

University of Glasgow**Academic Standards Committee – Friday 17 April 2015****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 13 January 2015**

Dr Geraldine Perriam – Clerk to the Joint Board

1. Remit and Membership

Changes to the membership of the Board were proposed. Dr Spurlock had been representing Professor Jasper during his Research Leave. The Board agreed that Dr Spurlock replace Professor Jasper on a permanent basis. Dr Methuen was now the Head of Theological and Religious Studies and would replace Dr Ridgeon on the Board. The Convener thanked Professor Jasper and Dr Ridgeon for their contributions to the Board.

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, the Student President from ETS, 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 reported that students had asked for more feedback on exams. This had proved difficult with exams held close to the Christmas season. A number of suggestions were made by Board members to allow for opportunities to provide feedback.

Mr Kane noted that contact had been made with the University's SRC. Students at ETS were content with the level of contact.

3. Change of Name

It was noted that the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with ETS had now been modified to reflect the change of name and that heads of both institutions had signed the agreement.

4. Interim Report from ETS

The following points were noted from the report:

- 4.1 *Partnership Review*. The outcome of the Partnership Review, convened by the Senior Vice Principal, had been that the MoA with ETS would be renewed for a period of three years from September 2015 with a view to developing the partnership in the three year period. Although ETS expressed initial disappointment that the University had opted for three years instead of the previous five year period, following a discussion with the Convener, ETS staff understood the approach taken by the University and agreed to work together to enhance the partnership. It was hoped that over the next three years links between the institutions would develop, particularly regarding joint teaching and research.
- 4.2 It was noted that the regulations for the Bachelor of Theology had been changed to include electives. Staff in the Senate Office had been advising ETS on the changes.

- 4.3 Staff at ETS had been unable to gain access to University website pages outlining programmes offered by the Staff Development Service. It was noted that under the terms of the MoA, ETS staff have access to IT Training, Staff Development Service and Courses offered by the Learning and Teaching Centre. The Board was grateful to IT Services for their diligence in finding a solution to the issue.
- 4.4 It was noted that applications to study at ETS had increased for session 2014-15 and looked set to increase for session 2015-16.
- 4.5 No problems had been experienced with MyCampus for the ETS graduation this year and arrangements had gone smoothly.

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 Charlotte Methuen
Representative from the School of Critical Studies	Dr Scott Spurlock
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

Clerk	Mr Robbie Mulholland
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