

## **International History Staff-Student Committee**

December 1 2008

International History Department, LSE, London

### **In Attendance:**

Dr. Steven Casey – Masters Tutor

Dr. Antony Best – Programme Director

Emma Rivett-Carnac – Co-Chair

Henk Van-Klaveren – Co-Chair

### **Topics Addressed:**

1. Review of Minutes from Last Meeting
  - a. Meeting Minutes from October 18 2007 were approved
2. Continuing Issues from Last Meeting
  - a. It was pointed out that there are continuing problems with the availability of texts in the Library
  - b. It was suggested that use of course packs amongst Professors be encouraged
  - c. It was explained that increasing use of course packs is not feasible due to high cost of procuring copyrights
  - d. It was agreed that Emma would draft an email to Dr. Casey for him to forward to our library representative, Paul, with regard to exploring a four hour loan system
  - e. It was recommended that Professors engage in explicit conversations with students throughout the term with regard to reading lists
  - f. It was recommended that students be encouraged to relay concerns about bibliographies directly to their Professors
  - g. It was recommended that interest in new courses be polled early in order that the correct number of texts can be ordered
3. Graduate Forum
  - a. It was established that there was no Graduate Forum held this term
  - b. It was established that the next Graduate Forum will be on 16<sup>th</sup> February at 12:00 in the VAR
4. Induction
  - a. It was established that the Graduate Induction was very useful
  - b. It was established that the Handbook is particularly helpful
  - c. It was suggested that the Induction Meeting be shortened in length to one and one half hours
  - d. It was proposed that the number of outside speakers at the Induction Meeting be reduced and that speakers other than the Senate House Representative, the Language Centre Representative and the PhD Representative should give seminars later in the term
  - e. It was pointed out that there are continuing problems with Graduate Course Registration on LSEforYou
  - f. It was decided that Dr. Casey would send an email to International History students reminding them to confirm their registration
5. New Course Proposal
  - a. "Oceans: Empires, Migrations and Ideas, 1750-1914" was unanimously approved
6. Assessment
  - a. Concerns were raised about the lack of continuous assessment in many Masters classes
  - b. It was pointed out that this is due to both LSE requirements and the difficulties of finding second Professors to mark assessed essays

- c. It was decided that Henk and Emma would raise this concern at the Graduate Forum and explore the possibility of proposing a revision of University requirements
- 7. Dissertation Timetable
  - a. It was agreed that the current timetable for Dissertation sessions is acceptable
  - b. It was agreed that the new guidelines and suggestions for choosing Dissertation titles are acceptable