

Board of Management Learning & Teaching Committee

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| Date of Meeting | Tuesday 8 September 2015 |
| Paper No. | LTC1-I |
| Agenda Item | 15 |
| Subject of Paper | Academic Board |
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| Primary Contact | Alex Craig Depute Principal |
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| Action | For Noting |

Recommendations

The Committee are asked to note the content of this paper, which was presented to ELT at their meeting on 2nd September 2015 for approval.

1. Purpose of report

The purpose of this paper is to seek approval from ELT regarding the recommended changes for the Academic Board.

2. Background

Last year was the first significant change to how the Academic Board operated and this has proven to be successful. The Academic Board embraced their new remit and have presented some innovative ideas and concepts.

These include:

1. Technologies, digitalisation infrastructure;
2. Research environments; and
3. Innovation in Learning and Teaching.

These concepts have formed the basis for new proposals for:

- A Digital Academy;
- A Research Hub; and
- A reformed Learning & Teaching Academy.

Plans for these will be presented to ELT and the Board at a later stage as part of the 'Blue Ocean' strategy.

3. Benefits of Proposed Changes:

- Moving from annual to bi-annual elections will allow the Academic Board members to expand upon the great work of last year and allow them to take forward and develop initiatives further coupled with preparation & actions re Education Scotland review.
- The main focus of the work of the board over the past few years has focused on major initiatives, new ideas and practices. It was the view of the board that focus on Education Scotland review would assist faculties in preparation for the review and subsequently in any actions for improvement thereafter.
- New Education Scotland guidelines must be followed, and the review will benefit from a single point of contact to channel communications and actions between Education Scotland and College Senior Management.

4. ELT are asked to approve the following:

- Elections will take place once every two years (as opposed to annually), with the next round of elections taking place September 2016. (Current academic board members would therefore remain in place until September 2016)
- The focus of work of the Academic Board in 2015/16 will be on the

preparation for the 2016 Education Scotland Review and post review on ideas and concepts to address actions.

- Under new rules and regulations Education Scotland review requires that a manager (preferred Associate Assessor) from the College becomes part of the review team in receiving daily feedback and conveying the feedback to senior managers. The manager should be integral to the preparation of the review and also to the dissemination and actions to be communicated and undertaken post review. The manager acts as a key contact point between Education Scotland and the College. It is proposed that Sandra Gunn (Faculty Director & Associate Assessor) is the lead for the Education Scotland review.