

## Minutes of the Laws Studies Board – H07 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005

Mrs Lindley chaired the meeting.

1. Dr Jepson proposed changes to the constitution enabling a substitute to attend when class representatives are unable to. These changes are contained within point 3 of the constitution and involve an elected representative nominating another person from their class to attend the meeting by giving a note to the secretary. These changes to the constitution were agreed.
2. The minutes of the last meeting, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2004, were agreed. Under matters arising Dr Jepson explained that an extra scenario has been added to the mooted competition following the suggestion at the last meeting. He also explained that ILEX level 2 will be continuing next year, but student numbers do not seem to justify level 3. Also it is unlikely that the course will be delivered in conjunction with the Magna Carta school next year.
3. The proposal to move the AS law legal personnel exam from January to June next year was discussed. Comments from students on the intranet were considered and discussed. Moving the exam to June would deal with problems caused by the disproportionate amount of time spent on revising Legal Personnel, from November to January, leaving only the period from the end of January to Easter for the remaining two units. Also January exams may be too soon for some students who are unfamiliar with law, having not studied it before.  
However, it was also pointed out that doing all three exams in June may be too stressful, particularly since some students had too many exams in June, sometimes five a day, and so any more would be too much pressure.  
Tamsin suggested taking two units in January but Mrs Lindley pointed out that it would be a lot of work in one term, particularly when students are just starting and unlikely to have studied the subject before.  
Dr Jepson also suggested the possibility of starting with sentencing in September, and then moving on to Legal Personnel, meaning that after the January exams one topic of the Machinery of Justice module has already been studied.
4. A new course proposed for next year is Active Citizenship, which has a link to the History of Law course. It will involve completing five mini essays on pressure groups and then focussing on one pressure group to write a five thousand word dissertation.
5. The inspection which starts on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2005 was mentioned. Teachers are collecting samples of student files and students are encouraged to give honest opinions and views on the subject.
6. Next year the citizenship textbook will remain the same and there will be little change to criminal law. However there will be a vast change to the AS law textbook used, and the intranet site will also be changed, to link it to the textbook used in lessons.

It was explained that, as textbooks go out of date quickly, it is in the best interests of students to have the best use of textbooks available.

7. The Tsunami Conference taking place on the 24<sup>th</sup> March was mentioned and Dr Jepson explained that he proposes to abandon law lessons during the day, but students are expected to come to classes for registration.

Mrs Lindley raised the point that some students may want to work and not watch the film.

It was also explained that as the Law and Citizenship Department is promoting the event, it wouldn't be appropriate if the teachers themselves fail to let students go to the event.

In attendance:

Mrs Anna Lindley, Dr Peter Jepson, Ms Romana Choudrey, Lisa Inledon, Richard Johnson, Menh Hua, Tamsin Lansdowne, Sheerena Gleen.