

University of Glasgow**Academic Standards Committee – Friday 3 October 2014****Report from the Meeting of the Joint Board of the University of Glasgow and Edinburgh Theological Seminary (formerly the Free Church of Scotland College) held on 19 August 2014****Geraldine Perriam – Clerk to the Joint Board****1. Remit and Membership**

Changes to the remit of the Committee were proposed. The changes related to the maintenance of a risk register and the annual monitoring of the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA). It was agreed that these be included. (Please refer to **Appendix 1**.)

Academic Standards Committee is invited to **approve** the remit and membership of the Joint Board, as specified in **Appendix 1**.

2. Report from the Student President

Mr Kane had been unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report to the Board. It was noted that the report reinforced the supportive nature of staff-student interaction at the Seminary. It was suggested in response to the report that there could be more interaction between students at ETS and the SRC at UoG.

3. Change of Name

It was noted that the Seminary had now formalised its name change from Free Church of Scotland College to Edinburgh Theological Seminary (ETS). The Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) had been changed to reflect the new name and both institutions had agreed the changes. Subject to the final check by the University's and ETS' solicitors, the document would be ready for signing in the near future.

4. Annual Report from ETS for Session 2013-14

The Convener thanked ETS for the report, which had been written using a revised structure that had been developed in light of Quality Assurance Agency guidance. The Convener commented that the report was comprehensive and clear. The Board agreed to the request from ETS that the Annual and not the Interim report on teaching for each session be submitted to the summer meeting of the Board and that the Interim Report would be submitted to the winter meeting of the Board.

The following points were noted from the report:

- 4.1 *Student Handbooks*. ETS staff were commended for the breadth of information provided in their handbooks. The handbook for international students would be helpful as it covered information that would be useful to students coming from beyond the UK
- 4.2 *Widening Access*. ETS informed the Board that it had developed a programme for widening access to programmes at the Seminary. Access to Theology had been

advertised and ten students had registered for the programme. There were hopes that this programme would also be offered as a Distance Learning option. Staff at ETS had seen and read the e-learning Strategy developed by UoG and this had been of assistance in planning the programme. There would be no foreseeable impediments regarding assessment.

4.3 *Student Conduct*. In adjudicating a matter of conduct, ETS had contacted the ACO and the Senate Office for advice. The issue had been resolved.

4.4 It was noted that applications to study at ETS had increased for session 2014-15.

5. New Members of Teaching Staff

5.1 Academic Standards Committee is invited to **approve** the following staff, as listed below in for recognition as Teachers of the University:

- *Professor Sinclair Ferguson*.

Qualifications: PhD and Doctor of Divinity

Experience: Teaching positions held at Seminaries both in the UK and internationally between 1982 and the present. Numerous publications and edited volumes. Further details can be obtained from the Academic Collaborations Office.

- *Dr Mark Stirling*

Qualifications: M.B.,Ch.B.; M.R.C.G.P.; M.A.E.T.; Ph.D

Experience: Posts in lecturing, teaching and leadership training, 1998 to the present. Two publications. Further details can be obtained from the Academic Collaborations Office.

5.2 A separate paper from ETS will be tabled concerning the request for approval of Ms Louise Macmillan as a Teacher of the University. The Board has referred this matter to Academic Standards Committee for consideration (see [Appendix 2](#) which will be circulated prior to the meeting).

University of Glasgow
Joint Liaison Committee for the University of Glasgow and ETS
Remit and Membership

Title: Joint Board of the University of Glasgow and Edinburgh Theological Seminary

Remit:

1. To oversee the following programmes (taught or by research):
 - (a) Bachelor of Theology
 - (b) Master of Theology (by research)
 - (c) Master of Theology in Scottish Church History and Theology
2. To make recommendations to the Senate of the University and to the Senate of the Seminary in respect of the validation of the above programmes.
3. To conduct periodic reviews of the above programmes, and make recommendations to the Senate of the University of Glasgow on the basis of their outcomes.
4. To make such recommendations as are appropriate to the Senate of the Seminary.
5. To consider, for transmission to the Senate of the University of Glasgow for its approval, all nominations of external examiners to the University Court for the programmes listed in item 1 above.
6. To consider annually:
 - a) the recommendations of, and comments contained within, the reports of external examiners and the response of the Seminary to the reports;
 - b) a report on the numbers and qualifications of students admitted to the validated programmes, and on the progress of students within the programmes;
 - c) the nomination of members of the Seminary for recognition as teachers of the University;
 - d) the nomination of members of the Joint Appeals Committee;
 - e) To monitor and ensure that the terms and conditions and expectations that were originally approved have been, and continue to be, met;
 - f) Ongoing risk management and maintenance of a risk register.
7. To receive annual reports on, and keep under continuing review, the operation of the Seminary's quality assurance procedures for all programmes overseen by the Joint Board.
8. To foster mutual understanding and co-operation and to encourage and review collaboration between the Seminary and the University in areas of common interest.

Quorum:

The quorum of the Joint Board shall be four and shall comprise at least two representatives from each institution

**Joint Board of the University of Glasgow and
Edinburgh Theological Seminary**

Membership 2014-15

University of Glasgow

Clerk of Senate (Convener)	Professor John Briggs
Head of College of Arts (or nominee)	Professor Elizabeth Moignard
Representative from the School of Critical Studies	Dr Lloyd Ridgeon
Representative from the School of Critical Studies	Professor David Jasper*
Representative from the College of Arts	Dr Barbara Burns
SRC President (or nominee)	Ms Breffni O'Connor
Head of Academic Collaborations Office (or nominee)	Mrs Jackie McCluskey

Edinburgh Theological Seminary

Principal of the Seminary (Vice Convener)	Rev. Iver Martin
Vice-Principal of the Seminary	Professor John A MacLeod
A Representative of the Teaching Staff	Professor John R McIntosh
President of the ETS SRC	Mr Trevor Kane

In attendance

Academic Collaborations Office Clerk	Dr Geraldine Perriam
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* Dr Scott Spurlock is representing Prof Jasper while he is on study leave.