

University of Glasgow**Academic Standards Committee – Friday 7 October 2011****Report from the Meeting of the Joint Board of the University of Glasgow and the Free Church of Scotland College – 1 June 2011**

Mrs Lesley Fielding, Senate Office

1 Remit and Membership 2010-11

The Board learned that Professor Elizabeth Moignard would continue to serve as a member of the Joint Board. The Board **agreed** that the incoming Head of Subject and the Dean of Graduate Studies should be invited to join the Joint Board as active members of the School of Critical Studies.

2 Successor for Chair of Systematic Theology

The Board discussed the recent difficulties experienced by the College in appointing a successor to Professor Donald Macleod. As no appointment had been made, Professor Macleod had agreed to continue in this post for a further academic year.

3 UK Border Agency

The FCC outlined the recent difficulties the College had encountered with applications for overseas students to the UKBA. The lack of transparent procedures was considered particularly challenging. It was hoped that Universities Scotland would address this issue. There was particular concern at the proposals for a maximum stay of five years which would have a negative impact on Scottish overseas students where degree programmes can be of a longer duration.

The Board also discussed the proposed issue of a compulsory register of overseas students' attendance at all classes. It was considered that this would be difficult to enforce and this would require further clarification.

4 Report on Teaching Programmes

The Board learned that the FCC student questionnaires were not considered to be in the public domain. Individuals who wished access to the documents could do so only if they were involved in an appeal or similar. FCC was advised that under reviews, such as ELIR, the University was required to prove that they ensured their associated institutions conformed to the quality requirements and hence documents such as these would be summarised in an annual report but would not be made available in the public domain.

The Board was advised that the FCC Code of Student Conduct and Student Complaint procedures had been revised.

The Board of Studies minutes will be submitted at the January meeting together with the full report on session 2010-11 and the annual monitoring documentation.

5 Student Representative Report

The student representative advised the Board that the student body had expressed their satisfaction with the system of questionnaires as a mechanism to raise issues of concern. Further to the comments concerning graduation at the last meeting, the Board learned that the students were satisfied with the current information provided on the graduation process.

In response to the student representative's query, the Board advised that as the student body had been consulted on the first draft of the Student Conduct and Complaints procedures they would not be involved in further discussions. Documentation pertaining to Student Conducts and Complaints was referred to in student handbooks, however, only those students involved in either of these processes would have access to these documents.

- 6** The Convenor noted that the FCC would purchase Turnitin over the summer with implementation planned for early next session.