



International Student Consultative Forum

Monday 21 November 2016

Via conference call:	Adina-Maria Ciobotea Jennifer Maier Wilson Angwenyi Ganiu Dare Shefiu Sam Mawoyo Raghav Ohri Varum Pasari Omar Sharif Khurram Masud Shiva Gupta Adeetya Tantia Thanuja Krishnaratna	Continental Europe Africa Asia (not including India) India and Middle East	Apologies:
Executive Staff in attendance :	Registrar – Karen Brocklesby Deputy Registrar – Liz Harriman Samuel Harriman – Stakeholder Relationship Manager Registry Administrator – Alison Gorton		

Item	Title
1.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Welcome to all newly appointed members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sam Mawoyo ○ Adeetya Tantia

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chris Bristow ○ Samuel Harriman
2.	Matters arising from the last meeting
	No comments received
3.	Students' Comments
	<p>3.1 September 2016 – Exam administration</p> <p>Request to extend the deadline for exam entry as not much time between results and opening.</p> <p>Liz confirmed that all students should apply as soon as possible to secure a place as the IFoA is unable to extend deadlines. This time is needed to arrange for papers to be printed and shipped, allowing for any hold up in customs. We need final numbers to ensure we have available markers and exam centre capacity.</p> <p>The session based exam dates have been published up until September 2020 which will aid in students preparation a planning for future sessions.</p> <p>Request received to move exams to October rather than September</p> <p>Unfortunately it would not be possible to move the September exam session further into October. This is due to the occurrence of a number of religious holidays as well as Christmas, which would cause a delay in the marking process. This would potentially mean that results would be released up to 16 weeks after the exams, which would then extend into the following year, giving students only one chance per year to qualify.</p> <p>A question regarding a non-member taking CT1 and an administration error which occurred.</p> <p>As this is an individual case, it was requested that further information be sent to Samuel for investigation.</p> <p>3.2 September 2016 – Exam questions</p> <p>ST2 query regarding the length of the question and the weight of marks on a particular section</p>

The question was broken down into 8 smaller parts, the largest of which was a 17 mark question part. This question part was very typical of an ST2 exam paper, asking students to describe the risk to the insurance company of writing a specific product; such questions occur fairly frequently and normally carry around 15-20 marks. Well-prepared students who are able to generate a wide range of distinct ideas normally do well on such questions, and the test batch suggests that this will be the case again.

Students should expect to be asked questions on “non-standard” or “unusual” products, and not just the basic product types described in the course. In this case, the question was testing a combined understanding of a basic immediate annuity product with an understanding of how with profits business works, both of which are covered by the syllabus.

The question wording was lengthy in order to provide sufficient information to allow students to understand each of the key features of the product. These were carefully worded so that each feature was thoroughly described; including providing the basic formulae that had to be applied in order to answer parts (v) and (vi). The additional detail made it easier to tackle these later question parts. [As a more general point, whenever it appears that students have struggled to interpret the question wording, this is allowed for in the marking.]

The various parts of the question tested a range of different aspects across the syllabus (asset share calculations, with profits business management, risks to policyholders, risks to insurance companies). Well-prepared students have been able to tackle each of these parts reasonably comfortably, although parts (v) and (vi) have proved to be more difficult. However, the better students have been able to make good use of the information and formulae provided to make a decent attempt at these calculations, and markers are rewarding such attempts generously (high or even full marks are awarded for taking the correct approach, even if the final answer is not completely correct).

3.3 September 2016 – CA2 and CA3

No questions or feedback received from the ISCF.

3.4 Tuition

A request for subsidy in prices of study material

This has been passed to ActEd for a response. We will advise as soon as this is available

3.5 Other Student Concerns

Is there a group to connect with all IFoA students

Samuel is in the process of designing an interactive area on the website and will be using a trial group of students to test the success before

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	<p>circulating to all, this is well underway and if successful will be made available to other areas</p> <p>Students in different regions who work for different employers are subject to varying study leave packages</p> <p>We appreciate that students working in different regions and for different employers may have a variation in the amount of study support that is offered.</p> <p>Email response times could be quicker for exam issues</p> <p>We have requested further information from the representative who provided this feedback. This has been received and passed to the relevant department</p> <p>3.6 Region Specific</p> <p>Europe raised a question in regard to having some additional directions or description of where the exam takes place</p> <p>As we use the British Council for our overseas venues, they sometimes need to change room/centres at short notice. We do already request signage and directions from them and these should be displayed.</p>
4	<p>Curriculum 2019</p> <p>Karen confirmed that ‘no more examinations’ means that the number of examinable hours does not increase from the current curriculum to the new one. . . . There are currently four more exam sessions left in the new curriculum for students to achieve the passes that they need to under the current system. We will also be emailing students who have exam passes in subjects that combine with another (i.e. CT1 and CT5, and CT4 and CT6) to give them notice that they have four more exam sessions to complete the required subject.. Karen also confirmed that CERA is unaffected by the new curriculum.</p> <p>It was asked if the criteria for the current CA3 would be removed. This will remain until the introduction of CP3.</p>
5	<p>Student Employer Survey</p> <p>Samuel gave an overview of the student survey and explained that the findings have been presented to Education Committee. The numbers of students who completed the survey was low, 1300 from a potential 15000 students and Samuel encouraged everyone to respond and to promote the surveys which we send every year. There has been a positive increase year on year mostly from our overseas students. We will be providing a communication to all students giving the</p>

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	outcomes and actions from this latest survey. Any queries regarding which Companies are accredited for Work Based Skills (WBS) maybe directed to Education Services
6	Exam Dates 2017 The dates for 2017 will be published on Tuesday 22 November 2016.
	Proposed date of next meeting: 9 June 2017