

**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
FACULTY OF COMPUTER SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

Chairman: Dr David Greaves

Secretary: Ms D. E. Pounds

Minutes of the meeting of the Tripos Management Committee
held on Monday 17 November 2014 at 14:00 in GS15

Present

Dr Richard Gibbens (*Representative on
Mathematics Faculty Board*)
Dr David Greaves (*Chairman*)
Dr Mateja Jamnik
Prof Ian Leslie

Dinah Pounds (*Secretary*)
Prof Peter Robinson (*Exchange
Programme Organiser*)
Megan Sammons (*Student Administrator*)
Dr Simone Teufel

1. Apologies for Absence

Dr Robert Harle
Prof Ann Copestake

2. Sabbatical and other leave

None received.

3. Notification of any other business

- i. Report on tripos development (IML)
- ii. Part II Hoare Logic course (DJG)

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were approved and signed.

5. Matters arising

Future arrangements for Part II Types. The current arrangement for this course is for this academic year only. The Chair will consult Prof A Pitts as to how it will be lectured from 2015. The Committee expressed some concern that Part II of the tripos is now lacking in theory courses and agreed to set up a review of the teaching load of the Department's theory group. **Action DJG**

REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

6. Staff-student Consultative Forum.

- i. The Committee expressed disappointment that the bike-cage has become a source of complaint. The students had made a request for some more security for bikes but not for a bike cage.
- ii. The suggestion of 2 exam questions for Part II Advanced Algorithms was agreed for 2016. A course of 12 lectures can have either one or two questions. As 2015 is the first year this course has run it was felt more appropriate to have only one question.

- iii. The Committee welcomed the student's appreciation for the online video IB Prolog course.

Joint Teaching Strategy Committee

The Committee received the minutes of the Joint Teaching Strategy Committee.

7. Correspondence

Request from the Department of Sheffield to reform the JACS code for Computer science (2014-11-17b). The Committee fully supported the proposal and confirmed they would like the Department of Sheffield to press ahead with requesting the reform. **Action DP**

EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

8. **NSS student survey 2014.** The Committee welcomed the general improvement in student satisfaction. Part II supervisions are still a cause of concern. There is a big variation between Colleges in how much they make use of the Part II supervision scheme offered by the department (that was set up for their assistance) with the majority relying on it completely. Most notably, it is problematic that a few Colleges provide considerable additional Part II supervision provision and funding. The Committee will conduct a review of Part II supervision provision during this academic year and identify those courses for which the Department cannot find sufficient supervisors. The Committee will also explore different ways of supervising, possibly by paper rather than by course. Currently, we give far more supervisions than many other departments. **Action DP, DJG**
9. **Recordings of lectures. Part II students have requested recordings of lectures via the SSCoF.** The Committee noted the distinction between students who are supported by an explicit request for recording or access to recorded lectures from the Disability Resource Centre and those who seek recordings for more general purposes such as revision. The Committee strongly supports the provision of the former while the latter remains at the discretion of individual lecturer. In all cases, recordings should be accompanied with clearly-defined and agreed terms and conditions which do not allow the student to publish or otherwise disseminate the recording. It is our preference that the Department makes all the recordings and these are in a form that provides an audio track and the lecture slides only. It is expected that the facility to record and store recordings from both WGB lecture theatres will be operational from October 2015. Part IA lectures must still be recorded by those students who have permission.
10. **Undergraduate Admissions report.** The Committee discussed the continuing rise in applicants but warned that admitting more than the planned number of 100 students will put pressure on resources and not lead to an increase in quality.
11. **Any other business**
 - I. **Tripods development.** Prof Ian Leslie reported that the proposals to reform the CST have now been agreed by the Education Committee of the General Board. The details of courses within this agreed framework are to be decided by the Department's Faculty Board. The new course is approved to start in October 2017 but could be brought forward to 2016 if a sound case was made. The Committee aims to have firm proposals for courses ready by the summer of 2015.
 - II. **Part II Hoare Logic course.** The Chair felt it is important that Part II Hoare Logic be retained, possibly combined with another course and will consider the possibilities further. **Action DJG**

Date of next meeting: Monday 19 January 2015 at 14:00 in GC15