

University of Cambridge
Faculty of Computer Science and Technology

Chairman: Prof Ann Copestake

Secretary: Mrs Megan Sammons

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Teaching Strategy Committee held on
Wednesday 15 May 2013 at 10:00 in FW11

Present

Prof Ann Copestake
Prof Neil Dodgson
Dr John Fawcett
Ms Lise Gough
Dr Sean Holden
Prof Ian Leslie

Ms Dinah Pounds
Mrs Megan Sammons
Dr Graham Titmus
Dr Robin Walker

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Dr Alastair Beresford and Ms Lise Gough.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

3. Matters arising.

NAD suggested looking for a replacement as he is no longer a Director of Studies. It was suggested that Chris Town from Wolfson be approached for this role. **Action AAC.**
[Dr Town has agreed]

4. Report from other Committees

- I. Tripos Management Committee. Following consultation on the suggested revised structure of the Part IA course, the Tripos Management Committee concluded there was inconclusive feedback to support the 75% computer science option. The matter is to be revisited at a later date. Attention has therefore focused on re-structuring the existing course. Professor Leslie also reported that supervision provision is still under discussion. He anticipated that the proposed changes to Part IB would reduce the number of supervisors required.
- II. Directors of Studies Forum. Dr Robin Walker reported. The Forum proposed that all colleges making offers to Computer Science applicants do so solely on the basis of A level grades. Any decision about offering the CS with Maths option should be made by individual colleges based on the results of a STEP test. This offer would be made post-admission, would not be part of the UCAS structure and would address the problem of candidates losing out by choosing this option. This proposal has been accepted by the Senior Tutor's Committee. Formal confirmation from the Admission Forum is awaited.

5. Tripos development

- I. Professor Leslie summarised the changes to Part IA (TMC Minutes of 22/04/2013, Item 8). The possibility of introducing a third paper may be considered at a later date.
- II. The Committee concurred that Part IB should be a broadening year. It was anticipated that any changes in Part IB will be less controversial than IA but will be a larger change. The consensus supported a reduction to 3 papers and a larger emphasis of assessed work. The matter will be taken to the next meeting of the TMC.

III. M Phil students: Relationship between the departments and colleges. Discussion included the fees implications and changing how the admissions and funding works.

6. Admissions

Dr Walker will be retiring at the end of the next academic year. It was proposed a shadow be found for next year to assist a smooth handover of running the admissions process.

7. Supervisions

Dr Walker confirmed that the required level of supervisions was in line with other science departments.

8. Any other business

None

9. Date of next meeting

To be arranged by doodle poll for October 2013.