Imperial College London

Programmes Committee (PC) Minutes

Thursday 27 March 2024
Meeting held offline

	Items for consideration
1	**Major Modifications to Existing Programmes**
	Faculty of Engineering
5.1	**PC.2023.61 Department of Materials** **MSc Advanced Materials Science and Engineering (J2U3T)** **MSc Advanced Materials Science and Engineering: Specialising in Materials for the Energy Transition (J2U3E)** **MSc Advanced Materials Science and Engineering: Specialising in Theory and Simulation of Materials (J2U31)**
5.1.1	PC considered a major modification to increase the elective choice for students on the MSc Advanced Materials Science and Engineering: Specialising in Materials for the Energy Transition stream and to remove the elective modules CENG60013 'Nuclear Chemical Engineering', MECH70002 'Nuclear Reactor Physics' and MECH70001 'Nuclear Therman Hydraulics' from the named programmes above with effect from October 2024.
5.1.2	Programmes Committee acknowledged that removing externally taught electives to bring teaching completely in-house is a sensible educational choice. However, the reconfiguration of elective groups combined with the withdrawal of three electives from group 'E', has effectively reduced student choice too much. The proposed structure requires students to select three electives in group 'E' from a pool of four, rather than seven. Hence labelling these as 'electives' does not quite reflect the nature of the change as three out of four subjects become, in fact, compulsory.
5.1.3	PC agreed to **reject** the proposal. The committee acknowledged that the proposal seeks to improve the attractiveness of the Materials in Energy Transition specialisation and refine the selection of electives available. PC recommended that the programme team consider either adding more elective choices to replace those removed or changing the designation of the three most appropriate group 'E' modules from 'elective' to 'compulsory', re-assign the remaining elective elsewhere and resubmit at the next opportunity.
5.2	**PC.2023.62 Department of Bioengineering** **Biomedical Engineering (MEng 4YFT) (BH9C)** **Biomedical Engineering with a Year Abroad (MEng 4YFT) (BHV1)** **Biomedical Engineering with a Year in Industry (MEng 5YFT) (BHV2)**
5.2.1	PC considered an in-session modification to remove the elective ELEC70003 'Advanced Electronics Devices' and replace it with ELEC60029 'Semiconductor Devices' on the named programmes with effect from October 2023.
5.2.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.3	**PC.2023.63 Department of Bioengineering** **Biomedical Engineering (MEng 4YFT) (BH9C)** **Biomedical Engineering with a Year Abroad (MEng 4YFT) (BHV1)** **Biomedical Engineering with a Year in Industry (MEng 5YFT) (BHV2)**

	Biomedical Engineering (BEng 3YFT) (BH81) **Molecular Bioengineering MEng (4YFT) (H160)** **Molecular Engineering with a Year Abroad (MEng 4YFT) (H163)** **Molecular Bioengineering with a Year in Industry (MEng 5YFT) (H162)** **Molecular Bioengineering (BEng 3YFT) (H161)**
5.3.1	PC considered the following major modification proposals with effect from October 2024: a) To change the learning outcomes, module content and assessment strategy for the compulsory module BIOE60024 'Modelling in Biology' on the named programmes above. b) To withdraw the elective module BIOE70015 'Hearing and Speech Processing' from the MEng Molecular Bioengineering and MEng Molecular Bioengineering with a Year in Industry programmes.
5.3.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**. The following feedback was suggested, which is not preventative in progressing the proposal: • The in-course task sheets and workshop sessions on the 'Modelling in Biology' module involve practical modelling. Clarify whether the final exam could be completed (and invigilated) using a computer.
5.4	**PC.2023.64 Department of Bioengineering** **Biomedical Engineering (MEng 4YFT) (BH9C)** **Biomedical Engineering with a Year in Industry (MEng 5YFT) (BHV2)** **Molecular Bioengineering MEng (4YFT) (H160)** **Molecular Bioengineering with a Year in Industry (MEng 5YFT) (H162)** **Human and Biological Robotics (MSc 1YFT) (BHM1)** **Biomedical Engineering (MSc 1YFT) (B9A1)**
5.4.1	PC considered a major modification to remove the module COMP70028 'Reinforcement Learning' and replace it with a new module 'Reinforcement Learning for Bioengineers' on the named programmes above with effect from October 2024.
5.4.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**. The following feedback was suggested, which is not preventative in progressing the proposal: • The 'Reinforcement for Beginners' module specification includes 9 hours for lab/practical study, and 18 hours for lectures. The Module Lead is encouraged to consider inverting the allocation of lecture and lab/practical study hours, to allow students more time to practice Markov, visualisations etc.
5.5	**PC.2023.65 Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering** **MSc Environmental Engineering with Data Science (H2UMD)** **MSc Geotechnical Engineering with Data Science (H2U3M / H2U3O)** **MSc General Structural Engineering with Data Science (H2A11)**
5.5.1	PC considered the following major modifications with effect from October 2024: a) Update the learning outcomes, module content, learning and teaching approach and prerequisites of the core module CIVE70088 'Design Project Data Science – Environmental'. b) Amend the pre-requisite of the core modules CIVE70089 'Design Project Data Science – Geotechnics' and CIVE70100 'Design Project Data Science – Structures'.
5.5.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.6	**PC.2023.66 Department of Computing**

