

ACADEMIC BOARD

Wednesday 29 November 2023

2pm



Windsor Seminar Room 1-02 (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 27 November 2023**, 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 18 October 2023 AB *Attached*

3. **Matters arising**

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

22/193	Add Foundation Year Degree to November agenda of Academic Board Will be discussed under item 10	CM	End of autumn 2023
23/097	Update on progress with Assessment Futures should be provided to the 29 November meeting of Academic Board Will be discussed under item 15	MH	November 2023
23/156	Present Regulatory Addendum for 2023/24 and timeline for review of academic regulations Will be discussed under item 13.1	MH	November 2023
23/159	Update the timeline of the Emergency Regulations to include the date of the announcement of the Marking and Assessment Boycott and the instruction from the Office for Students issued on 12 June	MH	November 2023

	Updated timeline included with meeting papers		
23/177	To present the terms of reference for an external review of Academic Board Will be discussed under item 17	AB	November 2023

To receive an update on other actions due:

	To hold an information/ drop-in session for academic staff interested in applying for one of the elected member positions To note that a briefing session has been held on the role of Academic Board in Higher Education regulation in England for all members. A drop-in session for academic staff interested in applying for an elected member position will held in early Spring term.	AB/ CM	
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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/23/69

7. **Regulatory and Legislative update**

To receive a verbal report from the University Secretary AB AB/23/70

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

To receive a report from the Students' Union President HH AB/23/71

9. **Report from the Council**

To note that the minutes from the Council meetings held on 5 October 2023 and 23 November 2023 will be circulated with the meeting papers for 20 March 2024 JS

10. **Reports from Schools**

To receive a presentation from the Course Leader of the Integrated Foundation Year DH AB/23/72

Strategy Discussion

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|------|---|-----------|----------|
| 11. | Strategic Update | | |
| 11.1 | RH2030s: To receive a verbal update on the development of RH2030s following recent discussions at the staff Open Meeting, Leadership Forum and Council | MF | |
| 11.2 | Strategic Plan Reporting: To note the approach to reporting for the final year of the current strategic plan | TB and AW | AB/23/73 |

Major Items of Business

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|------|--|-------|----------|
| 12. | Degree Classifications 2022-23 | | |
| 12.1 | To note and discuss the Degree classifications for 2022/23 | MH | AB/23/74 |
| 12.2 | To note and discuss the Degree Outcomes and MAB reflections 2022/23 | MH | AB/23/75 |
| 12.3 | To receive the Principal External Examiner Statement 2022/23 | MH | AB/23/76 |
| 13. | Regulatory Addendum 2023-24 | | |
| 13.1 | To approve the Regulatory Addendum 2023/24 | MH | AB/23/77 |
| 13.2 | To note the format of examination boards with effect from 2023/24 | MH | AB/23/78 |
| 14. | Teaching Excellence Framework | | |
| | To receive the outcome of the TEF and consider the University's performance in light of sector results | ZK | AB/23/79 |
| 15. | Assessment Futures | | |
| | To receive a progress update on the Assessment Futures project | MH | AB/23/80 |
| 16. | Supporting Research Excellence: Planning for 2023/24 | | |
| | To receive a paper outlining the year ahead and beyond towards REF | RL | AB/23/81 |
| 17. | Academic Board Effectiveness review | | |
| | To receive the Terms of Reference for the external review of Academic Board | AB/CM | AB/23/82 |
| 18. | Honorary Degrees | | |
| | To approve a proposal for an Honorary Degree | AB | AB/23/83 |

Items for formal approval

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|---|-----|--|-------|----------|
| * | 19. | Nominations to Committees | | |
| | | To approve the list of nominations to Statute 9 and Student Discipline Committees from the School of Engineering, Mathematical and Physical Sciences | AB/CM | AB/23/84 |

Items for report

* 20.	Annual Review To receive the composite School reports from the review of undergraduate provision in 2022-23	MH	AB/23/85
* 21.	Student Count To receive the 1 November count. The 1 December student number count will be circulated to members for information before the Christmas vacation	AW	AB/23/86
* 22.	Religious Observance Policy To approve the updated Religious Observance Policy	MH	AB/23/87
* 23.	University Education Committee To note the minutes of the University Education Committee meeting held on 20 November will be circulated with the March AB meeting papers	ZK	
* 24.	Assessment, Quality Assurance and Standards Committee To receive the minutes of the Assessment, Quality Assurance and Standards Committee meeting held on Tuesday 31 October and the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on Friday 10 November	MH	AB/23/88a AB/23/88b
* 25.	Doctoral School Committee To receive the unconfirmed minutes of the Doctoral School Committee meeting held on 14 November	DW	AB/23/89
* 26.	Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee To receive the minutes from the Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee held on 2 October 2023	RL	AB/23/90

Other Matters

27. **Any other business**
28. **Date of next meeting**
- 28.1 Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 2pm in EWD-1-04 JS/AB
- The date of the final meeting of the 2023-24 is confirmed as
- Wednesday 5 June 2024 at 2pm in EWD-1-04
- 28.2 **Topics for Discussion**
- To discuss ideas for inclusion at future Academic Board meetings. Suggestions include:
- Assessment Platform
 - Artificial Intelligence and HE (a follow up discussion from June's meeting could be given later in the year)
 - Global Strategy update, including the international student experience and reflections on the recruitment of international students (Executive Dean of Humanities)
 - Research Leadership and Research Catalysts
 - Research Culture
 - REF 2028
 - 'Update from the Doctoral School' (Associate PVC Postgraduate Research)

- Academic freedom and Freedom of Speech

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

Suggestions for the November meeting must be received by Friday 2 February 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)