



## International Student Consultative Forum

Friday 03 June 2016 Time: from 09:00 to 11:00

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| <b>Via conference call:</b>            | Adina-Maria Ciobotea<br>Jennifer Maier<br>Wilson Angwenyi<br>Shiva Gupta<br>Raghav Ohri<br>Varum Pasari<br>Omar Sharif<br>Khurram Masud<br>Choong Ooi<br>Thanuja Krishnaratna<br>Ganiu Dare Shefiu - | Europe<br>Europe<br>Africa<br>India and Middle East<br>India and Middle East<br>India and Middle East<br>India and Middle East<br>India and Middle East<br>Asia<br>Asia<br>Africa | <b>Apologies:</b> |
| <b>Executive Staff in attendance :</b> | Registrar – Karen Brocklesby<br>Deputy Registrar – Liz Harriman<br>Registry Administrator – Alison Gorton  |   |                   |

| Item | Title  |
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| 1.   | <b>Welcome</b><br>Welcome to all newly appointed members             |
| 2.   | <b>Matters arising from the last meeting</b><br>No comments received |

| Item | Title   |
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| 3.   | <b>Students' Comments</b>   |
|      | <p><b>3.1 April 2016 – Exam administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A question was asked around individual centres, the IFoA explained that they would deal with these with the people who raised them. This is to allow the meeting to concentrate on exchange of information.</li> <li>○ A question was raised about centre availability in Nigeria, as travel was too difficult within the country – Liz explained that we use British Council to provide examination centres overseas</li> <li>○ A question was raised by Asia that the registration process for CA2/CA3 only has paper application for students paying by bank transfer or their employers – It was explained that for credit card and PayPal, payments could be made online for other payment types a form was required.</li> <li>○ A question was raised why there are different dates to register for home and overseas students. Liz explained with over 7000 students sitting in overseas centres we have to rely on our supplier getting some 1,500 packages sent allowing for any hold ups in customs.</li> <li>○ Africa – A request was made for a centre in Mombasa – Liz confirmed that students should request centres by contacting the Logistics team and they will look at numbers and determine if there is a need for a centre in a particular country.</li> </ul> <p><b>3.2 April 2016 – Exam questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There were no questions raised relating to the exam questions. Liz gave some hints and tips on what students could feed back on ready for the next ISCF meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>3.3 April 2016 – CA2 and CA3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Query raised as to the availability of CA3 exam sessions. There was concern by the group that from applying to result this could take up to 12 months and if this is a student's last exam it could slow down qualification. Liz gave assurance that if any student has this as a last exam they should contact the IFoA in order that capacity can be increased to accommodate these individuals. The IFoA does not wish to slow down qualification and will do all it can to ensure a place.</li> <li>○ Questions from all countries regarding the capacity of these exams. Liz confirmed that the team in Oxford constantly monitor capacity and release more when they can see the exam is filling quickly.</li> <li>○ CA2 – students asked why this is being moved into the session based exams – it was explained that all exams are as important as each other, feedback on whether this exam was ran before or after was sought.</li> <li>○ CA3 Examiners reports for April/September exams requested - the IFoA confirmed these would be published on the website in due course, it should also be noted that CA3 is under review as part of the Curriculum Review.</li> <li>○ Students advised that it is not always possible to arrange office space and that there are not always quiet rooms/webcams etc available and it can be very difficult for a student to arrange this – With CA3 under review there will be further updates from the IFoA regarding this.</li> </ul> <p><b>3.4 Tuition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No questions/feedback regarding tuition.</li> </ul> |

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|      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Liz and Karen gave information to the group that the IFoA is looking at what support is currently available to overseas students.</li> <li>○ Choong advised that the IFoA has been offering some opportunities to support students in Singapore and surrounding areas with their studies.</li> </ul> <p><b>3.5 Other Student Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Exam counselling especially for CA3 was a concern – Exam counselling is provided by way of a written report and/or follow up call. This is now the same for every student both UK and overseas.</li> <li>○ Asia stated that study leave is difficult to take – Karen advised that the IFoA will be sending an employer survey to find out what support employers currently provide.</li> <li>○ A question was received regarding exam session periods – Liz explained that the IFoA regularly looks at religious holidays to ensure these are considered when setting dates. The IFoA also has to consider the availability of volunteers whom the IFoA rely heavily for marking.</li> <li>○ A question was raised as to the ‘Certificate for Investment and Finance’ and if it still exists – Karen confirmed that this certificate is issued automatically once certain exams have been passed.</li> <li>○ Question received that someone had been denied UK membership but accepted by the Indian Institute – Karen explained that to be able to apply for membership of the IFoA individuals either need to meet the current criteria or pass CT1 as a non member to be eligible for membership</li> </ul> |
| 4    | <p><b>Release of Pass Marks</b></p> <p>Karen informed the group that the IFoA are to release pass marks effective from June 2016 results. Karen explained that the letter received will give the actual mark achieved for the exam rather than an FA, FB, FC, FD etc The letter will state P – Pass or F – Fail together with the %. The individual mark is private and will not be made public by the IFoA. It is entirely the student’s decision as to whether this mark is given to an employer and will depend on their own contract of employment.</p> <p>A question was asked if the pass mark would be a stable pass mark – Karen confirmed this was the intention with slight variation depending on the difficulty of the exam.</p>   |
| 5    | <p><b>Curriculum Review</b></p> <p>Karen gave an update on the review and confirmed that there would be a communication piece to all students in the near future.</p>  |
| 6    | <p><b>Student Employer Survey</b></p> <p>The student employer survey will be sent week commencing 20 June 2016. The IFoA is hoping to increase the number of Student Employer Contacts; this could be anyone from Manager/Mentors/Fellows that support you in your journey. All members were asked to promote this in their region.</p>  |
| 7    | <p><b>AOB - none</b></p>   |

| Item | Title  |
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| 8    | Proposed date of next meeting: November 2016 |