	BEng / MEng Mathematics and Computer Science (GG14, GG41)
5.6.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to remove the elective modules MATH60027/MATH70027 'Scientific Computation' and COMP70015 'Mathematics for Machine Learning' with effect from October 2024.
5.6.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.7	**PC.2023.67 Department of Mechanical Engineering** **MEng Mechanical Engineering (H301)** **MEng Mechanical Engineering with a Year in Industry (H303)** **MEng Mechanical Engineering with Nuclear Engineering (H3H8)**
5.7.1	PC considered a major modification to withdraw the elective modules MECH70047 'Thermodynamics 3B' and MECH70050 'Machine Dynamics and Vibrations B' with effect from October 2024.
5.7.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.8	**PC.2023.68 Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering** **MSc Analogue and Digital Integrated Circuit Design (H6W8)**
5.8.1	PC considered a major modification to update the learning outcomes, module content and assessment weightings following the removal of the silicon reliability elements for the core module ELEC70093 'ADIC Laboratory Experiments' with effect from October 2024.
5.8.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**. PC noted the proposal is informed by the lack of teaching staff in one key component. PC advised that the programme team should carefully consider the appropriateness of including topics in teaching labs based on individual research interests in future, so that robustness and consistency of delivery is assured.
5.9	**PC.2023.69 Department of Bioengineering** **MSc Human and Biological Robotics (1YFT) (BHM1)**
5.9.1	PC considered a major modification to remove the elective module ELEC70073 'Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition' with effect from October 2024.
5.9.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
	Faculty of Medicine
5.10	**PC.2023.70 School of Public Health** **Master of Public Health [SPH] (A3BH)** **MSc Epidemiology [SPH] (A3BF)** **MSc Health Data Analytics and Machine Learning [SPH] (A3BJ)**
5.10.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to change the main campus of where the above programmes are taught following the closure of St. Mary's campus with effect from October 2024.
5.10.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.11	**PC.2023.71 School of Public Health** **MSc Health Data Analytics and Machine Learning (A3BJ)**
5.11.1	PC considered the following major modifications with effect from October 2024:

