

The University of Edinburgh**Moray House School of Education****School Planning and Resources Committee****Minute of extraordinary meeting held on Monday, 29 September 2014 at 15:00 in the Paterson's Land G.43**

Present: Dr J Ravenscroft (Convener)
Dr S Benjamin
Dr S Coleman
Mr R Easton
Ms A Fleming
Dr G McCluskey
Dr E McGregor
Dr R Nicol
Professor L Plowman
Dr L Reid
Mr G Thomson
Ms C Valentin
Mr A Wigglesworth

In attendance: Ms K Derrick (Secretary)
Dr M Jess, for discussion of item 2
Ms W Timmons, for discussion of item 3

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Dr R Arshad, Professor G Jarvie, Dr A Macdonald, Dr S McGeown, and Ms D Torrance. It was noted that Mr M Thorburn was unable to attend to speak to item 2.

The following new members were welcomed to their first meeting of SPRC: Professor Plowman, Dr Reid and Ms Valentin.

2. Updated cost figures for MEd Professional Practice in Physical Education (Paper A)

The programme representative highlighted the 5 scenarios provided in Paper A and indicated that it was scenario 3 which would be aimed for. This was based on recruiting 30 students including 4 international students. International students had not been included in costing calculations which had come to the committee previously. It was pointed out, however, that international students had not taken part in the demand survey and

therefore there was no indication of how attractive the programme might be to such students.

Members noted that for all scenarios the ongoing costings resulted in either a loss or a small deficit.

The Committee was not convinced that student numbers would be as high as anticipated. There was a finite pool of potential students.

It was suggested that if the intention was that the programme might provide a professional Master's for Scottish teachers to meet post-Donaldson requirements then it might be seen as a pathway rather than a discrete programme. It was agreed that this might be a positive move for the education profession in Scotland.

While it was acknowledged that there was a need for a Master's programme in Physical Education the Committee did not think that the proposed programme was ready for approval:

- financially - if international student numbers were not met there would be huge deficits for the programme
- strategically - might fit better as part of the MA in Professional Learning. Research and Master's programmes were to be aligned more closely than in the past therefore strategically the committee was not convinced.

Further work was required and the Programme Director should discuss the proposal with the Directors of Undergraduate Studies and Postgraduate Studies and the Co-ordinator of Partnerships.

3. MSc Dance Science and Education programme development (Paper B)

The Programme Director for the MSc in Dance Science and Education highlighted the reasons behind development of the proposed new 40-credit course, *Professional Development and Leadership in Dance Teaching*. Students taking this placement course as their option within the MSc or PGDiploma would be able to get GTCS recognition to teach Dance in schools. At present there was no route available for this. The proposal also fitted well with the Donaldson recommendation that teachers in specialist areas in schools should have Master's level qualifications. The course would create a new pathway through the existing MSc in Dance Science and Education programme.

The following points were raised in discussion:

- it was confirmed that students undertaking the proposed course along with the compulsory courses within the MSc/PGD in Dance Science and Education would meet the GTCS Standard for Registration
- placement visits would be undertaken by dance specialists within SPEHS (currently 3) plus there were other Physical Education staff who would be able to do this
- it was hoped this option would increase the number of home students undertaking the programme on a full-time basis. Currently full-time students tended to be international students
- there were teacher workforce planning implications and discussions were ongoing to get these agreed and in place before the pathway could start.

It was agreed that strategically the proposal was a good idea and it was financially viable. The MSc already existed and this was adding a pathway to it to allow students to become qualified as Dance teachers. The proposal was approved.