 2024

Members are invited to suggestion items for inclusion at a future meeting by emailing AcademicBoard@rhul.ac.uk

Suggestions for the June meeting must be received by Monday 22 April 2024 (to enable consideration by the Chair and Secretary for inclusion and any accompanying papers to be prepared in advance of the paper circulation deadlines).