	a) Remove the compulsory module PUBH70032 'Advanced Analytics'. b) Change the module designation of 'Population Health Analytics' from compulsory to a non-credit optional seminar series. c) Add the existing module PUBH70061 'Bayesian Modelling for Spatial and Spatio-temporal Data' as a compulsory module.
5.11.2	PC noted that 'optional seminar series' is not an official module type descriptor and requested that this should be removed from the programme specification. Programmes Committee also considered the inclusion of non-credit modules, agreeing that they are not permitted within the curriculum framework.
5.11.3	PC approved the proposal subject to the following recommendations: • Remove any reference to the non-credit 'optional seminar series' module, 'Population Health Analytics' from the programme specification. • Consider reducing the number of learning outcomes from 9 to between 4-8, on the PUBH70061 'Bayesian Modelling for Spatial and Spatio-temporal Data' module specification. PC advised that the recommendations above be considered and that the updated documentation be submitted to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement team. Subject to a satisfactory response, PC agreed to recommend the proposal via Chair's Action to QAEC for approval.
5.12	**PC.2023.72 Department of Surgery and Cancer** **MSc Health Policy (A3G224 / A3G225)** **Postgraduate Diploma in Health Policy (A3G2D)** **Postgraduate Certificate in Health Policy (A3G2B / A3GBC)**
5.12.1	PC considered the following major modifications with effect from October 2024: a) Remove an assessment and reweight the remaining assessments for the compulsory module SURG70009 'Health Systems and Policy'. b) Change to learning outcomes and assessments for the compulsory modules SURG70012 'Innovation in Healthcare', SURG70015 'Leadership', SURG70017 'Health Economics and Behaviour Science', SURG70018 'Financing Healthcare', SURG70019 'Health and Society', and SURG70022 'Health Service Delivery'. c) Change the learning outcomes and assessments for the elective modules SURG70020 'Measuring and Improving Performance in Healthcare' and SURG70021 'Communication and Health Policy'. d) Change the learning outcomes, content, descriptor and assessments for the compulsory module SURG70056 'Dissertation'. e) Change to programme learning outcomes, to reflect updates to SURG70056 'Dissertation'.
5.12.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
	Faculty of Natural Sciences
5.13	**PC.2023.73 Department of Chemistry** **MSci Chemistry (F103)** **MSci Chemistry with a Year in Industry (F105)** **MSci Chemistry with Molecular Physics (F1F3)** **MSci Chemistry with Molecular Physics and a Year in Industry (F1FH)**
5.13.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to withdraw the elective CHEM70007 'From Molecules to Medicines' with effect from October 2024.
5.13.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**. PC suggested that a version of the module could be redeveloped as an online mini-programme.

5.14	**PC.2023.73a Department of Chemistry** **MRes Drug Discovery and Development: Multidisciplinary Science for Next Generation Therapeutics (F1U11T)** **MRes Advanced Molecular Synthesis (FY1A)**
5.14.1	PC considered a major modification to change the main campus to White City with effect from October 2024.
5.14.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.15	**PC.2023.74 Department of Physics** **MSc Optics and Photonics (F3U4 / F3U424)** **MRes Photonics (F3U6)**
5.15.1	PC considered a major modification to change the ECTS value of the elective module PHYS70029 'Optical Design' from 7.5 to 5 with effect from October 2024.
5.15.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.16	**PC.2023.75 Department of Physics** **MSc Security and Resilience: Science and Technology (F3SR / F3SR24)** **Postgraduate Diploma Security and Resilience: Science and Technology (F3SD12 / F3SD24)** **Postgraduate Certificate Security and Resilience: Science and Technology (F3C12 / F3C24)**
5.16.1	PC considered the following major modifications with effect from October 2024: a) Change the module designation of the module COMP600015 'Network and Web Security' from compulsory to elective. b) Change the module designation of the PHYS70072 'Cyber Physical Systems Security' from elective to compulsory.
5.16.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
	Imperial College Business School
5.17	**PC.2023.76 Imperial College Business School** **Business for Professional Engineers & Scientists (Various)**
5.17.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to change the learning outcomes for module BUSI40010 'Business Economics' with effect from October 2024.
5.17.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.18	**PC.2023.77 Imperial College Business School** **Joint Honours with Management** **Intercalated BSc with Management**
5.18.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to change the learning outcomes for modules BUSI60033 'Business Economics' and BUSI60023 'Accounting' with effect from October 2024.
5.18.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.19	**PC.2023.78 Imperial College Business School** **Full-time MBA (FTMBA) (N1UD)** **Executive MBA (EMBA) (N1UA24)** **Global Online MBA (GMBA) (N1GO21/24/32)** **Weekend MBA (WMBA) (N1UB21)**

