

GENERAL BOARD OF THE FACULTIES

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of Management for the Natural Sciences Tripos held at **2.15pm** on **Tuesday 9 March 2004** in the Council Room, Old Schools.

Present: Dr J Keeler (Chairman), Dr W Allison, Professor TW Clyne, Dr S Holden, Dr N Holmes, Mr A Jefferies, Dr K Johnstone, Dr P Oliver, Mr S Parris, Mr R Williams and Dr MG Russell (Secretary).

Apologies: Dr R Hardie, Dr S Schaffer, Dr MG Worster, Dr K Plaisted, Dr I Wilson and Dr N Woodcock.

190. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3 February 2004 were approved.

191. MATTERS ARISING

i. Marking and classing guidelines: Part IA (minutes 169ii, 182i)

The Committee noted a recent Computer Science Syndicate minute, dated 25 November 2003 (**CM.225**), regarding the proposal for there to be a joint marking scheme for Parts IA of the NST and the Computer Science Tripos.

ii. Changes to regulations: Part III Biochemistry (minute 184)

The Committee noted that, at their last meeting, it received a proposal from the Department of Biochemistry for changes to the examinations for Part III Biochemistry (**CM.220**, recirculated); it now received further information from the Department at its request (**CM.226**) and **agreed to recommend the proposals and the changes to regulations to the General Board.**

192. REPORTED AND STRAIGHTFORWARD BUSINESS

i. Part II (General): changes to regulations

The Committee noted that the Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, had approved changes proposed by the Faculty Board of Biology to the subjects that may be offered in Part II (General) of the Tripos. The Special Subjects Pathology and Human Impact on the Environment were not to be offered from October 2004; students who wished to read general course in biological sciences would instead be directed to read Part II of the MVST. A Notice was published in *Reporter* (25 February 2004, p. 496).

The Committee further noted that these were interim arrangements in the revision of provision of more general courses in Part II, currently being considered by the Strategic Committee for the NST and that the current arrangements would be in place for one year only.

ii. Preliminary Reading List: Biology of Cells (minute 183i)

The Committee noted that the course management committee for Part IA Biology of Cells indicated that they will revisit the content of the reading list in response to the comments of the Committee.

- iii. **Changes to regulations: Part IA Geology; Part IB Geological Sciences A and B; Part II Geological Sciences; Part III Geological Sciences, Part II History and Philosophy of Science** (minutes 184i, 184 ii)

The Committee noted that the proposed changes to regulations agreed at the last meeting (for those subjects outlined above) were approved by the General Board.

- iv. **Strategic Committee for the Natural Sciences Tripos**

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2004 for information (CM.227).

193. REVIEW OF THE REGULATIONS (minute 186)

The Committee considered a paper outlining proposed changes to the regulations (CM.228) and agreed that the revision of the regulations was timely and indicated broad approaches to improve the consistency of the regulations. It noted that the supplementary regulations in particular needed updating.

194. CHANGES TO REGULATIONS: PART II EXPERIMENTAL AND THEORETICAL PHYSICS

The Committee received a letter, dated, 2 March 2004, from the Head of Department of Physics, regarding changes to the regulations for Part II Experimental and Theoretical Physics from October 2004 (CM.229) and **agreed to recommend the proposals and the changes to regulations to the General Board.**

195. ITEMS OF RESERVED BUSINESS

The following items were discussed under reserved business:

- 197. Report of a plea of *incuria* for a candidate offering Part II (General)
- 198. Membership of the Committee: appointment of student representatives

196. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting shall take place at **2:15 pm on 4 May 2004** in the Council Room at the Old Schools.

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