**Minutes of Department of Physics PGT Board**

**Meeting held on Friday 30 August at 1000**

**Attendees:** Thorsten Ackemann (TA), John Jeffers (JJ), Gabrielle Weir (GW), Helen Vaughan (HLV)

**Apologies:** Ben Hourahine

**Minutes:** Jacqueline Gordon

1. **Welcome**

TA welcomed everyone to the September PGT Pre Board.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the previous meeting are available in the folder

1. **Statistics**
* The running average of the taught courses was identical at 60.1 before the June Pre Board. It includes all the fail marks which were later discounted.
* Average for PH952, which is the Project, is 67.9. It is slightly higher than average but not unusual.
* There are 9 out of 14 students progressing with TA recommendations for 5 distinctions, 3 merits and one award. There are 5 students have personal circumstances to be considered.
* Percentage of distinctions and percentage of “others” not qualifying for award now higher than most previous years but not exceptionally high.
* HLV had a question about PH452 marks with the average being very different from previous years. TA explained that this was because there was only one PGT student that took PH452.
* TA then showed a graph of the component marks of PH952 vs total mark. This showed that the talk marks were marked highly, but were also of a good quality. Supervisor marks were noticeably higher than total, TA accepted all the marks. The member of staff adjusted it then. Viva marks were on the line or slightly lower.
* For the first time TA had also plotted the marks for the Chair, Supervisor and Independent Marker for the Project report against the report average, and displayed this graph. TA is the Chair for all students and these marks fluctuate around the bisection. The Supervisor marks also fluctuate but are slightly better with maybe a slight positive bias. The Independent marks are more scattered. TA suggested this information could be used for the IoP accreditation in relation on whether Supervisor should mark project, shows slight positive bias but not high. HLV will produce the same breakdown for PH450 and PH550.
* JJ mentioned that one of the graphs looked like a lot of students had been moderated looking at the spread of marks. TA agreed that 3 or 4 students had been moderated as there was quite a bit of disagreement on some aspects. All moderations were agreed and there were no contentious outcomes.
* TA had pointed out to a new Post Doc marker, marking for the first time, that the attainment mark was quite unrealistic, in view of the Viva. Following discussion, the marker resubmitted their form.
1. **MSc student 2023-24 Second Preboard**

**MSc Optical Technologies**

**202389823**

**Comments:** 180 credits. Project in merit.

**Recommend:** Merit

**202353066**

**Comments:** 180 credits. Project in merit, CWA overall in distinction.

**Recommend:** Distinction

**202388619**

**Comments:** Project in merit, misses out on distinction by small margin. There are no PCs submitted for this period. TA will check for any teaching adjustments on Pegasus in case this affected the Viva.

**Recommend:** Merit

**PG Diploma Optical Technologies**

**202393037**

**Comments:** 40 credits, passed one resit and failed another. Didn’t engage with 3 of resits. PH958 mark is not recorded on schedule but is 34. Needs ideally to submit PCs with evidence before the Board. TA will check what requirements are to allow 3rd attempt.

**Recommend:** Academic Suspension

**MSc Nanoscience**

**202358448**

**Comments:** Chemistry mark has not been returned but is 61. Awaiting lab PH968 mark. Currently has 80 credits. PH955 discounted due to PC.

**Recommend:** Wait for PH968 mark then decision will be either Proceed or Resit

**202268487**

**Comments:** Currently writing up. PCs were submitted previously but nothing since June, advised TA that PC are ongoing, needs updated entry with evidence to be able to continue.

**Recommend:** PG Dip

**MSc Applied Physics**

**202360667**

**Comments:** 180 credits.

**Recommend:** Merit

**202371669**

**Comments:** 200 credits. Project mark is 78, which is by far the best mark.

**Recommend:** Distinction. Recommendation for Best Project.

**202375625**

**Comments:** Didn’t attend resits due to PCs, has left the country and wishes to receive PG Cert. Discount absences.

**Recommend:** PG Cert Merit

**MSc Advanced Physics**

**202391068**

**Comments:** 180 credits. Project mark in the 50s, average also in50s.

**Recommend:** Award

**202363894**

**Comments:** Project mark was 72 with taught average over 80.

**Recommend:** Distinction. Recommendation for Best Student.

**202369218**

**Comments:** 180 credits. Excellent project, taught average is lower.

**Recommend:** Merit

**202364060**

**Comments:** 180 credits. Taught and total average upper 70s.

**Recommend:** Distinction

**PG Diploma Advance Physics**

**202367521**

**Comments:** Transferred to PG Dip at June Board. Passed one resit. TA advised student that they need to submit PCs to allow third attempt for PG Dip.

**Recommend:** PG Cert

**202363101**

**Comments:** 120 credits. Passed 2 resits.

**Recommend:** Upgrade to MSc and Continue to Project

**MSc Advanced Physics**

**202089849**

**Comments:** Part-time student in his 4th year. Student contacted TA and indicated that he wished to withdraw but needs to submit confirmation. TA has written letter to student’s home address. Discount PH988 and PH913.

**Recommend:** PG Cert with distinction

Students 202294567 and 202250747.Not on schedule for this Board. After resits, amendment form submitted to allow Continue to Project.

1. **Prizes**

TA recommendations for prizes are

* Best Project – 202371669
* Best Student **-** 202363894
1. **Any other business**

TA thanked everyone for their attendance and reminded them that the Board takes place on Tuesday 10  September at 1pm.