5.19.1	PC considered the following in-session modification with effect from October 2023: a) Update the assessment for compulsory module BUSI70100 'Strategy' to provide more detail and include a participation component. PC considered the following major modifications with effect from October 2024: a) Withdraw the elective modules BUSI70117 'Advanced Corporate Finance', BUSI70033 'Digital Transformation: Leading Real-World Change', BUSI70307 'Leading Yourself', 'BUSI70300 Advanced Financial and Management Accounting' and BUSI70457 'Managing Negotiations'. b) Change the module content, description and learning outcomes for compulsory module BUSI70296 'Financial and Management Accounting'.
5.19.2	PC approved the proposals subject to the following recommendation: • Review the learning outcomes for BUSI70296 'Financial and Management Accounting' to ensure they are appropriate for the level of active learning required for postgraduate study. For example, avoid passive verbs such as 'Understand'. The following feedback was also suggested: • Consider providing formative feedback on coursework drafts for BUSI70100 'Strategy' before the submission deadline. • The committee noted that proposed changes for BUSI70296 'Financial and Management Accounting' make the module almost identical to BUSI60023 'Accounting'. PC advised that the recommendation above be considered and that the updated documentation be submitted to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement team. Subject to a satisfactory response, PC agreed to recommend the proposal via Chair's Action to QAEC for approval.
5.20	**PC.2023.79 Imperial College Business School** **MSc Business Analytics (N209T)**
5.20.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to change the learning outcomes, assessment, and title of compulsory module BUSI70267 'Visualisation' to 'Data Wrangling and Visualisation' with effect from October 2024.
5.20.2	PC approved the proposals subject to the following recommendations: • Review the learning outcomes to ensure they are appropriate for the level of active learning required for postgraduate study. For example, avoid the use of 'basic understanding'. Also, to future-proof the learning outcomes, replace references to specific software with software types, such as 'visualisation' or 'data analytics'. • Reduce the assessment load and revise the module content so it focuses on the skills and knowledge students develop throughout the module, rather than the software they will be expected to use. PC advised that the recommendation above be considered and that the updated documentation be submitted to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement team. Subject to a satisfactory response, PC agreed to recommend the proposal via Chair's Action to QAEC for approval.
5.21	**PC.2023.80 Imperial College Business School** **MSc Business Analytics (Online) (N290S)**
5.21.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to change the rules by which students choose their elective modules, enabling a slight variation in the number of electives taken each year, effective from October 2024.
5.21.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.

5.22	**PC.2023.81 Imperial College Business School** **MSc Finance (N301)** **MSc Finance & Accounting (N302)** **MSc Investment & Wealth Management (N303)** **MSc Risk Management & Financial Engineering (N34G)** **MSc Financial Technology (N305)**
5.22.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to change the learning outcomes for the compulsory modules BUSI97151 'Empirical Finance: Methods & Applications, BUSI97592 'Foundations in Risk Management & Financial Engineering', BUSI97594 'Foundations in Finance', BUSI97626 'Foundations in Finance and Accounting', BUSI97593 'Foundations in Investment & Wealth Management', and BUSI97647 'Foundations in Financial Technology', with effect from October 2024.
5.22.2	PC commended the phrasing and succinctness of learning outcomes for BUSI97151 'Empirical Finance: Methods & Applications'. The committee agreed that the proposed learning outcomes for the 'Foundations' modules are not phrased in terms of what students will be able to achieve by the end of the module. It is suggested that some detail is removed from the learning outcomes and moved to the module content, to allow greater flexibility in teaching and learning. The assessment tab on each 'Foundations' module specification is missing the exam/test duration and word-counts.
5.22.3	PC approved the proposal subject the following recommendation: • Revise the learning outcomes for BUSI97592 'Foundations in Risk Management & Financial Engineering', BUSI97594 'Foundations in Finance', BUSI97626 'Foundations in Finance and Accounting', BUSI97593 'Foundations in Investment & Wealth Management', and BUSI97647 'Foundations in Financial Technology'. This includes reviewing the scope, detail and measurability of each outcome. PC advised that the recommendation above be considered and that the updated documentation be submitted to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement team. Subject to a satisfactory response, PC agreed to recommend the proposal via Chair's Action to QAEC for approval.
5.23	**PC.2023.82 Imperial College Business School** **MSc Global Health Management (N1EG)** **MSc Global Health Management (Innovation & Entrepreneurship (N1EGI)** **MSc Global Health Management (Economics & Data Science) (N1EGE)**
5.23.1	PC considered the following major modifications with effect from October 2024: a) Replace compulsory module BUSI70370 'Design Thinking for Innovation and Impact' with BUSI70231 'Design Thinking: Solving Complex Problems Through a Disruptive Mindset' on the Innovation & Entrepreneurship stream. b) Replace compulsory module BUSI70377 'Strategic Management' with BUSI70489 'Business Strategy for Global Healthcare' on the Innovation and Entrepreneurship stream. c) Change to the learning outcomes and learning and teaching hours on compulsory module BUSI70499 'LEADs for Health'.
5.23.2	PC were supportive of the proposed learning outcomes for BUSI70499 'LEADs for Health' but noted the significant reduction in teaching hours. It was noted that the assessment tab on the BUSI70499 'LEADs for Health' module specification is missing the report word-count.
5.23.3	PC approved the proposal subject the following recommendation:

