

**UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW**

**Academic Standards Committee - Friday 6 October 2006**

**Update on Recommendations Arising from the DPTLA Review of  
Music held on 4 March 2005**

**Ms Jane McAllister, Senate Office**

At its meeting on 13 January 2006, Academic Standards Committee received the responses to the recommendations contained in the Report of the Review of Departmental Teaching, Learning and Assessment for the Department of Music. The Committee noted that progress in relation to recommendations 1 and 2 was ongoing and that consideration of recommendations 3, 4 and 8 would be undertaken at the appropriate point in the Department's schedule i.e. later than the date of the response.

Below is an update report which has been considered by the Convener of the Review Panel who is satisfied all recommendations have now been addressed.

**Recommendation 1:**

The Panel recommends that the Faculty, as an interim measure, gives urgent consideration to applying for funding from the Teaching Infrastructure Fund to provide an adequate number of soundproofed modular practice facilities that could be placed in the former Archives accommodation adjacent to the Concert Hall and subsequently be relocated as and when the Department moves to other premises. (*Paragraph F.5*)

**Action:** The Dean of the Faculty of Arts

*Initial Response:*

Fulfilment of the terms of this Recommendation will still leave the department with unaddressed issues in terms of the present location's "fitness for purpose", regarding both the number of spaces and our major concerns over sound insulation. However, Estates and Buildings have identified space for two soundproofed modular practice rooms in the basement of the Modern Languages Building in University Gardens. Discussions continue on sourcing the costs (ca. £32,000). If successful, these arrangements will alleviate the problem, but will still leave the department well short of adequate practice facilities. The possibility of using the "Archive" space will be one of the aspects explored through the Faculty Strategic Plan when considering short and long-term solutions.

*Response: September 2006*

*The original suggestion, that modular pods could be accommodated in the former Archives space next to the Concert Hall in anticipation of an earlier proposal to relocate the Department in the vicinity, has been suspended in view of other use of this area. Funding for the pods, however, has been sourced, and Hugh Harris of Estates and Buildings is negotiating the location of them in the basement of the Modern Languages Building.*

**Recommendation 2:**

The Panel recommends that the Faculty look with urgency into the possibility of improved funding provision for practical tuition. (*Paragraph C.5.4*)

**Action:** The Dean of the Faculty of Arts

*Initial Response:*

This recommendation follows those for the Court Review of the Department of Music some five years ago. Following the University's successful achievement of the aims of the "Future Shape" savings exercise, discussions will resume on the question of improved funding provision for practical tuition as part of the Faculty Strategic Plan.

*Response September 2006*

*This was acted on in our most recent budget round, and the funding agreed at an increase of £9,000 on the previous sum.*

**Recommendation 3:**

The Panel recommends that entrance requirements for the BMus degree be made absolutely clear in recruitment material. (*Paragraphs C.5.3, D.1*)

**Action:** The Head of Department

*Initial Response:*

The material referring to entrance requirements for the BMus degree will be reviewed for all future reprints of recruitment materials. The information will also be added to the departmental website during its imminent reconstruction.

*September 2006 Response:*

*The entrance requirements for the BMus degree have been clarified and this has been reflected in current recruitment material and the departmental website.*

**Recommendation 4:**

The Panel recommends that the Department consider the additional requirement that applicants should offer ABRSM or Trinity College London theory grades 6 to 8. (*Paragraph C.5.3*)

**Action:** The Head of Department

*Initial Response:*

These requirements will be considered and, where appropriate, incorporated in the processes noted in the response to Recommendation 3.

*September 2006 Response:*

*The entrance requirements for the BMus, MA and BEng degrees allow for ABRSM or equivalent passes in Theory and/or Performance (at appropriate levels for each degree) to be counted as equivalent to required levels of achievement at Higher or A-level Music, or as additional evidence of ability. BMus applicants are encouraged*

*“to give a full and specific account” of their musical interests and achievements in their UCAS personal statements.*

**Recommendation 8:**

The Panel recommends that the timetabling of Aspects of Modernity and Historiography be reviewed. (*Paragraph C.6.7*)

**Action:** The Head of Department

*Initial Response:*

These courses are next offered in the same year in session 2006 – 07. Consideration will be given to these issues in the course of timetable planning for session 2006 – 07.

*September 2006 Response:*

*After departmental discussion of the merits of whole-year vs single semester courses, and taking into account some student feedback on these matters, during the current session (2006-07), Historiography has been timetabled for Semester 1 and Aspects of Modernity has been timetabled for Semester 2.*

Academic Regulations Committee is **requested to consider** the adequacy of the responses and the progress made.

*Prepared by: Janet Fleming, Senate Office*

*Last modified on: Tuesday 26 September 2006*