	• With the increased number of independent study hours on the BUSI70499 'LEADs for Health' module, please confirm that there are clear expectations and support in place for students to effectively use this extra time. PC advised that the recommendation above be considered and that the updated documentation be submitted to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement team. Subject to a satisfactory response, PC agreed to recommend the proposal via Chair's Action to QAEC for approval.
5.24	**PC.2023.83 Imperial College Business School** **MSc Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Management (N201T)**
5.24.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to change the learning outcomes and title of the compulsory module BUSI70366 'Business Impact Leadership' to 'Business Leadership Dynamics'.
5.24.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.25	**PC.2023.84 Imperial College Business School** **MSc Management (N19J)**
5.25.1	PC considered a major modification proposal to withdraw the elective modules BUSI70350 'Sustainable Consumption and Climate Change' and BUSI70013 'Business Simulation' from the above-named programme, with effect from October 2024.
5.25.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.
5.26	**PC.2023.85 Imperial College Business School** **MSc Strategic Marketing (N501T/N501T2)** **MSc Strategic Marketing (Online) (N501D)**
5.26.1	PC considered the following major modifications with effect from October 2024: a) Withdraw elective modules from year 2 of the MSc Strategic Marketing Online programme, BUSI70452 'Global Strategy (Online)' and BUSI70334 'Leadership (Online)'. The electives will still be offered on year 1 of the programme. b) Change the learning outcomes and assessment for the elective module BUSI70294 'Applied Strategic Marketing Report' on the MSc Strategic Marketing programme.
5.26.2	PC were supportive of the proposed reduction in assessment for BUSI70294 'Applied Strategic Marketing Report' but noted an increase in learning outcomes from four to seven.

5.26.2	PC approved the proposal subject the following recommendation:
	• Revise the number of learning outcomes for BUSI70294 'Applied Strategic Marketing Report'. For example, consider condensing the first four learning outcomes to:
	    ○ Integrate and critically evaluate research, concepts, and marketing strategies, demonstrating expertise in key marketing areas.
	    ○ Develop original marketing ideas effectively, presenting them convincingly with a balanced approach that combines depth and breadth.
	
	PC advised that the recommendation above be considered and that the updated documentation be submitted to the Quality Assurance and Enhancement team. Subject to a satisfactory response, PC agreed to recommend the proposal via Chair's Action to QAEC for approval.

5.27	**PC.2023.86 Imperial College Business School** **MSc International Management (N1UF)** **MSc International Management (extended) (N1UF2)**

5.27.1	PC considered the following major modification with effect from October 2023: a) Change the wording of the programme assessment structure for students selecting the Extended programme option (N1UF2) to allow additional exchange opportunities. PC considered the following major modifications with effect from October 2024: a) Withdraw three elective modules, BUSI70350 'Sustainable Consumption and Climate Change', BUSI70013 'Business Simulation' and BUSI70076 'Service Analytics'. b) Change the learning outcomes for BUSI70043 'Financial Management'.
5.27.2	PC agreed to recommend the proposal to the QAEC for **approval**.